

A photograph of a man with short brown hair, wearing a green quilted jacket over a light blue shirt, smiling broadly while carrying a young girl with blonde hair on his shoulders. The girl is wearing a floral patterned top and light-colored pants. They are outdoors, with green foliage in the background. A large, diagonal graphic element in shades of orange and red is overlaid on the right side of the image.

David Eby  **NDP**

AN ACTION PLAN FOR YOU

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A Message From David Eby

“

Our plan takes action to help you and your family, so you don't just get by — you get ahead.

British Columbia is a beautiful place. It's where Cailey and I put down roots and started a family.

But it's not always easy. Everywhere I go, I listen to people who motivate me to find solutions to today's tough challenges.

Families, who worry about being able to put food on the table when global inflation and central bank interest rates have driven up costs;

Young people, who are being priced out of the communities they live in after decades of unchecked speculation in the housing market;

Seniors, who want to know that healthcare will be there when they need it but are concerned about the long-lasting effects of the pandemic and the impact that record-setting population growth has had on our health care workers and hospitals.

I hear you, and I see you. The challenges we are facing together are what drive me. And working to solve them is what gets me out of bed each morning.

In difficult times, you deserve a government that's on your side — that has your back. Not one that will leave you to fend for yourself and help those who already have the most.

That's a risk nobody can afford right now.

Ours is a serious plan. We're on the side of people who work hard and play by the rules. We want to make sure you don't just get by — you get ahead.

”

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Providing more stability for people in uncertain times.

So many people in British Columbia have come to rely on the savings the BC NDP team has delivered – from eliminating MSP fees to saving tens of thousands of dollars on child care to reducing your ICBC premiums.

While John Rustad and the BC Conservatives have said they'll cancel many of the steps we've taken to bring your costs down, we will continue to defend the progress we've made together – while finding more ways to reduce your costs.

Growing a strong province and economy, with good paying jobs and efficient government.

This means leveraging our clean electricity advantage, and growing investment that fuels high-value, made-in-BC products and good-paying jobs. It means investing in healthy, more livable communities for families – building the schools, hospitals, roads and transit systems that we'll rely on for generations. And it means returning to balanced budgets through efficiencies and growth as:

- » Interest rates come down – leaving more money in the pockets of families;
- » Resource prices rise, driving more revenue for government; and,
- » The global economy restarts, fueling even higher demand for BC products.

Working Together

From partnerships with First Nations to making sure that government reflects the diversity of our province at every level, we know that bringing people together – not dividing them against each other – is the only way to make sure we have the conditions BC needs to compete and succeed internationally, while delivering prosperity and security for everyone at home.

Recognizing Strength In Our Differences

We will make decisions in a way that recognizes different realities across the province. Every decision will be assessed for its impact on rural and remote communities, and on high population, urban areas of our province, prior to adoption. Your voice will be heard no matter where you live and work.



OUR COMMITMENTS TO YOU

1

HELP WITH COSTS

\$1,000 boost for household budgets with a middle-class tax cut, each and every year.

2

HOMES YOU CAN ACTUALLY AFFORD

Cracking down on speculators and cutting red-tape to build 300,000 more homes for the middle-class.

3

MAKE HEALTH CARE BETTER

Getting everyone a family doctor and building new hospitals in every corner of British Columbia.

4

MAKE OUR STREETS SAFER

Supporting people who need help while giving police the tools to keep illegal assault weapons and handguns away from gangs.

5

CREATE GOOD-PAYING, SUSTAINABLE JOBS

Expand training opportunities for family-supporting jobs while fighting climate change and making polluters pay.

Getting More People Into Homes They Can Afford



Whether it's innovation in construction, cracking down on speculators to free up more homes, or getting rid of outdated red tape and zoning restrictions that delay – or even prevent – homes being built, David Eby's Housing Action Plan will deliver more homes people can afford.

We've been making changes to deliver a new era of attainable homes for British Columbians – whether you're a buyer or a renter.

But John Rustad said he would cancel the progress we've made so far and take a hands-off approach to the housing crisis.



BUILDING MORE HOMES FOR RENTERS AND BUYERS

British Columbians are counting on us to help deliver the homes they need for their families' futures. Our home construction plan includes:

Fueling BC Builds - the future of building attainable housing for middle class British Columbians.

BC Builds is our new housing program that harnesses the power, expertise and funding power of the private sector, municipalities, community organizations, non-profits and government to:

- » Identify and assemble land, overcoming the biggest hurdle in new construction. David Eby is committing available public land - and our partners are contributing their land at low- or no-cost - so we can bring down the price you pay for the home you need.

- » Speed up development timelines to get construction going faster.
- » Lower construction costs, making the final homes less costly for people.
- » And, ultimately, deliver more homes that middle-income people who live and work in BC can afford.

Delivering new home ownership opportunities by expanding BC Builds to include both rentals and, moving forward, affordable home ownership opportunities.

Fast-tracking BC's factory home construction to quickly deliver lower cost middle-class homes.

This is the next logical step after cutting red tape to allow for the construction of more single homes, duplexes, triplexes and townhomes. Factory-built home construction will play a critical role in solving the housing crisis — delivering immediate results. While BC Builds continues to build large-scale multi-unit housing, BC's emerging factory home construction industry can build complete state-of-the-art, small-scale multi-unit homes in just 12 weeks — and deliver those homes while also cutting construction waste by up to 70% and reducing harmful emissions by 43%. By fueling BC's factory home construction industry, everyone from municipalities to multi-generational families can build quality small-scale multi-unit housing more affordably on land they already own.



WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

John Rustad Set to Cancel All BC's Progress on Housing

On the speculation tax: Our Speculation & Vacancy tax has brought more than 20,000 homes back into the market, but the BC Conservatives have pledged to get rid of it. They're protecting speculators instead of prioritizing attainable housing for you.

On restricting short-term rentals to protect rental housing: In an interview with Mo Amir, Rustad simply said, *"That's got to go. Yeah."*

On building affordable housing: When he was last in government John Rustad's team announced in 2016 they'd build an embarrassing 2,000 affordable housing units over five years - or just 400 per year. We have built four times that amount in student housing alone!

Fighting against change: When asked which parts of BC's leading housing plan he would continue, John Rustad said:

I would repeal all of that.



WORKING WITH MUNICIPALITIES, PRIVATE DEVELOPERS, NON-PROFITS AND UNIONS TO DRIVE HOME CONSTRUCTION

David Eby knows that solving BC's housing crisis is an all-hands-on-deck situation.



And he's building the partnerships needed across British Columbia to get the job done. In the coming years, he and the BC NDP team will:

Prioritize housing for public land. We'll never sell public land that is suitable for attainable housing to be built on. Instead, we'll partner with the non-profit and private sector to build attainable middle-income housing.

Drive the construction of more market rental housing by waiving provincial property taxes for new purpose-built rental projects.

Encourage municipal partnerships to build more housing through a new local infrastructure investment fund that's tied to housing starts, while offering more flexibility to cities exceeding those targets.

Work with municipalities to build up rather than out by:

- » Prioritizing the construction of affordable, non-market housing near new SkyTrain and rapid bus stations;
- » Cutting red tape and encouraging more development across all non-market housing; and,
- » Allowing additional height for all new co-op, non-profit and public rental housing.

Fuel the construction of more non-market housing.

People in BC are paying too much for rent. In fact, 25% of renters are spending more than half their monthly income on it. We'll provide more land for non-market and co-op housing, build more homes on it, and help non-profits take care of those homes.

Double construction apprenticeship training so BC has the supply of red-seal certified workers needed to build the tens of thousands homes we need every year.

A BC-MST partnership opens doors to home ownership

Here's how our partnerships are paying off for people who want to make the jump from renting to home ownership.

In a partnership between our government and the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh (MST) Nations, thousands of middle-income British Columbians will get to buy their first homes at the 2,600-unit Heather Lands development in the heart of Vancouver.

Here, homebuyers will pay 60% of their unit's price initially, with the remaining 40% due only when they sell — or after 25 years — and their equity in the home has grown.

It's a model where everyone benefits. And it's a model we'll expand across the province through partnerships with municipalities, foundations, First Nations, pension funds and others in a shared determination to build new homes across BC that middle-income families can afford to buy.



OPENING THE DOOR TO MORE HOME OWNERSHIP

Too many people in BC think the dream of home ownership is out of reach. We're going help make it a reality by:

Opening the door for first time home buyers by reducing the up-front costs of buying a home. Under this new program, homebuyers will pay 60% of their unit's price initially, with the remaining 40% due only when they sell — or after 25 years — and their equity in the home has grown.

It's a model where everyone benefits. We'll expand to 25,000 new homes for first-time homebuyers in communities across BC.

Cracking down on the inflated cost of buying a home by eliminating the blind-bidding that routinely means home buyers bid and pay thousands of dollars more than they need to get the house they want

BC's speculation tax is opening up homes for people

Homes should be used for people, not profiteering - and our speculation tax is helping make sure that happens.

An independent review released in 2022 found the tax helped open up more than 20,000 homes in Metro Vancouver alone.



OPENING UP AND PROTECTING HOMES FOR PEOPLE

We need to make sure that every unit out there — from suites to condos to houses — is turned into a home for people. That’s why we will:

Crack down on people who use the housing market only to turn profits. We will increase the housing speculation tax — and clamp down on home-flipping, which leaves potential home-buyers out in the cold and drastically inflates the housing market. John Rustad would put speculators ahead of you by cancelling both of these measures.

Encourage more people to rent their suites or home by having their back. So many prospective “Mom and Pop” landlords want to help provide housing but are worried about unexpected problems, like unpaid rent or damage. We’ll give them the support and confidence they need to keep renting out their units through subsidized insurance that protects against unpaid rent and damages, offers legal advice and more.

Protect BC’s existing stock of rental housing by replenishing, as needed, the Rental Protection Fund that non-profits can use to buy and protect affordable rental housing for the long term, so people don’t have to be afraid that their homes are going to be sold out from under them to speculators or large corporate real estate companies.

Getting rid of “no pet” clauses for purpose-built rental apartment buildings

We’ll end the bias against pet owners — which impacts young people, seniors and people with disabilities most. This move will also bring down the rate of pet abandonments across the province, as renters no longer have to make the difficult choice between the housing they need and the pet they love.

PROVIDING SAFE, SECURE HOUSING FOR EVERYONE

We will bring the Homeless Encampment Action Response Temporary Housing (HEARTH) program to more communities, in line with our provincial decampment strategy to get people inside. We’ll work closely with communities on new housing options — and make sure new facilities have the staff, enforced good neighbour agreements, and locations to deliver successful outcomes for residents and the whole community.



**FAMILY BENEFIT
BONUS**
+ \$3,563 / YEAR

NEW

**HELPING NEW
HOMEOWNERS**
+ 1.5% INTEREST
ON 40% OF YOUR
HOME

NEW

**MIDDLE-CLASS
TAX CUT**
+ \$1,000 / YEAR



**MORE AFFORDABLE
CHILDCARE**
+ UP TO \$900 / MONTH



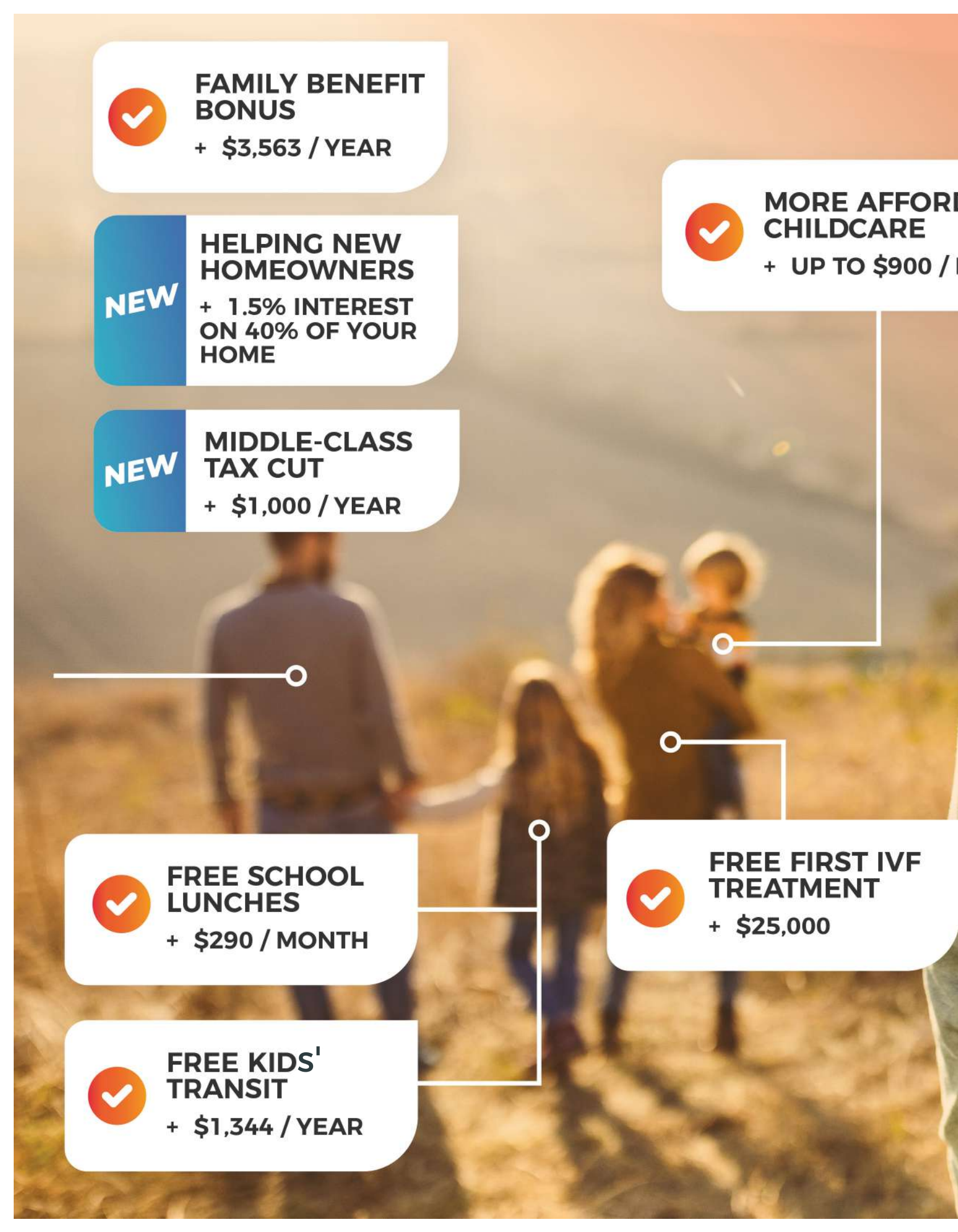
**FREE SCHOOL
LUNCHES**
+ \$290 / MONTH



**FREE FIRST IVF
TREATMENT**
+ \$25,000



**FREE KIDS'
TRANSIT**
+ \$1,344 / YEAR



RDABLE
/ MONTH

NEW

**FREE
MENOPAUSE
TREATMENT**

NEW

**FREE TRANSIT
FOR SENIORS
IN OFF-PEAK
HOURS**



**SENIORS
SUPPLEMENT**
+ \$100 / YEAR



**RENTAL
ASSISTANCE**
+ 1,320 / YEAR



**SENIOR'S BUS
PASS**
+ \$45 / MONTH



**FREE FERRY
TRAVEL FOR
SENIORS**

Helping You With Your Household Costs

Central Bank interest rates and inflation climbed at record rates for the two years after the pandemic. While both are just finally starting to come down, the impact of these global trends on BC families continues.

We're working to make life better and deliver the security and affordability you're looking for. We've brought down many of your monthly costs by reducing your car insurance rates by \$500, getting rid of MSP health-tax premiums, eliminating bridge tolls, stabilizing hydro rates and providing two \$100 BC Hydro bill rebates, and reducing the cost of child care by 50 percent — just to name a few.

More recently, we committed to you that if Ottawa removes its national requirement for a consumer carbon tax, we will remove the consumer carbon tax here in BC — taking pressure off families while we keep making sure big polluters pay their share. Moving forward, we'll take more action to help bring down your monthly costs:

Deliver a middle-class income tax cut that will provide a \$1,000 benefit for 90 percent of BC families, with \$500 for individuals and \$1000 for households as a rebate in the first year so you see support as quickly as possible.

Deliver affordable before- and after-school care for kids up to age 12 across BC. By working with school districts, education assistants, and other trusted staff, we'll bring costs down for even more families through affordable before- and after-school care in every school district.

Build new child care spaces. As we continue to expand the \$10-a-day child care model over the coming years, we need to plan ahead and keep adding child care spaces where and when families need them the most, especially in the early years. That's why we're making a \$500 million initial investment to add new desperately needed accessible and affordable child care spaces, initiating a long-term capital plan that will be built with input from families, providers, school districts, municipalities, sector experts and more.

Strengthen protections for BC consumers from bad actors that are taking advantage of the market –

and protecting people who are struggling with already-high household costs.

Freeze your ICBC premiums to lock in your car insurance savings.

Changing ICBC to an Enhanced Care model saved drivers an average of 20% on their premiums each year. This model has proven to deliver better care while drastically reducing what is spent on lawyer fees. And we'll make it work better for everyone: we'll make sure ICBC's coverage keeps pace with increasing costs for the services people need as they recover from a car accident. And while John Rustad wants to sell ICBC and turn you and your family over to private insurance companies that charge rates two or three times higher for individuals and businesses – and fight in court not to pay you – we'll keep rates low for you.

Offer free transit for seniors in non-peak hours.

Doing this will reduce seniors' costs, take more cars off the road, use our existing transit system without increasing costs or congestion, and make life better for thousands of people.



Keep your hydro rates low and give you the opportunity to save more

by installing solar panels and selling electricity back into the grid - this will provide resilience for you and your family, and increase our clean electricity advantage.

Cut the cost of heating and cooling your home,

making it more comfortable and efficient while helping reduce your carbon footprint. Our rebate program will help you with the cost of energy efficiency upgrades, that then help you save even more money over the long term through lower energy and heating bills.

Expand the school meals program

to save families money on groceries and put our kids' health first - study after study has shown these critical meal programs improve students' health, learning and outcomes.

Support people living with disabilities by:

- » Increasing the Community Living BC home share rates, helping more people in communities care for their loved ones;
- » Ensuring that people living with disabilities keep all of the new Canada Disability Benefit; and
- » Adjusting the spousal rule to help lift more people out of poverty.



**REMOVING INTEREST
ON STUDENT LOANS**

+ \$230 / YEAR



**FUTURE SKILLS
GRANT**

+ \$3,500



**BC ACCESS
GRANT**

+ \$4,000 / YEAR



**STUDENT LOAN
PAYMENTS**

50 % OFF



**CAPPED RENT
INCREASES**

+ \$3,712



**RENTER'S
TAX CREDIT**

+ \$400 / YEAR

NEW

**ALLOWING PETS
IN PURPOSE-BUILT
RENTALS**





NEW

GROCERY REBATE
+ \$1,000 / HOUSEHOLD
EARLY 2025



**ENDING MSP
PAYMENTS**
+ \$1,800 / YEAR



**FREE BIRTH
CONTROL**
+ \$300 / YEAR



**LOWER CAR
INSURANCE**
+ \$500 / YEAR



**BC HYDRO
RATE FREEZE**
+ \$140 / YEAR



**NO MORE
BRIDGE TOLLS**
+ UP TO \$900 / YEAR



WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

A BC-only healthcare tax:

Rustad was a member of the BC Liberal government when they doubled a health care tax only BC residents had to pay, called MSP premiums – all to pay for their tax breaks for the wealthiest. We eliminated that tax.

More expensive car insurance:

Rustad's record is clear: he'll cost you more. In fact, Rustad is planning a \$500 ICBC rate hike. He hiked ICBC rates before, and he'll do it again. People can't afford that.

Tolls for all: Rustad said getting rid of the tolls for driving over the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges was a “slap in the face.” Those tolls had been costing daily commuters up to \$1,500 a year. Three of his hand-picked candidates say they want to bring tolls back.

Want to see how much the Rustad risk could cost you? Find out at RustadRisk.ca.

Child Care BC brings big savings for families. Let's keep going.

Our commitment to reduce costs for young families is delivering huge benefits.

» We've cut fees for child care in half, saving parents as much as \$10,800 a year.

» And there are now 37,000 more licensed child care spaces in BC than in 2017.

And John Rustad's record on child care? Well, his old BC Liberal government cut or eliminated child care subsidies – making parents pay more for this essential service and putting child care into crisis.

Over the next four years, we'll keep driving costs down for families.

And we'll work with the child care sector, municipalities, school districts and others to move forward on our child care capital plan to build even more affordable spaces.

Building & growing a sustainable economy with good-paying jobs

For too many in British Columbia, it seems like life is as uncertain now as in the depth of the pandemic. Costs keep going up while paychecks can't seem to keep pace.

But David Eby believes there's a path forward to a prosperous, sustainable future for everyone in BC - and he's working on it every day. It's a path that leverages our province's strengths to deliver new opportunities, good-paying jobs and a better future.

And it's delivering results:

» In the last 12 months, BC had some of the highest private sector job growth and wages Canada, and one of the lowest unemployment rates.

» Since 2017, British Columbia has the fastest-growing GDP of the big provinces in Canada, and some of the highest wage growth.

» Investment in the province is booming - with one of the biggest new mines in BC history starting construction this summer, a billion-dollar hydrogen project underway in the lower mainland, a major zero-emission vehicle engine manufacturing plant moving forward in the Interior, and the largest First Nations-majority owned energy projects in Canada under construction in northern BC.

» Through BC Hydro's record capital plan and first competitive call for power in 15 years, we are seeing record investments in clean energy and creating up to 1,500 construction jobs annually.

BC's economy is growing because we're creating the opportunities that global companies are looking for: a highly trained workforce, land-use certainty, competitive taxes and, above all else, leadership and action on creating a low-carbon, clean-energy economic foundation. We need to keep working so that every British Columbian sees and feels the strength of our economy in their daily life.

In his 2023 economic blueprint, David Eby laid out his vision for a provincial strategy that unites all of us - businesses big and small, labour, non-profits, provincial, federal and local governments, First Nations, and families around the province - in the common goal of building a brighter future for British Columbia by positioning our province on the front lines of climate action and clean technology solutions.

And in the coming years, our BC NDP team will continue to build the sustainable economy that strengthens every community, provides opportunity for all, and leaves no one behind.



MAKING BC A CLEAN ENERGY SUPERPOWER

More and more, major employers and investors are setting up operations in British Columbia for the long term given our clean energy advantages.

While John Rustad continues to say there is no climate crisis, David Eby is putting clean energy at the heart of BC's future. With our CleanBC climate plan setting strict caps on emissions from oil and gas, we are moving swiftly to develop new sources of clean energy – like wind, solar, hydrogen and renewable fuels – to power our province and growing economy. Our clean energy plan includes:

Developing a Clean Energy Plan to make BC's vision of a clean-energy future a reality.

Working with First Nations and communities, we will do the work needed to transform BC's economy away from overreliance on fossil fuels to sources of energy that are clean, affordable and reliable – while finding regulatory efficiencies to streamline the

permitting and construction of new clean-energy infrastructure and renewable power projects.

Doubling electricity generation by 2050 and upgrading BC's power transmission grid to help make sure that power gets to industries, businesses and homes where and when it's needed. This includes growing new sources of made-in-BC clean energy by issuing competitive calls for power every two years. In 2024, BC Hydro put out its first call for power in 15 years, resulting in proposals for more than \$3 billion in new investment in the province. Working with First Nations and the independent power industry, we will bring more renewables like wind and solar on board – helping meet growing demand, selling



electricity for a profit to our neighbours to keep rates low, creating good-paying jobs and getting the lowest price for people.

Leveraging our commitment and action on clean energy to attract new investment and opportunity from companies around the globe who are making climate action a priority. This is how we've already built the largest hydrogen and fuel cell sector in Canada, and delivered a \$900 million project with HTEC that will build green hydrogen production and refueling stations across the province – from Burnaby and North Vancouver to Prince George and Nanaimo.

Creating a Clean Economy Transition fund to fuel investment, innovation and good-paying jobs. British Columbia's abundant natural resources should be used to benefit people, communities and our future. That's why we overhauled the broken oil and gas royalty system two years ago, putting an end to outdated and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.

Now it's time for the next major step.

Using a portion of the revenue raised from oil and gas development, including LNG projects, we'll establish a Clean Economy Transition Fund and focus it on enhancing BC's clean-economy future – so we can attract even more global investment in renewable fuels, clean tech, manufacturing, and critical mineral mines – and the good-paying jobs that come with them.

BRINGING THE CERTAINTY BUSINESSES ARE LOOKING FOR

To fully unlock our province's potential and attract the investment that's crucial to building a sustainable economy, we need to set the table — providing the certainty and ease of operations businesses are looking for.

That's why David Eby and the BC NDP team will:

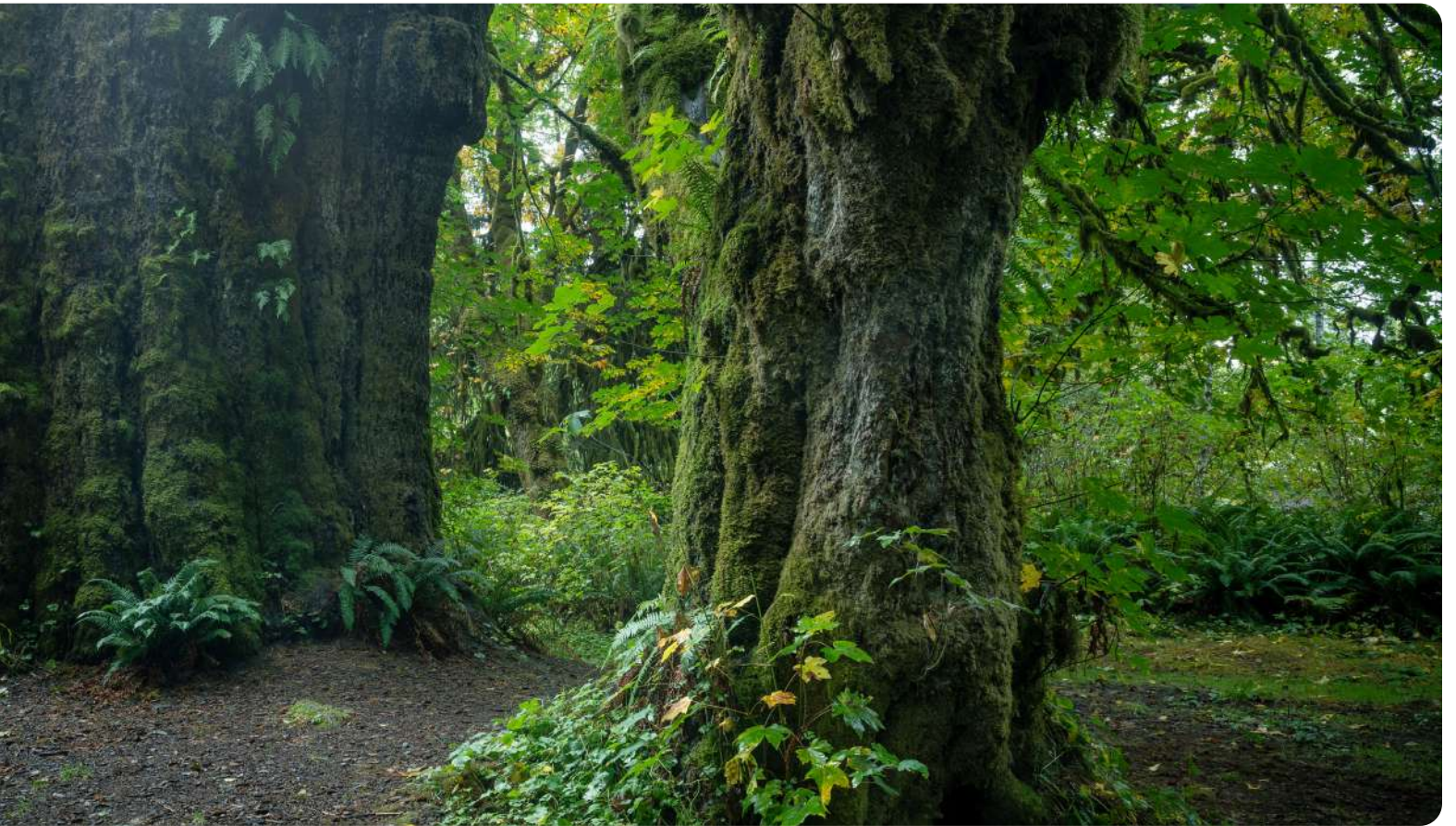
Make sure BC's economy has the space to grow and create jobs through a new Industrial Land Reserve. As we attract more companies to British Columbia, we need to make sure there is land for them to set up, get to work, and create good-paying jobs. And with BC's future prosperity on the line, we can't leave this responsibility to chance. This reserve will inventory existing industrial lands and carry out a land-use needs assessment

that anticipates our growing economic needs, and clean up and revitalize vacant industrial sites. We will work with partners to attract new investment. The results: more industrial projects that create jobs and a secure tax base for local governments to deliver services and infrastructure for people.

Complete and implement an "ease of doing business" review.

Working with key business organizations, individual business owners and entrepreneurs we'll identify and remove barriers to establishing or growing businesses here in British Columbia. By doing this, we can help businesses put their focus where it should be — on delivering high-value products and services, innovating, and creating jobs.





A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR FOREST WORKERS, COMPANIES AND COMMUNITIES

Through the hard work of workers, communities, and forest companies BC remains Canada's leading force in lumber production.

At the same time, we know we've been hit hard by global trends. We need to do more, faster, to make sure BC's forest industry has the support it needs to be a giant in the years and decades to come. David Eby and the BC NDP team will commit its resources into:

Creating more forest jobs while protecting old growth.

A new Forest Value Fund will fast-track wood-manufacturing facilities coming online and the re-tooling of mills to process

second growth timber rather than old growth as we continue to move to a value-added future for forestry.

Getting more jobs per tree by tying our working forest resources to mills and companies that employ British Columbians, and by putting further restrictions on raw log exports.

Attracting more investment to BC and creating good paying jobs for forest workers by accelerating the growth of engineered wood production to fuel home construction and other high-value, made-in-BC wood products.

Increasing fibre security for primary, secondary users and value-added manufacturers by working towards a harvest of 45 million cubic metres per year.

Completing a full review of BC Timber Sales to improve the process for accessing public timber and drive better outcomes for jobs in forestry dependent communities.

Reviewing the stumpage system in light of punishing tariffs and recent trade decisions from the US that have held our industry back, in order to identify reforms that support the industry.

Working toward First Nation agreements that make sure industry only pays once for stumpage – benefiting rural, remote and First Nation communities.

Bringing efficiencies to the permitting process with a goal of granting faster access to timber harvesting, helping provide greater security for companies and workers.

Expanding the BC Manufacturing Jobs Fund to provide support to the primary sector to allow them to invest in innovation that supports local jobs – helping end the boom-and-bust economy that hurts communities, contractors, businesses, workers and their families.

Securing a more sustainable future for First Nations and communities that depend on local forests for their economic strength by doubling the land held in BC's new and existing community forests.

Working with the industry to fight US softwood lumber tariffs, and pushing Ottawa to take tough action now to support BC's industry, workers and communities – David Eby and the BC NDP team are determined and prepared to use every available avenue, resource and tool to fight those unjustified and unfair tariffs.

Strengthening our restoration work by planting more than 300 million trees every year – with the right tree species in the right place – to help increase biodiversity and forest resilience to climate change, restore wildlife habitat, and reduce the risk of wildfire and floods to our communities.

Bringing together industry, First Nations and communities to work together – through new Forest Landscape Planning Tables – to chart a path forward for the stewardship of BC forests that increases sustainable harvest levels, drives improved old-growth management, and respects local knowledge and community priorities.

"I think we are at a really important point in time. I'm really optimistic about the state of natural resources right now."

Sarah Weber
President and Chief Executive
Officer C3 Alliance

Forum Advisory
Committee Chair of the BC
Natural Resources Forum



GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR BC'S MINING INDUSTRY

To expand economic opportunity and good-paying jobs around the province, David Eby and the BC NDP team will fast track priority critical mineral projects and help mining companies and workers take advantage of new and growing global opportunities by:

Helping workers keep up with the changing nature of mining in BC by establishing union-training programs focused on building the skilled workforce and trades people we need across

the entire mining industry.

Guaranteeing permit review timelines for priority critical mineral projects while maintaining BC's world-leading standards for environmental protection and worker safety and commitment to First Nations partnerships.

Providing dedicated support to advance projects to final investment through the new Critical Minerals Office, including coordination with the federal government to reduce duplication, and supporting First Nations engagement and capacity.

Working with the industry, unions, stakeholders and First Nations on a long-term outreach strategy to attract more investment and opportunities — from mineral exploration to advanced processing — in British Columbia's critical minerals sector.

Building out the electricity grid across the province and supporting mines to power up with clean energy, ensuring that BC's mining industry continues to be the cleanest in the world.

Upgrading key highway infrastructure in BC's

northwest needed to unlock investments in new critical mineral mines, create good jobs, and improve community access and safety.

Ensuring that resource development provides lasting benefits to communities

in the Northwest through the Resource Benefits Alliance and to First Nations through continued revenue-sharing and new equity ownership opportunities.

Working with partners to pursue — and secure financial support from Ottawa for — a first-of-its-kind battery recycling operation at the Trail smelter.

Requiring that industry - not taxpayers - pay for the costs of clean up. For years, the government collected insufficient financial security from mining companies. We will build on the progress we have made that's already increased the total reclamation securities held by the government from only 40% of estimated liabilities in 2017 to over 90% today.

DELIVER FOOD SECURITY FOR BC THROUGH A STRONGER AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Growing BC's agriculture industry, making life more secure for our province's farmers, and improving resilience are priorities for David Eby, and he'll deliver by:

Establishing a Premier's Task Force – as requested by the BC Agriculture Council – to work with agriculture industry stakeholders, First Nations, and local governments to co-develop a Provincial Agri-Food Competitiveness and Growth Strategy.

Inventorizing and protecting agricultural land for future generations.

Working with the industry to identify land and opportunities for agricultural innovation and food processing.

Supporting young farmers who want to help feed BC by matching them with farmland available for purchase or lease.

Protecting farmers' crops and livelihoods through a topped-up perennial crop renewal program.

Expanding the agricultural Extreme Weather Preparedness fund to help farmers and ranchers prepare and protect their farms and animals from extreme-weather emergencies.

Increasing the amount of food processed here in BC to avoid exchange rate pressures, transportation costs, and the impacts of climate change – which all drive the price of food higher.

Making sure BC communities have secure sources of clean water for the future by putting land use and watershed planning in the hands of local communities, farmers and businesses, in partnership with First Nations, and funding those communities

to identify and prioritize local water use. This builds on our existing Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program that supports food producers to store and improve their water supply for irrigation and livestock.





STRENGTHENING SMALL BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES

We're cutting red tape to help small businesses focus on their operations and growth, while investing in the tourism, arts and culture amenities that are essential to so many communities.

Help protect small business owners and reduce their costs when disputes with landlords arise. By expanding the online dispute resolution tribunal to include business-landlord disputes, we can help small business owners avoid the high cost of seeking resolution through the courts.

Reduce administrative burdens on small businesses by changing PST filing to quarterly from monthly.

Cut red tape for BC restaurants, wineries, breweries and distilleries by modernizing liquor laws and licensing, including a move to risk-based licensing that encourages good business practices throughout the industry. Modelled on the Ontario model, this will reduce administrative burdens on lower-risk establishments and strategically focus inspection and enforcement resources on those that pose a greater risk.

Continue to build the heart of communities by investing in the tourism, arts and culture activities people here – and visiting here – love most, including:

- » An expanded Arts, Culture & Sports Infrastructure Fund that helps local community and cultural organizations bring people together, and inform, entertain and engage ever-widening audiences.
- » Bringing people together to celebrate their communities, cultures and love of local arts by providing stable, year-over-year funding for fairs, festivals and events.

TRAINING AND ATTRACTING PEOPLE FOR GOOD-PAYING JOBS

Our plan for a growing, sustainable economy is dependent on fueling the talent, innovation, skill and determination of British Columbians across this province.

We're working fast to meet BC's growing workforce demands – with a particular focus on critical sectors like health care, high value manufacturing, and new and expanding industries. Over the coming years, David Eby and the BC NDP team will:



Prepare more young people for the jobs of the future – and the future starts now – by doubling all apprenticeship training and ramping up opportunities for more young people by expanding introductory programs that give them a taste of working in the trades and put them on the path to full, sponsored apprenticeships.

Train, hire and keep more doctors, nurses and other health professionals with a practice-in-BC guarantee. Last year, in addition to the doctors we added, we also hired 6,300 nurses and now have the fastest-growing nurse workforce in the country. And we're going to keep that momentum going so we continue to lower nurse-to-patient ratios, in part, through a new program that forgives the tuition loans of health professionals in return for a long-term BC residency guarantee.

Get out-of-province health care providers delivering care sooner by requiring BC's health regulatory colleges to provide provisional licences immediately to Canadian-trained providers and within six weeks for providers from approved jurisdictions, while we continue to improve processing times overall and provide more transparency on licensing timelines.

Address regional shortages of critical health care professionals – like laboratory, imaging and cardiology technologists, psychologists and pharmacists – through targeted tuition assistance.

Anticipate and meet the job demands for BC's newest and fastest-growing sector with a clean energy labour market strategy that will guide the recruiting, training and placement of workers able to build and operate complex clean energy projects and infrastructure.

A good wage, decent benefits, & a safe workplace



British Columbians making minimum wage were ignored by John Rustad and his former BC Liberal government colleagues. They endured horrible conditions, including:

- » No increase in the minimum wage over an entire decade, leaving BC with the lowest minimum wage in Canada.
- » Instead, Rustad voted to lower minimum wage by establishing a \$6-an-hour “training” wage that was 25% below the then-minimum wage.

» John Rustad also voted to eliminate basic employment standards, including standards protecting kids from dangerous work and leaving BC workers at significant risk of exploitation, injury, unpaid overtime and dire work conditions.

Over the past seven years, the BC NDP team has increased the minimum wage to support workers and tied it to the rate of inflation. We’ve protected workers who use app-based driving services like Uber and Skip the Dishes if they’re injured on the job and guaranteed

them minimum income levels. And we’ve also made sure that large construction sites provide flush toilets, technology that has been available for decades on construction sites but hasn’t been deployed — keeping many people away from critically needed and high-paying trades jobs.

Minimum Wage: Worst to First

BC now has the highest minimum wage in the country, and the second lowest unemployment rate. In the last full year of John Rustad and the BC Liberal government, it had the lowest minimum wage.

David Eby and the BC NDP will strengthen protections for BC workers by:

» **Protecting BC's commitment to keep minimum wage increases in line with inflation.**

» **Putting BC jobs and workers first by preventing the offshoring of jobs in public projects.**

» **Increasing protections for Temporary Foreign Workers** by removing the certification of employers found to be inflicting financial, physical, psychological or other kinds of abuse.

» **Preventing workplace accidents and injuries** by increasing the inspection and enforcement capacity of WorkSafeBC. In addition to the lives and injuries saved, enhanced prevention will also reduce overall costs and demands on BC's health care services.

» **Recognizing and treating the impact of a traumatic workplace death** by extending presumptive compensation for all workers witnessing the incident.

» **Expanding presumptive coverage under WCB for firefighters** who experience higher rates of cancer due to increased exposure to the hazards of a fire scene.

Protecting workers instead of encouraging exploitation

The old BC Liberal government slashed the budget of the Employment Standards Branch by 57%, closed eight regional offices, and fired half the staff. They made it possible to hire children to do dangerous work. Asbestos removal firms were completely unregulated, working in residential areas and exposing workers to asbestos. Injured workers with denied claims committed suicide out of hopelessness while they waited for appeals. It's not how any government should treat the people who make our province work.

The impact of those massive cuts is still with us. That's why we will ensure employment standards are enforced, injured workers supported and complaints impartially investigated. Every parent, every friend, every neighbour should return home safe and uninjured at the end of the day.



Clean Air & Water, while supporting you



We live in a very different time from when the consumer carbon tax was introduced back in 2008.

Across our province, and the rest of the country, people are being squeezed by the jarring impact of global inflation and high interest rates.

Taking climate action today and in the years ahead is a societal responsibility that British Columbians embrace with

determination. It is a challenge, and also an economic opportunity. But *how* we get to the goals we share and the future we want for the generations to come must necessarily adapt to the realities and challenges of the changing times.

So when average BC families are struggling to get through each month, we need to recognize that the consumer carbon tax is no longer doing its job. We'll never make families choose between paying for the basics and supporting strong climate action.

That's why we announced that if Ottawa removes its national requirement for a consumer carbon tax, we will remove BC's carbon tax on people while making sure that big polluters pay their fair share.



At the same time, we'll use government's size and buying power to help drive down costs on energy efficient, cost-saving technology, so it becomes more affordable for people to be part of BC's climate solutions.

» **Helping you and your family be part of generating the clean energy BC needs.** Our BC Hydro rebates on solar panels and home solar batteries will help you create and store your own energy, and even make money by delivering electricity back to the provincial grid. This program also includes rebates for apartment buildings, small businesses, schools, social housing providers, and other public organizations - and we will work to expand it so more

people can access it across the province.

» **Getting better deals for your home and office energy retrofits.** Energy efficiency benefits everyone - you save money on energy and heating costs while our province reduces harmful emissions. We'll take the approach that is working well in the European Union by bulk purchasing heat pumps and passing the savings on to you. Bulk buying can also ramp up BC manufacturing, creating more jobs for people here.

» **Encouraging the move to more electric vehicles in BC by making charging stations more available and reliable.** British Columbians are making the

switch to electric vehicles far faster than expected - and we're going to double down on that progress. Make that triple down. We will prioritize building new EV charging stations at community and recreation centres, municipal parking, highway rest stops, and park-and-ride stations, with a goal of doubling the number of public chargers across the province by 2030 - removing a significant barrier for people thinking about going electric.

» **Driving students to school on clean energy.** By moving BC's school bus fleet to electric, we can help protect our kids' health, lower transportation costs, and reduce our province's carbon emissions.

Reducing carbon pollution; protecting nature



David Eby knows that British Columbia can have a thriving, growing economy while protecting its land, air, water and beauty for future generations.

It's that mindset that delivers results that benefit everyone.

And it's how – since the BC NDP formed government – BC has achieved the highest average GDP growth among Canada's large provinces, while

reducing our net greenhouse gas emissions by 5%.

British Columbians can accomplish anything when we come together with purpose and a shared vision for our province.

WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

Rustad: Protecting BC's most-endangered nature is "nonsense".

While David Eby is protecting 30% of BC's most critical lands and waters for generations to come, John Rustad would walk away from it in a heartbeat.

"The Conservatives would absolutely axe doing that," Rustad told The Narwhal (May 17, 2024). "That's nonsense."

LET'S KEEP MOVING FORWARD BY:

Continuing to reduce carbon pollution through a cap on harmful emissions from the oil and gas sector. Oil and gas companies are the biggest polluters in BC while making record profits — they can afford to use some of their profits to invest in innovation and reduce their emissions in line with BC's climate targets. BC is on track to exceed its 2025 target of reducing methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 45% from 2014 levels. And we'll build on this continent-leading progress by driving the adoption of innovative, zero-emitting technology and best practices — achieving a 75% reduction by the industry by 2030.

Moving BC closer to its goal of protecting 30% of provincial lands by 2030 by working with First Nations, Ottawa and local communities on a shared, ambitious commitment to defend and preserve critical, at-risk ecosystems. This is the single strongest step we can take in our fight against biodiversity loss and is a critical part of our climate action plan. And it would all be mowed down for short-term gain by John Rustad.

Driving a made-in-BC strategy to protect BC's biodiversity and ecological integrity. Our province is home to the richest, most complex and diverse ecosystems in Canada —

it is our collective responsibility to act urgently to protect it. That's why we'll work to protect biodiversity and critical ecosystems alongside First Nations, communities, workers, industry, organizations, and the public. Through this collaborative work with local people and communities, BC is breaking from outdated conservation models, and will objectively set and deliver on science-based targets to protect water and natural systems that support all of us.

Protecting more old growth in partnership with First Nations by completing the provincial commitment set out in the Old Growth Strategic Review's 14 recommendations.

Engaging youth to build a stronger future. We'll expand the Youth Climate Corps across BC, providing training and paid work for young people between age 17-30 who want to start their careers by making a difference on climate action in their communities in a way that makes communities safer and more prosperous.

Protecting communities and local watersheds by phasing out the use of the herbicide glyphosate (commonly, Round-Up) in BC forests.

Expanding our investment in salmon restoration to more projects that are restoring estuaries, inter-tidal zones, and critical salmon spawning habitats.

A photograph showing a blue helicopter in flight, dropping a bucket of water onto a large fire burning in a forest. The fire is producing thick white and grey smoke that rises into the sky. The background shows a dense forest of evergreen trees under a clear blue sky.

Building Strong & Prepared Communities

Climate-caused disasters like wildfires, floods, droughts and storms are taking an unimaginable toll on our province – threatening lives and livelihoods, displacing families and destroying homes, and cutting into the core of our communities.

Unlike John Rustad, we do believe there's a climate crisis, and that we need to act now to prepare for and prevent its impacts. That's why, in 2022,

David Eby created a stand-alone Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to help make sure we do more to keep people and communities safe.

Major improvements in how we fight fires over the last three years have come from devastating losses in the past. This year's loss of major sections of the city of Jasper, Alberta, right at the border of our province, is a reminder of how serious the threat remains.

We will move forward with the work of defending people in BC against the threat from a changing climate by:

» **Helping protect homes, communities and local watersheds by ramping up active forest management.** By partnering with communities and First Nations to proactively remove highly flammable woody material and prune tree

stands and remove debris, we can slow or stop the spread of wildfires and protect primary water sources for communities – while making better use of all fibre by supplying local mills with fire-damaged timber and waste that would have otherwise been burned or decayed.

» **Making sure BC communities have secure sources of clean water for the future** by putting land use and watershed planning in the hands of local communities, farmers and businesses, in partnership with First Nations, and supporting those communities to identify and prioritize local water use.

» **Advancing work on flood prevention in the Sumas Prairie** through integrating flood mitigation infrastructure with our Highway 1 expansion.

Stronger Relationships With Indigenous Peoples



The simple truth is that coming together is the secure path forward for our province. It's a path that replaces lawsuits with agreements, and costly trials with consensus.

This approach delivers clarity, and is better than letting judges' decisions disrupt communities and businesses, cause chaos and confusion, and result in outcomes where we still have to negotiate after a long trial.

Working together is how we build an economic foundation that businesses and industries here already – and those we're attracting – can count on.



As we move towards a more secure and prosperous future for BC, the treaties, agreements and partnerships David Eby and the BC NDP are building with Indigenous Peoples across the province have never been more crucial.



With Indigenous Peoples we are strengthening communities by taking action on Indigenous housing, education and supports for families and people.

We can't afford uncertainty and chaos. That's why we'll:

Continue the shared work of the Declaration Act Action Plan. Together, we will work to advance reconciliation in tangible and measurable ways for all communities across the province.

Ensure partnerships for healthy, productive and sustainable forests to drive forestry innovation and good-paying jobs, protect old growth and

ecosystems, and expand working community forests to build a strong future for all forest workers.

Meet our shared commitment to protecting 30% of BC's land and water by 2030, as part of our overall goal to deliver land-use clarity in all parts of the province, focussing on long-term land use planning at the regional level, including First Nations, local governments, industry, employers, workers and the province.

Build more on- and off-reserve housing, and partner with First Nations and Metis on BC Builds projects to deliver more housing for everyone in communities around the province.

Advance Indigenous education and training opportunities, including the preservation and revitalization of First Nations languages and cultural heritage.

Expand support for urban Indigenous people through the work being done by the 25 Aboriginal Friendship Centres across BC.



WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

Rustad: From support to repeal of UNDRIP

In 2019, with the unanimous support of the Legislature, BC was the first jurisdiction in Canada to formerly adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, which provides a legal framework to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. John Rustad voted for its passage. In the legislature, he spoke in support of BC's agreement with the Haida Nation to recognize their title, saying, "I support the idea of the bill... to the Haida people, congratulations."

Today, John Rustad wants to repeal that law and says the Haida deal threatens private property rights. When really, it's just the opposite - it expressly excludes private property and has actually increased the values of some private properties by giving certainty about the path forward.

It's pretty clear John Rustad has no idea what his position is on Indigenous rights, or how he would keep us out of court, and our economy growing.

Making Health Care Work Better For You & Your Family



We know too many people are struggling to get access to a family doctor or are stuck on long wait lists.

Whether you're part of a growing community, caring for ill or ageing family members, or looking to start a family of your own, you deserve access to health care when you need it. A strong and vibrant BC means having a public health care system, with hospitals that are close to home and enough nurses, doctors and health care workers to take care of you when you're sick or hurt.

While John Rustad has said his answer to these challenges will be to cut billions from health

care and introduce American-style privatization — putting your care at risk — David Eby and the BC NDP team will keep strengthening public health care, moving forward to keep you and your family healthy.

That's how we're winning the competition for doctors and nurses during a global shortage of health professionals. It's how we completed more surgeries last year than in any previous year.

Here's how we're going to keep moving forward, delivering better and faster public health care across the province.



PROTECTING YOU FROM THE RETURN OF COSTLY MSP PREMIUMS

Monthly Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums — essentially a tax on health care — hurt working families who were just trying to get by.

But that didn't stop John Rustad and his old BC Liberal government from doubling those fees when they were in office.

In 2020, the BC NDP eliminated those premiums for British Columbians. And under David Eby, they will never come back.



John Rustad made you pay more than corporations

By the time John Rustad and his old BC Liberal government were done doubling your Medical Services Plan fees — a tax paid only in British Columbia — they were taking in more from what average people paid for health care coverage than what all corporations paid in taxes on their profits.



MAKING SURE EVERYONE WHO WANTS A REGULAR FAMILY DOCTOR OR NURSE PRACTITIONER GETS ONE

We're making big changes to train and attract more doctors to BC –

and it's starting to pay off.

Since the Health Connect Registry launched in July 2023, more than 248,000 people have been connected to a family doctor or nurse practitioner. And since April of this year, we're connecting, on average, 588 people a day. It's expected that about 160,000 more people will be matched to a family doctor or nurse practitioner in just the next six months. Keeping up this pace with the anticipated demand, we will have matched everyone on the registry by the end of 2025. Here's why we can keep this momentum going:

» Family doctors who are new to BC aren't expected to have a full roster of patients the day they open their practice. That means that all new doctors will be adding patients every day as their practice gets up to speed

» And we're working with doctors who have established practices to identify hundreds of thousands of patient openings, and will be adding those to the Registry in the near future and matching them with patients.

»

John Rustad Would Cut \$4.1 Billion from Health Care

\$4.1 billion! Leading to the question: How is John Rustad going to inflict the single largest health care cut in BC's history without it impacting people across our province? The short answer: He's not!

You're going to see – and experience – the firing of doctors and nurses, longer wait times in the ER, and cancelled surgeries. And, as we saw when he was a member of the BC Liberal government, the closing of hospitals.

His choices are going to cost you and your family with longer wait times for the care you need.

MORE DOCTORS, NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND NURSES

Since we improved how doctors are paid in February 2023, we have added 835 family doctors, who are opening their practices in

all parts of BC. And since the beginning of 2023, we have also registered 6,300 new nurses in British Columbia, and now have the fastest-growing nurse workforce in the country.

We will hire more family doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses and other health professionals than ever before by:

Training more doctors right here in BC.

» We've added more medical school seats this year and, as a result, will add 48 new residency positions by 2028 to accommodate those extra graduates.

» We're delivering on our commitment to build BC's second medical school at Simon Fraser University in Surrey – the first new medical school in Western Canada in more than half a century – which will be accepting its first students in 2026.

» And people who train here stay here – 90 percent of BC medical school graduates practice in our province.

Attracting more family doctors and nurses to BC.

Our agreements with family doctors and nurses has positioned BC as globally desirable place to practice. And we're taking advantage by carrying out major recruitment campaigns around the globe – with a specific target currently being the UK due to its system compatibility. Through the work we're doing, almost 900 foreign-trained doctors were registered in BC last year.

Making sure out-of-province health care providers are working sooner

by requiring BC's health regulatory colleges to provide provisional licences immediately to Canadian-trained providers and within six weeks for providers from approved jurisdictions, while we continue to improve processing times overall and provide more transparency on licensing timelines.



Recruiting and training nurse practitioners. This year, we doubled the nurse practitioner program at UBC (making it the largest in Canada), and increased UVic's program by 33 percent. And we'll continue to work to bring more nurse practitioners to BC.

Working to train, retain and attract more nurses so that we meet our commitment to deliver nurse-to-patient ratios that support nurses and optimize the delivery of care to patients.

Providing recruitment and retention incentives, including loan forgiveness, in return for a long-term BC residency guarantee. These incentives will apply to doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses and other vital health professionals.

Overall, we will be bringing on board an additional 45,000 health care workers over the next five years, with a shared commitment to improving your access to the services you need, cutting wait times across the province, and bringing an end to emergency room closures.

The BC NDP Approach to Hiring More Doctors is Working

Family doctors are the backbone of our health care system, keeping their patients healthy and out of ERs and hospitals. That's why, in 2023, our BC NDP government worked with them to change how they could be paid. This new model was developed to recognize the value of the care they provide,

their time and expertise, and their desire to spend more time with patients.

And it's already helping attract more family doctors to BC.

The data is telling us... this is working and this journey toward a high performing primary care system is just beginning.

Dr. Renee Fernandez
Executive Director, B.C. Family Doctors





FASTER CARE WITH MORE CHOICES

David Eby and the BC NDP will protect, improve, and shorten your wait time for the health care you need by:

Saving you a trip to the doctor for more common conditions so you can get better faster. We will expand how pharmacists can prescribe medications, refer and offer testing for routine conditions – like strep throat or UTI testing. This means routine illnesses can be tested for and treated quickly and without a doctor’s appointment, freeing up primary care providers’ time for more patients.

Getting you faster urgent care closer to home and taking pressure off emergency rooms by building more UPCCs (Urgent & Primary Care Centres) in high demand areas and the hours of UPCCs to include nights

and weekends. UPCCs are doing their job – since the first one opened in 2018, our 39 centres have collectively handled millions of visits in the past year.

Keep making diagnostic imaging technology more available. Since 2017, we have almost doubled the MRIs completed to 330,000 each year – thanks to adding 18 more MRI scanners around BC while expanding their hours of operation. We will continue to deliver more MRIs and CT scans.

Bringing down out-of-pocket costs for people in rural British Columbia who need to travel for specialist health care services. We will expand the Travel Assistance Program (TAP BC) – which provides financial assistance if the specialist health care you need isn’t available in your community – to include mileage for your car. And we’ll cover your travel expenses before they’re due for payment, so you’re not paying out of pocket and waiting for a refund.



BUILDING OR EXPANDING HOSPITALS ACROSS BC

We can't continue to rely on hospitals built 50, 60, 70 or 100 years ago. That's why we're building new hospitals, and upgrading or expanding others – in all, 29 new and expanding hospitals, from a new Surrey hospital to an expansion of Cariboo Memorial in Williams Lake to a brand new Cowichan District Hospital.

And more projects will be announced in the near future as we continue to bring state-of-the-art hospitals to more BC communities.

BETTER AND FASTER CANCER CARE THROUGH OUR 10-YEAR PLAN

With cancer affecting nearly every British Columbian – through their own diagnosis or the impact on family and friends – we made a long-term commitment to prevention, detection and treatment.

That's why we launched a 10-year cancer care plan. In just the first year, we've added 92 new cancer doctors and 32 radiation therapists, increased our rate of screening and treatments by extending the hours at three BC Cancer sites, and announced the building of four new cancer centres, bringing our total to ten.

And construction is underway for a new cyclotron and radiopharmacy lab, which will increase BC's production of clinical radiotracers – enough to carry out an additional 26,880 diagnostic PET and CT scans each year.

That's after one year – and the progress we've made has led to BC having the best cancer treatment outcomes among Canadian provinces, along with Alberta (according to the 2023 Canadian Cancer Statistics report from the Canadian Cancer Society).

And the progress we're anticipating means we'll soon have the capacity here in BC to meet the growing demand for cancer treatment, bringing an end to our short-term care program that makes use of services beyond our borders.

Think of the difference a ten-year commitment to working together can make for people in BC. In the coming year, we are taking action to:

Help prevent cancer and detect it earlier. We're putting BC on track to end deadly cervical cancer within a decade by offering self-screening kits to test for the human papillomavirus (HPV) and the cancer-preventing HPV vaccine. We'll reduce wait times by expanding diagnostic capacity even further. And we'll develop plans for rapid-access diagnostic services, and make it easier for people without a family doctor to access colon, breast and lung screening services.

Provide better peace of mind for people with a major medical condition diagnosis like cancer by increasing job-protected leave to 27 weeks from the current eight days.

Deliver faster access to cancer treatment by:

- » Continuing to extend hours of operation for radiation and systemic therapy at our regional cancer centres.
- » Providing more access to diagnostic PET and CT scans.
- » Delivering more cancer surgeries.
- » Introducing innovative new treatments, including better prostate imaging and therapeutics and new anti-cancer drug protocols.

Improve care for all through partnerships.

- » We'll bring cancer care closer to home for you by partnering with health authorities on global best practices.
- » We'll increase BC Cancer's Indigenous workforce

and deliver high-quality, culturally safe cancer care for Indigenous people, families and communities.

» And we'll continue to expand clinical trials throughout the province at all regional centres and cancer research facilities.

Make cancer care work better for you by hiring more doctors and clinicians, expanding the virtual oncology nursing line, and improving the flow and management of critical data that helps deliver better care.

More health care dollars going to services for you

BC's current administrative structure - a Provincial Health Services Authority with five regional authorities and the First Nations Health Authority - is now more than twenty years old. Given the advancements during that time in improving data management, communications and service delivery, now is the time for changes to reduce overlapping administration and maximize the delivery of front-line services.



WORKING SMARTER: IMPROVED EFFICIENCY MEANS FASTER, BETTER & MORE COMPASSIONATE CARE

Part of delivering a health care system that works for you is making sure that our health care system works efficiently, effectively and minimizes waste.

By streamlining health care administration, we can spend less on the “back end” of health

care — the parts patients never see — direct more resources to the front-line patient-serving services you rely on, and help put an end to emergency room closures.

We will complete a full review of Health Authorities with the goal of driving down costs and streamlining overhead and administration, putting those savings to work delivering more front-line services to you.

We will let doctors treat patients, while physician assistants chart and manage patient bed flow. Doctors and nurses are in short supply — we need them focussed on care. Strategic use of physician assistants and medical scribes can free up physicians to focus on your care, instead of filling out essential but time-consuming paperwork.

We will deliver unified access to provincial health care resources. Rather than having rehabilitation, imaging and procedures fragmented across regions, a unified province-wide access system would reduce wait times and give better access

to health care for all patients, especially in rural areas.

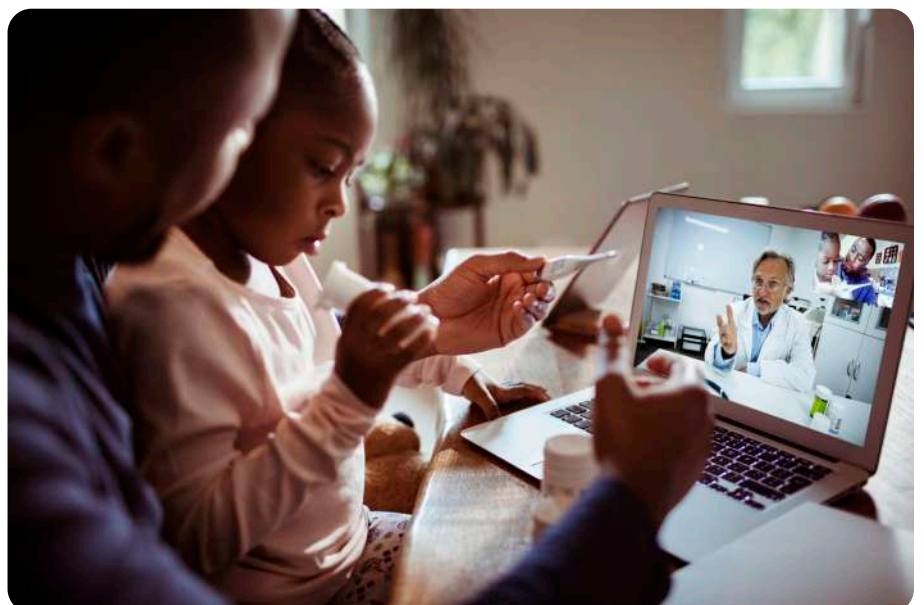
We will ban employers and other service providers from requiring a “doctor’s note” for short absences due to illness.

Doctor’s notes waste time in our health care system, and often result in you paying personally to get one. We’ll eliminate them.

We will respectfully honour the lives, families and cultures of people who have died by modernizing and expanding dignified disposition options.

We will move to digital delivery. We will axe the fax, remove unnecessary paperwork, and speed up prescription, referral and other services.

We will work with health care professionals to find new ways of improving the flow of health records and data, making health care work better for you – particularly when you have multiple health care providers.



Expanding Women's Access To Health Care

Since 2017, the BC NDP government has removed many of the barriers to quality health care faced by women and gender-diverse people, including:

- » Covering one cycle of in-vitro fertilization, saving families an average of \$15,000 to \$20,000 on their path to parenthood.
- » Launching the first at-home, self-screening program to detect cervical cancer, making it easier for more people to screen for human papillomavirus (HPV) and catch it early.
- » Becoming the first and only province to provide free birth control, saving people up to \$300 a year – so far, more than 269,000 have accessed this new BC Pharmacare coverage.
- » Covering the cost of the Plan B morning-after pill and the abortion medication, Mifegymiso.

In the coming years, David Eby and the BC NDP team will continue to reduce costs while increasing care by:

Defending and expanding access to reproductive health services, while John Rustad's BC Conservative Party has left the door open to restricting those services.

Giving women more reproductive health care options by expanding midwives scope of practice to include more services, like IUD insertion and prescribing Mifegymiso.

Providing free menopause treatment with HRT to help protect women against heart disease and osteoporosis, and reduce the risk of colon cancer.

Putting BC on track to end deadly cervical cancer within a decade, by offering self-screening kits to test for the human papillomavirus (HPV) and the cancer-preventing HPV vaccine.

Create a comprehensive strategy to improve maternity care across the province that prioritizes new ways of supporting OBGYNs, family doctors and midwives in delivering care to their patients.

Fast-tracking cancer diagnosis and treatment through new rapid access cancer clinics for breast and ovarian cancer, with built in support and access for people without a family doctor.



WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

Where do John Rustad & the BC Conservatives stand on reproductive freedom?

When a BC Conservative candidate was found to have tweeted "*The most feverishly defended "right" in this country is the right to kill babies. You will never see a Canadian get more animated by any other issue. It's a bizarre sclerotic death worshipping society.*"

John Rustad never condemned that view on abortion nor assured British Columbians that he and his party won't attack women's freedoms. Anti-choice groups are endorsing his candidates. Is that who you want deciding whether birth control, Plan B pills, and abortion are free and accessible in BC?

Provide Hope And Help For People



As a province, as a society, we must do all we can to help ease the pain of mental health illness and end the tragic deaths from the poisoned drug crisis taking place in our communities and homes.

And the actions we take on both fronts must be complete and delivered with compassion. It's a matter of meeting people wherever they are in their search for help and delivering the care they need in the moment, from bed-based treatment to recovery services, to access to a supportive health team. We'll continue to take action so we can deliver the care so many British Columbians need:

Providing BC students the help they need by making sure every public school has a mental health counsellor,

freeing up principals and teachers to make sure they're doing the work they're trained to do.

Expanding mental health counselling care across BC by fueling the vital work of community-based mental health organizations through a new \$50 million Community Mental Health Resilience Fund.

Delivering supportive, safe and confidential mental health and addiction services to youth and their families. We've fast-tracked the development of Foundry Centres for Youth in communities across BC. And they're working well, with more than 17,500 people aged 12-24 and their families accessing critical mental health, addiction, and physical and sexual health services. We are moving forward with Foundry Centres in ten more communities — quadrupling the number since 2017.

Getting people with addictions the right care in the right place when they're ready for treatment

with individually tailored, publicly funded addiction treatment and support, from detox to after-care, accessible through a single phone number across the entire province.

Helping prevent the cycle of addiction by strengthening drug prevention education in BC schools.

Built around providing supportive training and resources to all school staff, this approach is aimed at creating opportunities for children and youth to be engaged about how dangerous and toxic drugs are. And done in ways that are appropriate for their age and grade, and maximizes their odds of making good choices to protect themselves and their friends.

Creating more access to high quality addiction treatment

by strengthening local recovery homes, supporting First Nations treatment centres and Indigenous-led programming, and funding more at-home addiction treatment services. This will include more access to addiction treatment for youth, as well as culturally appropriate treatment programs.

Removing barriers to treatment and keep families together through the recovery process

by establishing residential treatment options that provide direct supports to parents undergoing addiction treatment.

Expanding specialized treatment beds for people from across the province

with both mental health and substance use disorders by building a second Red FishHealing Centre and additional "satellite" facilities.

Providing secure, supportive and dignified care

for people in BC whose struggles with brain injuries, severe mental health illness and addiction require intensive care.

By opening up secure facilities to provide secure care under the Mental Health Act, we can deliver help to people who are potentially a danger to themselves or others – so that rather than often ending up in and out of prison, they will be in a physically and culturally safe environment receiving the care they need.

Tackling the addiction epidemic in BC's construction industry

by building BC's first-ever Addictions Treatment Centre for construction workers who tragically make up one in five drug deaths.

Helping protect people at risk, particularly in smaller communities, by expanding the availability of nasal naloxone to pharmacies across the province.

Breaking the chain of addictions leading to crime

by setting up designated mental health units in correctional centres to provide rapid treatment for people with mental health and addiction challenges being held on remand or sentenced to custody by the courts.

Security & Affordability For BC Seniors

Seniors in our province are parents, grandparents, great grandparents, friends, colleagues, and the architects and builders of our amazing province.

**They deserve a dignified retirement in our province, with access to care that maximizes dignity and autonomy as a thank you for all they've done for us.
David Eby and the BC**

NDP will continue to ensure a dignified life for seniors by:

Building more housing seniors can afford.

Helping more seniors make rent and reduce costs by qualifying more people for SAFER (Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters) and increasing the support available for individual renters.

Making it more affordable to get around the community by offering free transit for seniors in non-peak hours.

Expanding the Better at Home program so more seniors get the support they need to remain in their homes as they age - while easing demand on long-term care homes. We're now up to 93 community-based Better at Home programs across BC, providing chores around the house that keep seniors safe

and happy. Our new investments expand the services this program offers, including social meals, more transportation options, and peer support.

Expanding the Hospital at Home program so seniors with long term health conditions that require more intensive medical support don't have to stay in hospital, freeing up beds and improving quality of life.

Helping seniors with the cost of living by increasing the Senior's Supplement by \$50 to \$149 per month.

Continuing to improve quality, supported care for seniors by building 5,400 new and replacement beds at 32 long-term care facilities across BC.

Making sure all seniors in long-term care receive the same high quality care. By providing common wages, benefits and working conditions for staff across both public and private long-term care homes, we can make sure all facilities will be staffed by caring, well trained and qualified workers held to a consistent provincial standard of care for all seniors.

More Nurses and Home Support for BC Seniors

At the same time the BC NDP team has been working to repair the significant damage done by 16 years of privatized long-term care by the old BC Liberal government, we're also making life better for the 95% of seniors living independently.

We're doing this by committing \$324 million over three years to boost programs that help seniors thrive in their homes and communities, instead of moving into care.

This funding will hire more nurses, physiotherapists, health care assistants and home support workers - the people that help keep seniors happy, healthy and safe at home.





More Help For Students, Teachers & Staff



WHAT'S THE RUSTAD RISK?

The Rustad Plan: Overcrowded Classrooms

Even a 20-per-cent increase (in class sizes) would have the ability to remove a tremendous number of the portables.

John Rustad
February 27, 2024

John Rustad didn't build a single new school in Surrey - the fastest growing city in BC - in the last four years he was in government.

Now he's pledging to take the same approach again, this time across the province, by making classes at least 20% bigger - making it harder for kids to get attention and to learn.

For the 16 years John Rustad and his colleagues made decisions, BC saw closed schools, increasing class sizes, less support for students with special needs, inadequate resources, and not enough teachers, education assistants and support staff.

And now, John Rustad wants to take us right back to those days by promising to increase class sizes, hurting students who need more - not less - attention.

Beginning in 2017, the BC NDP committed to hiring more teachers and bringing class sizes down - because that allows for more one-on-one time and delivers better student results.

Our province has grown by more than 300,000 people in the last two years under Ottawa's immigration programs. We need to build new schools to ensure our kids have supportive learning environments.

David Eby and the BC NDP team will keep making schools work better for students by:

Providing BC students the help they need by making sure every public school has a mental health counsellor, freeing up principals and teachers to do the work they need to do to teach kids the basics.

Increasing support for students in the critical kindergarten to grade 3 years by staffing each classroom with an education assistant to support complex needs, and to support before- and after-school care programs.

Getting more teachers into the classroom by creating a faster pathway to teacher certification for adults already working on-call in BC schools.

Attracting more teachers to high-need areas of the province through incentive programs.

Building more than 20,000 new student spaces at 58 K-12 projects in BC's fastest-growing communities, from Richmond to Fernie to Mission.

Improving learning and reducing distractions by banning cellphone use in schools.

Increasing support for kids with learning disabilities and their families by working

with teachers to identify kids who are struggling early and support those kids with strategies to learn, as well as expanding services and interventions for kids with dyslexia and other learning differences.

Helping prevent the cycle of addiction by taking a coordinated approach to drug prevention education in BC schools. Built around providing supportive training and resources to all school staff, this approach is aimed at creating opportunities for children and youth to be engaged about how dangerous and toxic drugs are. And it's done in ways that are appropriate for their age and grade, and maximizes the possibility of them making good choices to protect themselves and their friends.



The Link Between Rustad, Overcrowding, and Surrey

In the exact years John Rustad was serving in Cabinet (2013-17), the BC Liberal government approved:

- » The fire sale of 21 public properties in Surrey – land that would sure come in handy right now for new school construction.
- » It included the sell-off (at far below the assessed value) of land designated for a second Surrey hospital.

Overcrowded schools. An overcrowded hospital. That's the real John Rustad record on Surrey.

Getting You Where You Want To Go, Faster & Cleaner

Provide more affordable transit options in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley by:

- » Expanding the West Coast Express to Chilliwack.
- » Connecting communities in the Fraser Valley through a new rail service, working jointly with CP Rail. This would provide cleaner, more efficient transit options for people and help reduce traffic congestion on Highway 1.
- » Launching dedicated rapid bus service on the new expanded Highway 1 shoulder lanes.
- » Completing the Surrey to Langley SkyTrain expansion, which is already under construction.
- » Completing the Broadway Subway project to UBC.
- » Build new rapid transit with two additional Bus Rapid Transit corridors
- » Delivering fast, frequent, and reliable service along King George Highway from Surrey Centre to White Rock.
- » Better serving both sides of the Fraser River by connecting Langley and Maple Ridge via 200 Street - Golden Ears bridge - Lougheed highway.
- » Building new rapid transit to the North Shore — starting with a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor and building towards SkyTrain or light rail.

John Rustad: Up with fares!

This shouldn't come as a surprise – it's another opportunity for John Rustad to make you pay more for a service you count on every day.

In a July interview, John Rustad was asked if he supported the idea of raising Translink fees, to which he said...

I think fares may have to go up, yes.

CKNW

July 29, 2024

With record numbers of people moving to British Columbia, transit options for people across the province need to grow with them.

David Eby and the BC NDP team will partner with communities to anticipate growth and increased demands, and deliver transit options that make your commutes faster and more efficient. We will:

Connect the province with an expanded express bus service, building on our successful BC North bus service, including a new fleet of express buses between key transportation hubs.

Develop a business plan to evaluate bringing commuter rail back to key transportation routes,

including Vancouver to Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton. This will help address crowding and traffic in this fast-growing corridor and increase convenient access to more affordable housing for workers who live in Squamish and Pemberton and commute to Whistler or Vancouver.

Make cabs and ride-hails more responsive, safer, and more affordable –

Including standing firm on the requirement for Class 4 licences for all taxi and ride-hail drivers, requiring forward- and backward-facing cameras in both taxis and ride-hails and speeding up the review of the Passenger Transportation Board's taxi rate structure to lower costs for everyone.

Improve transit for people with disabilities by bringing BC's HandyDART service into government, instead of sub contracting the service to a private company.

Review all private delivery models within BC Transit to make sure British Columbians are getting the best value for tax dollars and the best service for their needs.

Meet the needs of people living in the Fraser Valley by moving forward with next leg of the Fraser Valley Highway 1 Corridor Improvement project. This will not only widen the highway out to Chilliwack but build in climate resiliency to prevent the kind of flooding people saw in 2021.

Continue to work with communities to expand active transportation options that help make communities cleaner and more livable.

Continue expanding and strengthening transit service by working with TransLink and the Mayors' Council on the Access for Everyone plan to ensure service continues to be there for people.

Keep people and goods moving in the lower mainland by building critical upgrades to transportation infrastructure, including the Pattullo Bridge replacement between New Westminster and Surrey and the George Massey Tunnel replacement between Richmond and Delta.

Working with BC Ferries to support affordable and reliable ferry service for people and businesses who rely on our marine highway.



Making Homes, Businesses & Communities Safer

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community.

Too many communities are struggling with the heavy challenges of toxic drugs and mental health crises.

And organized crime is getting smarter – we need to be giving police the tools to stay one step ahead.

But John Rustad is promising to tie their hands by directing them "not to enforce" federal gun laws like Bill C-21, which restricts semi-automatic assault weapons and freezes handgun sales. This would mean allowing gangsters to import and carry illegal weapons without police seizing them.

That's just wrong.

We'll not only enforce gun laws, we'll do so aggressively to protect communities from gang violence and protect women from predatory abusers.

Since 2017, the BC NDP government has been working alongside police to tackle crime in our communities – with a priority on curbing gang violence, making our streets safer, and protecting women and families fleeing violence in the home.

David Eby and the BC NDP team are going to keep supporting police and community groups to make your community safer by:

Providing secure, supportive and dignified care for people in BC whose struggles with brain injuries, severe mental illness and addiction require intensive care. By opening up secure facilities to provide involuntary care under the Mental Health Act, we can deliver help to people who are potentially a danger to themselves or others.

Ramping up the seizure of proceeds of organized crime

to deny profits to criminal networks and close down gang houses, take their cars, and seize properties used by criminals with the knowledge of the property's owner.

Keeping repeat violent and gang offenders off the streets

by pushing Ottawa for stronger bail and sentencing conditions, along with easier access to dangerous offender designations for violent people who need to stay behind bars.

Stopping repeat offenders in their tracks

by strengthening targeted policing, increasing funding for immediate police investigations, adding more comprehensive case management capacity for prosecutors, and expanding support for rehabilitative referrals.

Making our roads safer from reckless supercar drivers

through a new deterrent that ties the cost of their speeding ticket directly to the value of cars valued over \$150,000.

Cracking down on bad drivers

, including adding red light cameras for busy community intersections and using a dedicated highway patrol to reduce policing costs and let the RCMP tackle crime instead, improving safety on BC's busiest highways.

Helping women and families permanently escape domestic abuse and violence

by expanding the availability of transition housing, and making sure their jobs are protected if they have to run to safety so they can keep supporting their families.

Strengthening implementation of the Safe and Supported: BC's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan

by working with service providers, Indigenous partners and families on initiatives, like the Path Forward Community Fund, to make BC safer and more inclusive for women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Protecting vulnerable groups with new, tough hate crime legislation.

Delivering supportive, safe, quality care when a mental health crisis is reported to 911 by fast-tracking the expansion of civilian-led and health-focused crisis response teams across the province.

Supporting police to keep guns off our streets and continue anti-gang programs

like the new Integrated Gang Homicide Team.

Helping youth-at-risk make the right decision for their future

by providing community sports, recreational or educational programming targeted to their needs.

Supporting Police in Keeping You Safer

Since 2017, your BC NDP team has:

- » Created 12 regional hubs of police, dedicated prosecutors and probation officers focused on tracking and arresting violent offenders, and keeping them in jail.
- » Made it easier to seize the profits of crime like real estate, fast cars and luxury goods.
- » Created dedicated gang homicide investigation teams in Metro Vancouver.
- » Increased intelligence-gathering on organized crime.
- » Invested hundreds of millions of dollars to fill vacancies in RCMP units in smaller communities.
- » Funded more than 470 victim services and violence against women support programs.
- » Restored funding for sexual assault reporting centres.
- » Funded a new RCMP crime lab.
- » Made online spaces safer through a new law cracking down on the sharing of intimate images without consent.



Low Cost Fun For Families Across The Province

Our kids and grandkids deserve the opportunity to enjoy British Columbia as much as we all did growing up. As do the generations that will follow them.

Provincial campgrounds and parks offer affordable getaways for families in the wilderness. Closer to home, city-run facilities like pools, waterparks, arenas, sports fields, parks and cultural centres offer families, seniors, and communities low-cost entertainment and places to gather and learn.

We'll continue to help grow recreational opportunities – from the rec centre downtown to your favourite campsite – by:

Connecting kids to their community by increasing funding for amateur sports so it's more affordable, accessible and inclusive.

Creating better camping experiences for your family by adding more campsites in BC parks, including large group capacity sites for family gatherings.

Expanding BC parks, recreation sites and trails – particularly in areas close to regional centres – through a long-term funding commitment that will:

- » Develop and improve access roads, trails and infrastructure;

- » Expand recreation facilities particularly for accessibility; and

- » Develop new recreation projects in partnership with First Nations and local communities

Create a cultural, sports and recreation fund that will help deliver affordable family entertainment and cultural community gatherings and celebrations across the province at a time when families rely on these services more than ever.

Efficient & Effective Government



Responding to COVID required quick staffing up of vaccine teams, healthcare workers, and public service officials across the province. That emergency was followed by three of the worst wildfire seasons the province has ever seen, along with epic flooding in the Sumas Prairie.

With disaster response has come additional demands after two years of record immigration, adding more than 130,000 permanent residents, and hundreds of thousands of temporary residents and international students.

Through all of these challenges, our priority has been on making sure the services you rely on — like roads, transit, schools, hospitals and more — are open, functioning and ready for you and your family.

We've done better than other provinces in responding to these challenges — recruiting more doctors and nurses, teachers, and child care workers, growing our economy in a time of record interest rates, and attracting investment from around the globe.

But we have to do more. And we have to do it efficiently.



We must continue to ensure the growth we've seen in public services is consistent with efficient and effective government.

We'll always choose to support people, especially in times of low resource prices, record high interest rate increases, and global inflation. But as these costs ease and families find more money in their pockets, we will balance the budget through a combination of internal efficiencies and economic growth, without compromising front-line services or hiking taxes or fees on people, like John Rustad will.

David Eby and the BC NDP team will:

Create a standardized, province-wide online municipal building permit system to provide consistency in permitting for builders in every city in the province, and to ensure consistent permit approval times between communities, reducing administration and technology cost burdens on municipalities.

Complete a full review of Health Authorities with the goal of driving down costs. Health Authorities must provide a regional lens on policy without duplicating bureaucracy and without displacing the voices of front-line health professionals who can help us deliver effective and efficient programs.

Unify our provincial enforcement teams for gambling, liquor, traffic, transit police, and tobacco into a single enforcement agency that uses outcomes-based regulation to reduce duplication, improve efficiency, reduce red tape, and focus on bad actors. This will free up RCMP officers to focus on crime instead of provincial regulation enforcement.

Leverage emerging AI technology to ease administration costs and burdens in key program areas that require the review of large amounts of non-sensitive data.

Ensure our public service ratios continue to be consistent with other provinces and best practices.

Ensure our debt-to-GDP remains among the lowest in Canada. This will balance our need to be fiscally responsible with our need to compete with other provinces and states for business, skilled workers and good infrastructure as our population grows.

Lobby Ottawa to reallocate immigration policy and funding to the provincial government similar to the agreement in place in Quebec. Returning to a program of focussing on recruiting and retaining skilled immigrants in areas of demand, and reducing the abuse of the temporary foreign worker program by some employers, is something that we'll do a better job of than Ottawa has.

STRENGTHENING OUR PROSPERITY AND GROWTH DEFENDING YOU AGAINST THE CHALLENGES

Together, we have faced historic challenges since 2017 – supporting people and communities through unprecedented climate disasters, from wildfires to floods and drought, responding urgently to take care of people during the pandemic, and, more recently, fighting the impact of global inflation and high interest rates. We know many Canadians, and people around the world, are struggling with the rising costs of daily life.

All this while we've been playing catch up to a massive infrastructure deficit, as our population is growing and we need stronger services and revitalized infrastructure more than ever.

What is different here in BC is how we are tackling these problems. We're working in partnership with all British Columbians to deliver effective supports and services to help us weather this global storm.

The BC NDP has taken action to make sure people have what they need – and we're turning the corner. As we make generational investments to meet this challenge, we're not just closing the infrastructure gap, but are pushing BC to the top of the economic pack in Canada.

BC's Budget 2024 showed we are still putting people first – investments to improve our outcomes in health care, housing, climate, education, and child care.

In health care alone, we've committed \$6 billion to ensure services are there when people need them – this includes a transformation in how we recruit family physicians, a 10-year Cancer Plan, investing in long-term care, and building new and expanded hospitals across the province.

From 2017 to 2024, the BC NDP government supported people to get into homes they can afford. Nearly 80,000 homes are now open or underway that would not have come online without support from the province. We have more to do, and we're ready. Budget 2024 committed over \$600 million to building more housing for people.

We're investing in the future – with \$4 billion set aside to build, renovate, and seismically upgrade schools and playgrounds throughout BC, and almost \$1 billion in additional funding to support record numbers of students, including \$355 million to enhance classrooms and hire additional teachers and critical support staff.

And when it comes to affordable, accessible child care in BC – we've created over 45,000 new spaces, helping directly reduce fees for more than 150,000 kids (saving families thousands every month), and boosting wages for Early Child Care Educators.

But the work can't stop there.

With the steps we've laid out here, we will keep building on those improvements, with targeted investments to build more housing, including opening the door to home ownership, lower costs for people, and recruit and train more health professionals.

Since 2017, British Columbia has had the fastest-growing GDP of the big provinces in Canada. And we are poised for growth.

Through its record \$36 billion capital plan, BC Hydro is increasing investments as major projects like Site C reach completion to make sure we can power new homes and growing industries with clean energy. And BC Hydro's first call for power will attract \$3 billion in private

capital investment to build new wind and solar projects over the next four years.

In the mining sector, private sector investment has doubled since 2017 and there are now 17 critical mineral mines proposed in BC – representing \$36.5 billion in new capital investments and \$10.9 billion in government revenue during construction alone. We have a generational opportunity to create tens of thousands of good jobs while supplying the critical minerals that Canada and the world needs to build a clean economy. That's the BC advantage.

Climate change is not only a challenge, but also an economic opportunity. From hydrogen and renewable fuels to clean tech and battery manufacturing, BC's commitment to climate action is attracting global investment from innovative companies that are developing the products and solutions needed to fight climate change.

We've balanced the budget for five of the last seven years, and we are on a path to return BC to balance. New Democrats have done it before and we will do it again – managing public finances sustainably while putting people first.

John Rustad is selling snake oil. He claims he'll slash taxes, and then magically balance the budget without making cuts. We've heard that story before. The BC NDP is being honest with voters - we will not cut the services people rely on, and that means a deficit.

We can promise we will not rely on reckless cuts that undermine critical services, or raise taxes on hardworking middle-income people. Together, we've built An Action Plan for You that keeps us on the path to a stronger, brighter future.

GROWING MORE OPPORTUNITY: CHALLENGES OF TODAY AND TOMORROW

NEW REVENUES (\$ MILLIONS)	2025-2026	2026-2027
Speculation and vacancy tax	60	60
Purpose-built rental projects incentive	-14	-28
Targeted economic growth	490	990
Middle-class income tax cut	-1800	-1300
Total New Revenue	-1264	-278
NEW INVESTMENTS (\$ MILLIONS)		
Getting more people into homes they can afford	357	150
Helping people with costs	192	206
Health and mental health care	400	411
Strong, sustainable, and climate-ready economy	326	230
Training and skills for good jobs	67	67
Stronger Relationships with Indigenous people	96	55
Support for students, teachers and staff	98	71
Safe, vibrant and connected communities	111	58
TOTAL NEW INVESTMENTS	1647	1248
Existing Government Budget Balance	-6700	-6095
Budget Balance with Platform Commitments	-9611	-7621
Additional Capital Investments	2118	2304

RUSTAD'S RECORD

Based on his record when he was part of the BC Liberal government, along with his promises already in this campaign, John Rustad will take us back to the days of higher fees and cuts to vital health care services you depend on.

THE RUSTAD RECORD

MAKING YOU PAY MORE

The BC Liberal government more than doubled Medical Services Plan fees to \$75 a month. Government MLA and Health Committee member John Rustad gave standing ovations to every year of increased charges.

CUTTING HEALTH CARE

Over 16 years, cut health care spending by six percent, after general inflation and population growth were factored in.

HOSPITALS ARE "SURPLUS"

Closed three hospitals in their first year and sold off the land slated for a new Surrey Hospital, with the Finance Minister calling it "surplus" and John Rustad giving him a standing ovation.

MORE PEOPLE WITHOUT A DOCTOR

Made a 2010 promise to match every patient with a doctor. Instead of following through, they rejected building a second medical school in Surrey and left 900,000 people without a family doctor - 250,000 more than before they made their promise.

LOOKING TO CUT CORNERS

John Rustad was a proud MLA of the only government in BC history to actually cut the number of registered nurses (from 42,122 to 40,149). He backed his colleagues rejecting a new medical school to help address the doctor shortage, setting us back years in training BC doctors.

DAVID EBY'S BC NDP

MAKING HEALTH CARE FREE

Eliminated Medical Services Plan premiums, making public health care free for everyone and saving families up to \$1,800 a year.

INVESTING IN BETTER CARE FOR YOU

Since 2017, investing to strengthen health care, helping BC get through a costly pandemic while increasing surgeries and diagnostic procedures.

BUILDING NEW HOSPITALS

Since 2017, the BC NDP have built or are building 29 new or expanded hospitals around BC, from Vancouver Island to Fort St. James. Fort St. James is John Rustad's home community. He was okay with them using antique double wide trailers as a hospital. We weren't.

CONNECTING DOCTORS AND PATIENTS

Matched more than 570,000 people to a family doctor or nurse practitioner since 2018. Even with a booming population, BC today has more family doctors per capita than it did 40 years ago, and is tied with Nova Scotia for the highest rate in the country. At 270 doctors for every 100,000 people, we are well above the national average of 244 doctors per 100,000.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

David Eby and the BC NDP team have registered 6,300 new nurses since January 2023; and we're building BC's second medical school at SFU Surrey (the first new medical school in Western Canada in 50 years) to train more doctors for BC.



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