

2020 BC ELECTION: COMPARING THE PROVINCIAL PARTIES

Note: This guide lists each party's policy position based on their 2020 platform, leaders' statements, and recent party votes in the Legislative Assembly as of October 14, 2020

| |  BC NDP |  BC Liberals Opportunity for all of BC |  BC Conservatives Made in BC |  SHP BRITISH COLUMBIA | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| ABORTION | No recently stated position Promised to make prescription contraception free for those under 25 ¹ | No recently stated position Promised to make contraception free ² | Party leader Andrew Wilkinson has stated, "While we are a big tent party that includes many views and faiths, our position as a party has not changed in that we support a woman's right to choose" ³ | No recently stated position | Promises to remove abortion from the list of taxpayer-funded surgical procedures ⁴ Would repeal BC's Bubble Zone legislation ⁵ |
| EUTHANASIA AND PALLIATIVE CARE | No recently stated position on euthanasia | No recently stated position on euthanasia Backed Fraser Health's mandate that the Delta Hospice must provide euthanasia | No recently stated position on euthanasia introduced the current policy that all hospices must provide euthanasia, except for denominational hospices and those that receive less than 50% of their funding from the provincial government | No recently stated position on euthanasia Recognizes that robust palliative care is key to end-of-life decisions and supports appropriately recognized and funded palliative care Supports the right of hospices to opt out of providing euthanasia ⁶ | Promises to defend seniors and those with disabilities from attempts to institute euthanasia and assisted suicide ⁷ Promised to provide palliative care to those approaching end-of-life, where numbers permit ⁸ |
| INDEPENDENT EDUCATION | Promises to work with stakeholders to review the Independent Schools Act and regulations and potential areas for improvement Supports the current funding, operation, and regulation of independent schools | Cut funding to Independent Distributed Learning programs in 2020 Supports the current funding, operation, and regulation of independent schools | Promises to reverse the cut in funding to Independent Distributed Learning programs ⁹ Supports the current funding, operation, and regulation of independent schools | Affirms that parents are the child's first and most important teachers Supports parental choice in education amending the funding formula to provide equal per student financing to every student ¹⁰ | Supports parental freedom of choice in education Promises to fully fund public schools and provide equal "per student" financing to independent school students ¹¹ |
| SOGI 123 | No recently stated position | All BC NDP MLAs supported SOGI 123 ¹² | The previous BC Liberal Ministry of Education introduced SOGI 123 in schools in 2016 Majority of BC Liberal MLAs supported SOGI 123 ¹³ | No recently stated position | Recognizes that parents are responsible the moral education of their children and would end education regarding human sexuality and sexual orientation ¹⁴ |
| GENDER & SEXUALITY | Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹⁵ | Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹⁶ Promises to make BC a leader in LGBTQ2S+ recognition and rights ¹⁷ Attacks Christian politicians who voice a biblical perspective on gender and sexuality ¹⁸ | Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹⁹ Promises to ensure that LGBTQ2+ citizens are treated with respect and live their lives free of discrimination ²⁰ | No recently stated position | Defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman and as the means for raising children ²¹ |
| CONVERSION THERAPY | Promises to re-introduce a ban on conversion therapy, an "abusive practice that has harmful, long-lasting impacts on LGBTQ2+ people who are forced to endure it" ²² | No recently stated position | Leader Andrew Wilkinson has stated that "There is no room in the BC Liberal Party for homophobia, transphobia, or any other form of discrimination." ²³ | No recently stated position | Strongly opposes conversion therapy bans |
| FAMILY & CHILDCARE | Promises to provide \$500 per month to families with children under the age of 3 that have a stay-at-home parent ²⁴ | Promises to provide a one-time payment of up to \$1000 to low-to middle-income families and up to \$500 to low- to middle-income single people ²⁵ Promises to extend \$10 a day daycare to more families and require government-built projects have childcare capacity ²⁶ | Promises to subsidize childcare for low- and middle-income families, work towards \$10 a day childcare for low-income families, and create 10,000 new childcare spaces ²⁷ | Recognize families are the most important building blocks of our communities and our society and must be supported ²⁸ | Recognizes that the family unit is essential to the well-being of individuals and society, because that is where children learn values and develop a sense of responsibility Recognizes the right and duty of parents to raise their own children responsibly according to their own conscience and beliefs ²⁹ |

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| PUBLIC FINANCES | States that "now is not the time for austerity" and has no plan to return to a balanced budget ³⁰ | Believes that a strong recovery plan is the most fiscally responsible path; promises to return to a balanced budget once the economy rebounds and people and business are back on their feet ³¹ | Promises to balance the budget once the pandemic is over and the economy is on solid footing ³² | Promises to introduce zero-based and multi-year budgeting, to mandate budget surpluses except in a provincial emergency, and to use budgetary surpluses to pay debts owed or reduce taxes ³³ | Support balanced budget legislation and would establish zero based budgeting ³⁴ |
| TAXATION | Promises to immediately reinstate the scheduled carbon tax increase and return to regular and predictable increases in the carbon tax of \$10 per year ³⁵ | Promises not to increase taxes on middle class families ³⁶ No recently stated position on carbon taxation | Promises to eliminate the 7% PST for the first year in office and reduce the PST to 3% the second year ³⁷ Promises to establish an independent Fair Tax Commission to immediately review all provincial taxes ³⁸ Promises to work with the federal government to review scheduled increases in the carbon tax ³⁹ | Promises to introduce competitive tax rates to encourage investment, growth and job creation in all regions of British Columbia Promises to undertake a complete review of all taxes, licenses, fees, and permits ⁴⁰ Promises to scrap the carbon tax ⁴¹ | Promises to have a taxation referendum proposing a single income tax rate or a single consumption tax rate Promises to hold a referendum before increasing any taxes or introducing a new tax ⁴² Proposed to scrap the carbon tax ⁴³ |
| CLIMATE CHANGE | Promises to make BC carbon neutral by 2045 and establish 2030 targets for greenhouse gas emissions by prioritizing natural climate solutions Promises to apply a greenhouse gas emissions lens to future policy decisions ⁴⁴ | Promises to reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by net zero by 2050 by requiring new building to be more energy efficient, finance energy efficiency retrofits, provide greater incentives for electric vehicles, and move towards a net-zero emission bus fleet ⁴⁵ | Affirms BC's climate change target of reducing 2007 greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050 Promises to ensure a comprehensive greenhouse gas reduction strategy while enabling sustainable resource development and Indigenous land use ⁴⁶ | Proposes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 30% in one year without a carbon tax ⁴⁷ | Proposes to eliminate all provincial efforts to combat global warming ⁴⁸ |
| ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP | Promises to ban the logging of old growth forests and revamp BC's forestry policy ⁴⁹ Promises to introduce a Water Sustainability Act, ban fracking, and protect watersheds ⁵⁰ | Promises greater incentives for electric vehicles, a ban on single-use plastics, protecting more habitat and forest and water ⁵¹ | Promises to protect wetlands, better combat invasive species, accelerate reforestation programs, improve salmon conservation measures ⁵² | Promises to encourage water conservation, encourage local management of watersheds, review subsidies for alternative energy production, and exercise responsible stewardship of the environment ⁵³ | Proposes to concentrate on fighting real pollution and encouraging the development of alternate, clean sources of energy in order to reduce our dependence on non-renewable resources ⁵⁴ |
| FREE SPEECH AND HATE SPEECH | No recently stated position | No recently stated position | No recently stated position | Recognizes that individual freedom of thought, belief, opinion, and expression are hallmarks of a free society ⁵⁵ Recognizes that requiring organizations to attest to values to receive government funding is wrong ⁵⁶ | Strongly supports free speech and opposes the use of hate speech designations to limit public commentary on important social issues, particularly in regard to gender issues, SOGI, and radical Islamist practices |
| INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS | Promises to implement and fund the Action Plan for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Promises to expand partnership with First Nations to achieve energy independence, preserve salmon populations, care for those in the child welfare system, and provide health care ⁵⁷ | Enshrined the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in law in 2019 Promises to give greater self-determination and policy consultation to First Nations ⁵⁸ Promises to work with Indigenous communities to improve access to culturally appropriate justice ⁵⁹ | Promises to resolve land title disputes, clearly apply the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and promote economic opportunities for First Nations ⁶⁰ | Believes in working in collaboration with all stakeholders to address Aboriginal issues within the Province of BC. ⁶¹ | Supports settling outstanding treaty claims equitable and quickly Recognizes that the current Indian Act should be replaced with more appropriate legislation ⁶² |



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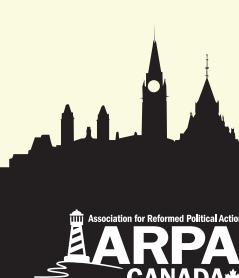
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