



**Restore Confidence.
Rebuild BC.**

Task Force to End Homelessness in Burnaby — 2020 Election Questions

1) If elected what resources would your party allocate to increase the supply of affordable and core need housing stock in Burnaby?

The NDP have broken their promises to ensure affordable housing options for British Columbians. Out of a promised 114,000 more affordable homes, they have only opened 2,963 units. House prices, rents and property taxes continue to grow, making housing even less affordable.

BC Liberals will implement the most comprehensive housing affordability strategy in North America, to provide new supply and affordable housing options for you and all British Columbians.

A BC Liberal government will:

- Establish an incentive fund for municipalities with housing policies that enable demonstrable increases in the construction and supply of new housing.
- Implement tax and permitting changes to boost housing supply, including rental and market housing, to increase choice and improve affordability for British Columbians.
- Work with municipalities to review the current property tax structure to incentivize affordable housing development, prevent speculation and drive affordable rental housing.
- Ensure no net loss of rental units in real estate redevelopment projects.
- Develop tax-relief measures to help people hurt by COVID-19 economic impacts to keep their homes.
- Create a new residential property sub-class for rental housing of three or more units.
- Change BC Assessment practices to ensure rental properties are no longer valued based on the highest and best use, but rather on actual rental use.
- Use provincial and municipal land for affordable housing.
- Support and develop co-operative housing and other alternative ownership models.

Our housing platform is backed up with serious money — \$1.75 billion over three years in capital funding and \$146 million in new operating funding — to increase supply and affordability across the entire housing spectrum so that all British Columbians can have a place to call home.

For further details on our comprehensive housing strategy, please see our [platform](#).

2) If elected, what resources would your party allocate to support people who are homeless and people at risk of homelessness access the health and support services they may need to gain or maintain their housing and quality of life?

The BC Liberals are committed to investing in getting homeless British Columbians a home and connecting them with the health and social service supports they need.

For further details on our comprehensive housing strategy, please see our [platform](#).

3) If elected what strategies and resources would your party commit to the prevention of homelessness amongst those at risk such as low income earners and people facing racial or cultural barriers?

The BC Liberals are proud to have created and supported the Homelessness Prevention Program, which assists youth transitioning out of foster care, women who have experienced violence or are at risk of violence, individuals leaving the hospital and correctional systems, and Indigenous people by providing them with rent supplements in the private housing market. Eligible renters receive monthly payments to ensure that they do not lose their home and become homeless.

The pandemic has exacerbated financial stress for many people. That's why our platform includes commitments to develop tax-relief measures to help people hurt by COVID-19 economic impacts to keep their homes.

4) What strategies and resources would your party commit to assist low income earners and people living in poverty overcome barriers such as to improved employment, better health and resource access?

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit low-income people hard, especially women. The BC Liberals are committed to get people back on their feet and rebuild BC's economy.

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A BC Liberal government will:

- Expand the provincial Single Parent Employment Initiative, to train and support single parents as they seek employment opportunities.
- Reduce the Provincial Sales Tax to 0% for a full year. It is widely agreed that the PST is a regressive tax, because it taxes a larger amount of low-income people's spending than those with higher incomes. Someone earning minimum wage will save almost \$500 per year on average.
- Invest \$1.1 billion annually to implement \$10-per-day childcare for families with annual incomes under \$65,000, with stepped rates up to household incomes of \$125,000 per year.

5) If elected, what will your party do to ensure that Winter Shelters and warming centres are established this winter in Burnaby for local people who are experiencing homelessness?

The BC Liberals are committed to investing in getting homeless British Columbians in Burnaby a home and connecting them with the health and social service supports they need, that includes ensuring adequate shelter capacity for people experiencing homelessness.