

## Meet the Candidates

North Vancouver Chamber Questions for Candidates  
Federal Election 2025



### Terry Beech

Burnaby North-Seymour  
Liberal Party of Canada

#### BIO:

Terry Beech is the Liberal Candidate for Burnaby North-Seymour and has served as MP since 2015. He is an educator and an entrepreneur. He trained in Public Administration at Capilano, Business and Economics at SFU, and holds an MBA from Oxford. He has worked tirelessly to create new jobs, grow the economy and secure investments in transit, housing and infrastructure for our community. In the last two years he has been recognized as the "Hardest Working" and "Best Constituency MP" in all of Canada. His wife Ravi is a Canadian manufacturer and they have two daughters, Solar (4) and Nova (6).

#### 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: On tariffs, our response reflects Mark Carney's experience. As a strong partner and ally, the facts are on Canada's side. In 2018, when tariffs were implemented for the first time, we retaliated with \$16.6B of tariffs which were used to support affected businesses and workers. While the Conservative position was to capitulate, we held strong and negotiated NAFTA 2.0, a deal that Donald Trump called the "largest, fairest, most balanced, and modern trade agreement ever achieved." We went on to expand market access to Europe, Asia, and elsewhere, lowering our trade dependency on the US from 80% in 2015 to about 70% today. We will continue to fight these unjust tariffs, protect our industries and our workers, and build an economy that is stronger despite the changes occurring in the United States. On reducing costs, our government lowered the small business tax rate from 11% to 9%, lowered credit

card fees, and reduced the tax rate further so that small businesses could grow larger before graduating to a higher tax bracket. We also increased the one-time capital gains exemption. To further reduce cost drivers we need to address labour costs, market access, substitutable input costs, regulatory burdens, and short-term liquidity measures that may be required in today's uncertain business climate. During my time in office, I have been diligent about responding and writing to our business and non-profit community about opportunities to reduce costs while accessing government services and programs that address these issues.

## **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: Mark Carney has promised to deliver internal free trade by Canada Day. This will reduce consumer prices, increase competition, cut trade costs by up to 15%, and grow the Canadian economy by \$200 billion. There have always been sensitivities provincially around specific industries, but there appears to be a consensus to move forward given the current environment. With regards to Canadian sovereignty, we have doubled investments in our armed forces after the previous Conservative government cut spending to less than 1% of GDP. We will meet our 2% NATO target by 2030, at which time we will have tripled defence spending. We will rebuild, reinvest, and rearm the Canadian armed forces while creating a Defence Procurement Agency to help Canadian defence businesses grow at home while diversifying abroad. Our military will invest in made-in-Canada innovations in areas such as AI, quantum computing, cybersecurity, and other advanced research technology. As an entrepreneur, I have experience in the challenges Canadian businesses face in accessing funding, penetrating markets, and government procurement, as well as regulatory burdens. I would encourage readers to examine my work in reducing the cost of government and streamlining consumer services here: <https://substack.com/home/post/p-158596361>. We can use these same principles to lower costs and streamline business processes. Businesses shouldn't have to reintroduce themselves to the government and recurring forms and reporting should be automated. These improvements are becoming possible with the Benefits Delivery Modernization Programme and the modernization of government technology and service delivery.

## **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: Attracting and retaining skilled labour is directly related to quality of life which is impacted by housing costs, traffic congestion and skills training. I have written extensively on these topics, which are available here:

1. [Our government's National Housing Strategy in BNS](#). (21 pages)
2. [Our Government's Most Impactful Investments](#) in North Vancouver (31 pages)
3. [Making Life More Affordable](#) (29 Pages)
4. [Our Plan for Growing the Economy](#) (55 Pages)

Since 2015 we have invested \$30B in transit and active transportation. This includes \$66M for the Lynn Valley Bridge, \$21.9M for Highway 1 upgrades, \$16.1M for a third Seabus, and \$20.5M for bus facility upgrades including Phibbs Exchange. I have advocated for long-term federal funding of Translink which was announced in March and the "Purple Line" to connect Bus Rapid Transit and eventually rail from Park Royal to Metrotown.

The federal government had been out of the housing game for 30 years. In fact, the current Conservative leader created 6 affordable homes and lost 800,000 affordable rental units while serving as Housing Minister. In contrast, we have built or repaired over 3400 units since 2018 just in our community, and have unlocked a further 14,000 units through the Housing Accelerator Fund. Mark Carney has promised to deliver an Industrial Housing Policy that will double the current pace of construction. This will be accomplished by halving the cost of Development Cost Charges, reestablishing incentives to build multifamily rentals, investing in Canadian-made housing factories, and reducing developer regulatory burdens.