
STATEMENT

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Office of the Premier

Premier's statement on Lunar New Year

VICTORIA – Premier David Eby has issued the following statement marking Lunar New Year:

“Today, we welcome the first new moon of the lunar calendar and join people in B.C. and around the world in celebrating the beginning of Lunar New Year.

“2024 is the Year of the Dragon, one of the most auspicious years in the Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese zodiacs. The dragon represents power, success and good fortune.

“People will mark the new year with various traditions, including gathering with family and friends, enjoying festive foods, attending cultural celebrations and handing out lucky envelopes of money.

“Lunar New Year is a reminder of the incredible contributions Asian Canadians make to our province and an opportunity to renew our commitment to fostering cultural diversity.

“There are many free events throughout the province that are open to all and offer an excellent opportunity to learn more about Lunar New Year as well as the Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese cultures. My family and I enjoy going to the Vancouver Chinatown Spring Festival Parade, which celebrates its 50th anniversary tomorrow, and watching the lion and dragon dancers as well as other cultural performers.

“As thousands of people gather in Vancouver Chinatown tomorrow, we are reminded of the important role the historic and vibrant neighbourhood plays in the city and the province. It documents our past and brings people together today to share and learn and work together to build a better tomorrow. That’s why our government is supporting the revitalization of Vancouver Chinatown and why we helped create Canada’s first Chinese Canadian museum, which opened last year.

“To further foster togetherness and fight hate and discrimination, our government is continuing to take action to address racism. This year, we are introducing new anti-racism legislation to ensure we are addressing the gaps and barriers in government services and providing supports for those affected by racism.

“As we head into the Year of the Dragon, I encourage everyone in British Columbia to take some time to learn more about the diverse cultures that make our province so special, whether by attending a Lunar New Year celebration, researching your Chinese/Korean/Vietnamese zodiac sign and its unique traits, or simply getting to know your neighbours.

“The Year of the Dragon is special for my family. I’m a dragon and this year we are welcoming a new little dragon to our family. People born in the Year of the Dragon are believed to have fiery

personalities – if so, this baby dragon will fit right in with our family!

“From my family to yours, Kung Hei Fat Choi, Gong Xi Fa Cai, saehae bok mani badeuseyo and Chúc mừng năm mới!”

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