











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

					
ABORTION	No recently stated position	No recently stated position Promised to make contraception free ¹	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" ²	No recently stated position	Promises to remove abortion from the list of taxpayer-funded surgical procedures ³ Would repeal BC's Bubble Zone legislation ⁴
EUTHANASIA AND PALLIATIVE CARE	Promised to develop a Medically Assisted in Dying (MAiD) Strategy to train physicians and nurses and to ensure that patients receive services in an appropriate time frame and in appropriate settings ⁵	No recently stated position	No 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 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	No recently stated position	Cut funding to Independent Distributed Learning programs in 2020	Promises to reverse the cut in funding to Independent Distributed Learning programs ⁹	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	No recently stated position	No recently stated position	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 ¹²
GENDER & SEXUALITY	Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹³	Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹⁴ Promises to make BC a leader in LGBTQ2S+ recognition and rights ¹⁵	Voted unanimously in favour of amending human rights code to include gender identity and expression ¹⁶ Promises to ensure that LGBTQ+ citizens are treated with respect and live their lives free of discrimination ¹⁷	No recently stated position	Defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman and as the means for raising children ¹⁸
CONVERSION THERAPY	Actively supports and campaigns for a ban on conversion therapy, an "abusive practice that has harmful, long-lasting impacts on LGBTQ2+ people who are forced to endure it" ¹⁹	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." ²⁰	No recently stated position	No recently stated position
FAMILY & CHILDCARE	Promises to provide \$500 per month to families with children under the age of 3 that have a stay-at-home parent ²¹	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 ²² Promises to extend \$10 a day daycare to more families and require government-built projects have childcare capacity ²³	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 ²⁴	Recognize families are the most important building blocks of our communities and our society and must be supported ²⁵	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 ²⁶
PUBLIC FINANCES	Promised to introduce a Fiscal Responsibility Act that requires the BC Budget to be balanced on average, over a government's term of office to accommodate a downturn in revenue without cuts to programs ²⁷	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 ²⁸	Promises to balance the budget once the pandemic is over and the economy is on solid footing ²⁹	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 ³⁰	Support balanced budget legislation and would establish zero based budgeting ³¹

					
TAXATION	<p>Promised to increase the corporate tax rate from 11% to 12% and increase taxes on the wealthy, and streamline the tax system and eliminate ineffective boutique tax credits and shift to Pigouvian taxes³²</p> <p>Promised to increase the carbon tax by \$10 per³³</p>	<p>Promises not to increase taxes on middle class families³⁴</p> <p>No recently stated position on carbon taxation</p>	<p>Promises to eliminate the 7% PST for the first year in office and reduce the PST to 3% the second year³⁵</p> <p>Promises to establish an independent Fair Tax Commission to immediately review all provincial taxes³⁶</p> <p>Promises to work with the federal government to review scheduled increases in the carbon tax³⁷</p>	<p>Promises to introduce competitive tax rates to encourage investment, growth and job creation in all regions of British Columbia</p> <p>Promises to scrap the carbon tax</p> <p>Promises to undertake a complete review of all taxes, licenses, fees, and permits³⁸</p>	<p>Promises to have a taxation referendum proposing a single income tax rate or a single consumption tax rate</p> <p>Promises to hold a referendum before increasing any taxes or introducing a new tax³⁹</p> <p>Proposed to scrap the carbon tax⁴⁰</p>
CLIMATE CHANGE	<p>Aimed to reduce emissions by 40% below 2007 levels by 2030⁴¹</p>	<p>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 fleet⁴²</p>	<p>Affirms BC's climate change target of reducing 2007 greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050</p> <p>Promises to ensure a comprehensive greenhouse gas reduction strategy while enabling sustainable resource development and Indigenous land use⁴³</p>	<p>Proposes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 30% in one year without a carbon tax</p>	<p>Proposes to eliminate all provincial efforts to combat global warming⁴⁴</p>
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	<p>Promises to ban the logging of old growth forests and revamp BC's forestry policy⁴⁵</p> <p>Promises to introduce a Water Sustainability Act, ban fracking, and protect watersheds⁴⁶</p>	<p>Promises greater incentives for electric vehicles, a ban on single-use plastics, protecting more habitat and forest and water⁴⁷</p>	<p>Promises to protect wetlands, better combat invasive species, accelerate reforestation programs, improve salmon conservation measures⁴⁸</p>	<p>Promises to encourage water conservation, encourage local management of watersheds, review subsidies for alternative energy production, and exercise responsible stewardship of the environment⁴⁹</p>	<p>roposes 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 resources⁵⁰</p>
FREE SPEECH AND HATE SPEECH	<p>No recently stated position</p>	<p>No recently stated position</p>	<p>No recently stated position</p>	<p>Recognizes that individual freedom of thought, belief, opinion, and expression are hallmarks of a free society⁵¹</p> <p>Recognizes that requiring organizations to attest to values to receive government funding is wrong⁵²</p>	<p>No recently stated position</p>
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS	<p>Recognized First Nations as equals in land management and establish a co-management stewardship model with Indigenous People for the development of provincial resources</p> <p>Promised to collaborate with First Nations and the federal government to renew and reinvigorate the treaty process⁵³</p>	<p>Enshrined the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in law in 2019</p> <p>Promises to give greater self-determination and policy consultation to First Nations⁵⁴</p> <p>Promises to work with Indigenous communities to improve access to culturally appropriate justice⁵⁵</p>	<p>Promises to resolve land title disputes, clearly apply the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and promote economic opportunities for First Nations⁵⁶</p>	<p>Believes in working in collaboration with all stakeholders to address Aboriginal issues within the Province of BC.⁵⁷</p>	<p>Supports settling outstanding treaty claims equitable and quickly</p> <p>Recognizes that the current Indian Act should be replaced with more appropriate legislation⁵⁸</p>

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