



**Restore Confidence.  
Rebuild BC.**

## **BC Co-op Association Election Campaign Party Survey**

### **Questions 1 and 2**

If elected, will your Party commit to funding pilot projects to establish seniors long-term care cooperatives and child care co-operatives?

Will you work with the BC Co-op Association to address regulatory challenges that are preventing co-operative child care from being established in the province?

### ***BC Liberals Response:***

John Horgan and the NDP broke their promises to British Columbians on childcare. The NDP promised in the last election that by now they would create 24,000 new childcare spaces. Instead they only opened 3,490 and have completely broken their promise to ensure affordable care. Andrew Wilkinson and the BC Liberals and Andrew Wilkinson have a real and credible plan to dramatically expand not only child care, but seniors care as well.

A BC Liberal government will deliver the biggest infrastructure investment in BC history of \$30.9 billion over three years, including in seniors' care homes. That includes increasing the supply of fully-accessible units for seniors and persons with disabilities in newly-built multi-unit residential buildings, and working towards ensuring that every senior in long-term care who wants a private room has one.

Child care also must not be a barrier for parents, especially moms, trying to earn a living. That's why we will build an additional 10,000 child care spaces across B.C. We will also subsidize child care for low income and middle-class families who need it to get back to work, including \$10 a day child care for low-income British Columbians. In addition, we will ensure the right child care is available for every parent who needs it and provide online applications for every government-supported day care space. As British Columbians work during the pandemic to ensure the security of their families, now more than ever, parents need access to safe, reliable child care services.

Our plan would encourage and support a variety of non-profit and market-based child care providers. Our focus is on providing families with access to affordable child care options now, not 10 years from now as would be the case under the NDP plan. We are always open to innovation in delivering quality, affordable child care.

### Question 3

If elected, will your Party conduct a cross-jurisdictional review with the aim of identifying policy tools that will drive investment in BC co-operatives and enact measures, including amending the *Cooperative Association Act*, to do so?

#### ***BC Liberals Response:***

A BC Liberal government will support and develop co-operative housing and other alternative ownership models.

### Question 4

If elected, will you build co-op literacy through integration of co-operative models in secondary curriculum and providing funding for development and promotion of Open Educational Resources to be used in universities and colleges?

#### ***BC Liberals Response:***

One of the most important economic investments we can make is in education and training, to ensure we all have the skills and opportunity to be our best and build a bright future. Co-operatives provide economic opportunity for many across B.C. We look forward to future discussions with the BC Cooperatives Association regarding this opportunity.

### Question 5

If elected, will your government commit to amending government's Core Policy and Procedures

Manual to explicitly ensure that co-operatives can bid on all government contracts for which they otherwise qualify?

#### ***BC Liberals Response:***

The government has a duty to make the most efficient use of your tax dollars in public spending. Instead the NDP have imposed discriminatory, union-only procurement policies that have disqualified 85% of contractors from building public infrastructure projects, and significantly increased the cost of capital projects for taxpayers. It's wrong, unfair and costly for taxpayers.

We will take a different approach in government – one that's built on fairness and what's best for taxpayers and getting the job done well. We appreciate your specific suggestion. In

government, our approach to policymaking is going to be collaborative with the view of what is best for British Columbians.

### **Questions 6 and 7**

If elected, will your Party commit to increasing existing commitments to the development of new affordable housing, including a significant increase in the number of new co-op homes?

Will you create a new capital fund to support the acquisition of purpose-built rental properties by the community housing sector and the conversion to co-ops where supported by existing tenants?

### ***BC Liberals Response:***

The BC Liberals' plan will implement the most comprehensive housing affordability strategy in North America to provide new supply and affordable housing options for all British Columbians. This includes supporting and developing co-operative housing. We will use provincial and municipal land for affordable housing and establish an incentive fund for municipalities with housing policies that enable demonstrable increases in the construction and supply of new housing. We will also make tax and permitting changes to boost housing supply, and work with municipalities to review the current property tax structure to incent affordable housing development, amongst several other measures.

We know B.C. needs more housing, including safe and secure affordable housing. Co-operatives will have a key role to play in the BC Liberals' comprehensive housing strategy.