



PLATFORM: Meet the Candidates

North Vancouver Chamber Questions for Candidates
BC Election 2024



DAVID SPLETT

Candidate – North Vancouver-Lonsdale
BC Conservatives

I am a Chartered Professional Accountant with over 30 years of international experience in financial and operational management. I have driven organizational transformation, overseen multi-billion-dollar projects, managed strategic planning processes, along with leading tax and treasury optimization, and operational excellence initiatives.

Reducing Property & Business Tax Costs on Business. What would you do to help keep the costs for business down so they can survive and maintain the jobs and services they provide to our community?

The 2023 report from the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade showed that BC NDP are loading businesses with \$6.5 billion of new taxes and costs. The additional corporate taxes, health taxes, property tax, carbon tax, and numerous other government measures are driving businesses out of British Columbia.

A conservative government would eliminate the carbon tax, initiate a review of the overall business tax regime, and reduce NDP bureaucracy such that business may compete locally and internationally.

Funding Commitment to Rapid Transit. What will you commit to do to ensure these North Shore and regional transportation priorities receive sustainable provincial funding?

There have been numerous studies and municipal agreements, which have been in place for many years, yet never acted upon by the NDP. A plan for a rapid transit system into the North Shore has been waiting for action for the last 7 years.



A Conservative government would work with the North Shore municipalities to make these plans a reality, which includes a new Ironworkers Memorial Bridge with expanded capacity for both cars and public transit services, reversing plans to remove the eastbound lane on Main St. dedicated to local traffic, and ensure appropriate funding TransLink for a 2 year period to allow for the completion of an audit and action plan.

Primary Health Care. What will you do to improve primary health care access and availability in North Vancouver?

The Conservative plan is based on a Patients First Healthcare platform. The plan involves removing bureaucratic in healthcare administration in order to release more funding to the front-line staff. The plan also contemplates universal healthcare under a single-payer system that allows care to be delivered through public and non-governmental facilities, along with allowing patients who exceed medically recommended wait time to access care at a pre-approved clinics out-of-province with reimbursement based on a set fee schedule. Activity based funding to hospitals would mean that hospitals get paid when they treat patients.

Affordable Housing for staff. What would you do to ensure affordable housing investments are made quickly to support the needs of the community and the future of our local employers?

Housing costs are being driven up by increased corporate taxes, health taxes, carbon tax, payment of unused sick leave, and property taxes paid by construction companies and contractors. These taxes are driving cost inflation for BC residents through higher initial home prices and higher home maintenance costs. A conservative government would eliminate the carbon tax, eliminate the incremental health taxes, initiate a review of the overall business tax regime, and reduce NDP bureaucracy such that business may compete locally and internationally.

Finding Skilled Staff. What would you do to ensure North Vancouver can train and connect skilled staff to local employers who need them?

The challenge to attract skilled staff is being impacted by cost of living, which is driven by aggressive NDP tax policy on individuals and companies. Equally problematic is that internationally trained workers often return to their home countries due to the required time and complications to have their foreign credentials recognized.

A Conservative government would focus on bringing the cost of living down through the elimination of the carbon tax, eliminate the incremental health taxes, initiate a review of the overall business tax regime, and reduce NDP bureaucracy such that business may compete locally and internationally. Also, there would be a review of the foreign credential approval process with an objective to streamline the process and reduce times.