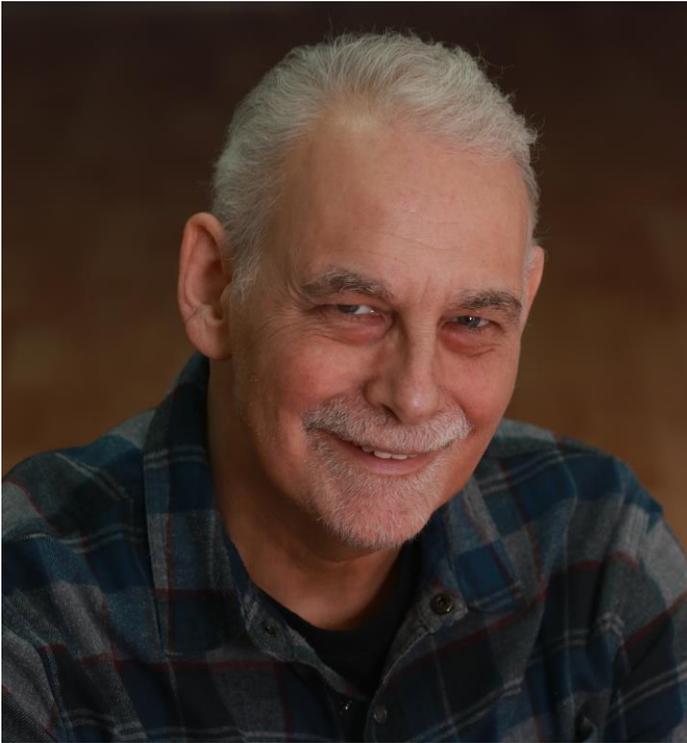




Meet the Candidates

North Vancouver Chamber Questions for Candidates
Federal Election 2025



MICHAEL CHARROIS

Burnaby North-Seymour
New Democrat Party

Bio:

Michael Charrois is a 62-year-old proud resident of the Seymour section of the Burnaby North-Seymour riding. As a unionized professional actor and a dedicated theatre arts instructor with the City of Burnaby's Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, he has spent my life embracing creativity, collaboration, and the power of storytelling. He has been an active member of the New Democratic Party since before the turn of the century, and I'm passionate about building a better, fairer Canada for everyone. For five years, he worked on the frontlines as a Constituency Advisor in MLA Susie Chant's community office, advocating for residents and ensuring their voices were heard. Since 2017, he has served as President of the North Vancouver-Seymour BC New Democrats, and he is also a past president of the North Vancouver federal NDP EDA. As a theatre arts instructor, Michael has brought creative community programs to Burnaby's Shadbolt Centre, the Christine Sinclair Rec Centre, and schools across North Burnaby, including Gilmore, Aubrey, Westridge, and Montecito. Beyond his professional life, Michael has led local initiatives as President of the Lower Lonsdale Community Garden and Treasurer for the North Shore Community Garden Association, fostering food security, sustainability and community engagement.

1. GOVERNMENT COSTS

High taxes and the threat and uncertainty of US Tariffs are the number one issue for the business community in North Vancouver.

Q: How would you reduce government costs to businesses?

A: We will always defend Canadians and Canada's interests. Our plan to help small businesses is by addressing some of the highest credit card transaction fees in the world. The NDP would place a cap on these fees by forming a strong minority government. The Liberal government has failed to regulate credit card fees. This is a government responsibility nationwide. We would also reduce the burden of dental care and pharmacare on employers by extending the employees government benefits. This would save them approximately \$600 per employee, per year.

2. GOVERNMENT REGULATORY BARRIER

Q: How would you cut government imposed regulatory and trade barriers, such as reducing interprovincial trade barriers and regulatory reform (reducing red tape), while also protecting Canadian sovereignty?

A: We would streamline access to government export services and make it simpler to access foreign and interprovincial trade partners where we would once trade with the US. We would do this by implementing a single point of contact for small and medium sized businesses to help ease regulatory processes. The NDP values the time of entrepreneurs. We will also work on a strong government procurement policy to ensure we buy Canadian. The federal government needs to prioritize Canadian goods, services and suppliers.

3. FUNDAMENTAL REGIONAL ISSUES IMPACTING ECONOMY

Many regional issues are severely impacting our local North Vancouver economy.

Q: What would be your specific local response to tackle the following interrelated challenges for employers in North Vancouver:

- Affordable housing – the housing shortage
- Skilled staff - difficulty attracting and retaining
- Public Transit - the need for significant capital and operating
- Innovation - Investment in Research & Development.

A: Canada's New Democrats want to make life more affordable for Canadians. We would use government land to build housing to build 500,000 homes in ten years nationwide. We will not sell it off to developers. We would employ local unions and labourers for these housing projects. Real community partnerships.

Skilled Staff - We would like to see a gold seal program for international trades workers and healthcare professionals.

Public Transit - We support the Burrard Inlet Rapid Transit project. We would implement a permanent federal public transit fund for North Vancouver to receive funding right away. We would implement cost sharing agreements with North Vancouver Municipalities to take the burden off of taxpayers and use more federal funding for operational costs.

Innovation - Investment in Research & Development - We plan to electrify transit by 2030. We see an opportunity for more Canadian and North Vancouver engineers and technicians to build better, more environmental transit and ferries.