



Join with your community at a candlelit event to commemorate those who have died in the heat dome, floods, and other climate-related disasters this year -- and call on elected representatives to confront the climate emergency and help prevent future deaths.

[Spreadsheet of events](#)

[Sign up to host a local event](#)

Toolkit of suggestions and options

- **Invite your MLA, sincerely.** Let them know you will be there, and who is coming with you. Elected officials might avoid a protest but they will likely respond to you about this, at the very least. The legislature is not sitting this week so they are more likely to be in their home ridings. Google MLA name + constituency office, for email and phone number. Template email below.
- **Organise your people to show up with you.** That friend who is worried about climate change. Your mom. Your neighbour.
- **Reach out further.** What about organisations that you belong to? What about small businesses that care about community? Sports teams? Faith groups near you? Other elected officials, like city council members or your MP? They would probably like to be invited.
- **Prep your candle.** Or use an LED light. LED lights in jars can be handy if it rains. It's ok to use a flashlight or headlight or bike light, too.
- **Print a copy of the 10 actions to bring along and give to your MLA.** These are the actions that 353+ groups and businesses are asking for, to help prevent future climate chaos. See the nicely formatted PDF at <https://climateactions.ca/signatories/>.

- **Get creative.** How can you honour those that we have lost? How can you show who and what you are still fighting for? Signs? Art? Song? Maybe initiating a simple round of sharing would be powerful: Where were people during the heat dome, or the floods? What do people remember?
- **Consider celebrities.** Even very local celebrities. Is there a speaker, a singer, or an artist you would like to invite?
- **Consider territory.** Whose Indigenous territory are you on? Is there a way to recognize that? Are there Indigenous community members you would like to invite?
- **Share out.** Take photos or videos and share (with permission if it's a close up of anyone) with the hashtag #candles4climate.
- **Enjoy yourself!** The vision for these events is about community, memory, honouring grief, and standing together. Each one will look different. It can be powerful in simplicity. Maybe it's perfect if you just show up and stand beside someone who came on their own.

Template email to invite your MLA

Dear [NAME OF MLA],

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and well.

We would like to invite you to a candlelit vigil, to commemorate those who have died in the heat dome, wildfires, floods, landslides, and other climate-related disasters this year.

We are calling on all levels of government to work together and commit to urgent climate action to help prevent future deaths.

Please let me know if you are available to attend, and if you would like to speak for a few minutes?

WHEN: [INSERT TIME], Monday 13th December 2021

WHERE: [INSERT LOCATION]

WHAT TO BRING: weather-appropriate clothing, and a candle or led-light (e.g., a flashlight, headlamp, or bike light works too).

I sincerely hope you can join us. If you have any questions, please contact me at the number below.

Best Regards,

Template for speaking at the vigil

Introduction

- Your name, organization, territory

Recognize who and what we have lost this year

- 595 people in the summer heat dome, mostly seniors
- Town of Lytton
- 17,000 people evacuated in the floods
- Several people in mudslides
- Unknown numbers of livestock
- Homes, farms, land that may be permanently lost

Take a moment of silence

- recognizing the people, animals, plants, and places that we have lost

Why MLA offices

- Yes, individuals and groups have roles to play
- Provincial government, however, has the resources of legislation and money to make a huge difference in preventing more deaths to climate chaos
- Their current climate plans do not treat this situation like the emergency it is
- The current plans champion the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in the form of fracked gas pipelines and export terminals
- That's why more and more groups and businesses are signing on to the open letter to tell Premier Horgan to confront the climate emergency with 10 actions based on science and justice
- BC Teachers Federation, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, Union of BC Indians Chiefs...
- 353 groups and businesses, and more continue to join
- Full list of signatories is available at <https://climateactions.ca/signatories/>

How you can all help

- Individuals can sign the petition at <https://climateactions.ca/>
- If you own a business, or are part of a community group, faith group, or labour union, ask them to sign. <https://climateactions.ca/take-action/>
- Tell your climate change story so we can amplify it on social media. <https://climateactions.ca/take-action/>
- Help us recruit more signatories! See who has already signed, and ask other businesses and organizations to sign up. <https://climateactions.ca/signatories/>
- Sign up to meet your MLA and ask them to commit to these ten urgent climate actions. Trainings and a toolkit are available! <https://climateactions.ca/take-action/>

We are one of 25+ vigils happening this evening, in:

PORT ALBERNI
VANCOUVER FAIRVIEW
VICTORIA BEACON HILL
SAANICH
PENTICTON
COWICHAN VALLEY
VANCOUVER WEST END
NANAIMO
COURTENAY
NELSON
SQUAMISH
CASTLEGAR
VANCOUVER KITSILANO
QUALICUM
KELOWNA
VANCOUVER HASTINGS
SECHELT
SURREY
NEW WESTMINSTER
CRANBROOK
POWELL RIVER
NORTH VANCOUVER-LONSDALE
ASHCROFT
VERNON
SALMON ARM

Action to take now

- Take a photo or video & share it to social media
- Tag our MLA: ____
- Use the hashtags #candles4climate and #bcclimateemergency

Tomorrow

- Look for and share the photos and videos from other events

Next week

- If you want to continue and build on the Monday evening vigils, talk to each other and think of how you can build on this event tonight.

We recognize what we have lost, and what we are losing, to the climate emergency. We fight for the future.

[Option to open the floor to other speakers, either planned, or just spontaneous.]