

# PROVINCIAL ELECTION 2024



**BC NURSES'  
UNION**

*Standing up for health care*



**BC Nurses Say...**

**vote**  
like your health depends on it.

Learn more at  
[BCNU.org/BCNursesVote](https://BCNU.org/BCNursesVote)



This election, **vote** like your health depends on it.

**BC nurses are calling on the next provincial government to:**

- ✓ Implement minimum nurse-to-patient ratios
- ✓ Invest in effective nurse retention and recruitment strategies
- ✓ Rein in public spending on private agency nursing
- ✓ Provide safe and healthy workplaces for nurses and all other health-care workers
- ✓ Properly staff long-term care homes
- ✓ Expand community care
- ✓ Address the deadly toxic drug crisis
- ✓ Make long-term investments in mental health and substance use care
- ✓ Take action on the social determinants of health

**ELECTION DAY IS  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19**

Voting hours are from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

You can vote in advance polls between Oct. 10-13 and Oct. 15-16.

You will need one piece of government-issued photo ID to vote, and, if you are not registered to vote, a registered piece of mail like a BC Hydro bill or credit card statement.

For more information contact:

**Elections BC**

1-800-661-8683

[electionsbc@elections.bc.ca](mailto:electionsbc@elections.bc.ca)

**2024**

**PROVINCIAL  
ELECTION**  
**BC Nurses Vote**

Authorized by the BC Nurses' Union, registered sponsor under the Election Act, 604-433-2268



Nurses know British Columbians value our province's health-care system. But chronic understaffing has put it under immense strain. This election, vote for a candidate who's committed to prioritizing health care.

### That means...

#### **IMPLEMENTING MINIMUM NURSE-TO-PATIENT RATIOS**

in all care settings to help ensure patients receive the high-quality, life-saving care they deserve, address the nurse staffing shortage and protect nurses from burnout.

#### **INVESTING IN EFFECTIVE NURSE RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES**

to improve working conditions to help us retain highly-skilled nurses currently working in the system and recruit even more to the profession. With nearly 6,000 current vacant positions and an anticipated need for 29,000 new nurses over the next 10 years, there is much work to do to make minimum nurse-to-patient ratios a reality.

#### **REINING IN PUBLIC SPENDING ON PRIVATE AGENCY NURSING**

and funding the public health-care system. The province's spending on for-profit staffing agencies to fill staffing gaps has skyrocketed from \$8.7 million in 2018-19 to more than \$160 million in 2022-23, using nurses who have been driven from the system. This is unsustainable.

#### **PROVIDING SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACES**

for nurses and all other health-care workers by hiring properly trained security 24/7 and ensuring workplaces are free of verbal and physical violence and abuse. The government must hold health employers accountable for addressing the health and safety risks nurses regularly face on the job.

#### **PROPERLY STAFFING LONG-TERM CARE**

by prioritizing the establishment of minimum nurse-to-patient ratios in all publicly funded long-term care homes to ensure seniors are provided the care they deserve.

**EXPANDING COMMUNITY CARE** by investing in high-quality seniors' care to help take pressure off the acute care system.

#### **MAKING LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CARE**

and developing a publicly funded and delivered system of mental health and addiction treatment and recovery services that are regulated, evidence-based, economically and geographically accessible and available when people are looking for it.

**ADDRESSING THE DEADLY TOXIC DRUG CRISIS** by improving harm reduction measures, expanding mental health treatment and recovery services and ending the criminalization of people who use drugs.

#### **TAKING COORDINATED ACTION ON THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

by addressing issues affecting peoples' health outcomes, including lack of access to health services and affordable housing, income inequality, and the harms associated with systemic discrimination based on race - including Indigenous-specific racism - gender, age, ability and other protected grounds.

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**ELECTION**   
BC Nurses Vote