

Provincial Election - October 19

David Evans

BC Greens Candidate

David was born on Vancouver Island and has lived, worked and raised a family in this new riding called Juan de Fuca - Malahat for 25 years. David has listened to constituents from coast to west coast and heard that transportation and transit issues are critical, health care accessibility is paramount, and affordability is a constant worry.



As a small business owner in Sooke, David appreciates the contribution of local business to the community and community to local business. He operated the Stick in the Mud Coffee House for 17 years in Sooke, winning the Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year award four times. He now owns and operates Stick in the Mud's Roastery.

Traffic is both a local and provincial issue that continues to impact residents and businesses both over the Malahat and on Highway 14. One major challenge for both the elected MLA and the residents is a complete re-think of where we live and how we get to work.

In the more rural areas of our riding, there is great concern about poor forestry practices and the negative impact on key water supplies, both quality and quantity, and increasing vulnerability to wildfire.

As our climate is changing,

there are many actions governments and residents can take to protect the environment and prepare for drought, floods, heat domes, atmospheric rivers and air quality problems, such as occurred during the recent Old Man Lake fire near Sooke. The provincial government's continued support for gas pipelines and fracking, regardless of which party is in power, weakens our support for future generations.

David is running for the Green Party because he is encouraged by the amazing contribution just two Green members of the legislature — Sonia Furstenau and Adam Olsen — achieved for their constituents and the province. He understands that it takes a lot of committed time and the ability to work across party lines to improve draft legislation, the quality of debate, and ensure that there is an opposition holding the government accountable to the people and not industry lobbyists.

At this point in his life, David feels both privileged and humbled to dedicate himself to serving this riding and all its constituents. He will represent the citizens of Juan de Fuca - Malahat and ensure their voices are heard.

Dana Lajeunesse

BC NDP Candidate

I have the honour of being the BC NDP candidate for the newly formed



riding of Juan de Fuca - Malahat. I have deep-rooted connections to the region as a third generation Sooke resident. Following in the footsteps of my father, and grandfather, I worked in forestry for eight years until a life-altering injury in 1989. I had to change course. After going back to school, I worked as a Mechanical Engineering Technologist and later as an instructor at Camosun college. Since 2019, I have served as a councillor for the District of Sooke.

I have been a long-time advocate for a diversified economy and small businesses, environmental sustainability and for hardworking families to get ahead. I've loved the work of representing my community members and hearing about the issues that matter most to them.

I know many of us are facing some big challenges. The good news is, David Eby and the BC NDP are taking action, and we are starting to see some good results — hiring 800 new family doctors last year, 6,300 nurses, eliminating MSP premiums, freezing ICBC rates, cutting childcare costs in half for parents, and building 300,000 more middle-class homes people can afford. But there is so much more to do. That is why I want to join David Eby and help strengthen the services that people in Juan de Fuca - Malahat rely on, and help our community and families thrive.

There is so much at stake in this election and we can't afford to turn back. I'm eager to advocate for a better infrastructure to improve

climate change in the face of all the credible evidence to the contrary. He debunks the Covid-19 vaccine and has indicated he would terminate Dr. Bonnie Henry should he become premier.

The United Party is no more, thanks to Kevin Falcon's singular and stunning alignment with the Conservatives with whom he holds no philosophical alignment. Looking in the rearview mirror, he might be thinking that some

Shawnigan Area	
Advance polling: Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Mill Bay Community Hall	Final Voting Day Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Mill Bay Community Hall
•Thu-Sun Oct 10-13 •Tue-Wed Oct 15-16	•Sat Oct 19
8AM - 8 PM	

accessibility, ease of traffic and encourage sustainable ways to travel. As your BCNDP candidate, I will work on real actions that help you and our community. I am eager to hear from you and your vision for our community. Let's connect via dana.lajeunesse@bcndp.ca.

Marina Sapozhnikova

BC Conservative Party

I was born in Ukraine. My dream was to live in Canada and, in 2004, I moved to Alberta and became a rural doctor. Since 2013 I've worked as a family doctor on Vancouver Island, with the exception of two years where I worked as a locum in Northern BC. This was when I began to acquire a greater understanding of the problems within BC healthcare.

Policies were not in my plans. However, for years the healthcare system has been in a downward spiral. As waiting times became longer, I was helpless watching my patients suffer. I started seeing young children addicted to drugs. I had never before witnessed so many grieving



parents. As important as many other initiatives are, for me as a physician, the Health Care reform proposed by Conservatives is paramount. It is a principally different approach that puts the patient at the centre of the system.

We are proposing a universal healthcare system under a single payer, paid by the province, with a patient-based funding model. Hospitals will get funding based on the number of patients they serve and the number of procedures they perform. This will allow patients quicker access to care. Stopping ER closures will be implemented in part through incentivizing doctors and nurses to work in high need communities, reducing administrative burden and increasing safety for staff by preventing illicit drug use in hospitals.

This province is in crisis: healthcare, addictions, crime, the economy, infrastructure, and reckless government spending. Solving these problems won't be easy. It will require political will and courage. I believe that only the BC Conservative Party brings a new vision for the future.

Opinion

Eric Ronse

With the provincial election mere weeks away, voters have an inordinate decision before them because there is no simple candidate with a winning chance at the forefront.

A brief look at the candidates:

Premier Eby is running his first race at the helm of the NDP. His major failing is his apparent disconnect with the fiscal caution we expect from a leader.

Our debt now unofficially stands at nine billion dollars. There is concern that a professional audit could raise that amount to ten billion, or more. That is not only government debt but represents a debt that falls on the shoulders of every single person in B.C., from the newborn to the centenarian.

Conservative leader Mr. Rustad earned his laurels by being kicked out of the then Liberal Party of B.C. because of his bizarre views such as dismissing

patience on his part may well have propelled his party ahead of John Rustad's, thereby losing a chance to come up between his then two main rivals and perhaps win the political crown. He was unable to bring all his members over in his joining the conservative regime.

So far, we have at least five declared Independents. It is not a party and effectively stands for five (or more) people who have a dismal chance at being elected to office.

The Green Party, led by S. Furstenau may be the candidate with the best chance of gaining the support of the thousands of voters currently scratching their heads as they survey our provincial political landscape. Why she chose to vacate her absolute safe seat in Shawnigan Lake for one closer to the capital city may yet prove to be her personal undoing.

Welcome to B.C.'s politics and don't forget to vote on October 19, 2024.