

2026 Provincial Election Toolkit



BC's Naturopathic Doctors
BCND www.bcnd.ca

Table of Contents

2026 Provincial Election	4
Are you registered to vote?	4
Important Dates.....	4
Your Electoral District.....	5
Where to Vote	5
Candidates.....	5
Political Party Websites	5
BC Greens	5
BC New Democratic Party	5
Centre BC.....	5
Conservative Party of BC	5
One BC	5
Polls	6
Advocacy Tips	6
Key Messages	6
Getting the Attention of Policy Makers	6
Asking Relevant Questions.....	6
Using Social Media Platforms.....	6
Understand Partisan and Non-Partisan Advocacy:.....	7
Engagement Opportunities	7
Public Zoom/Online Meeting Sessions	7
Social Media	8
Ask for a Meeting	8
Write Letters or Email	8
Engage with Advocacy Groups	8
Connect with Media Outlets.....	8
Key Tips for Writing Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor.....	8
Sample Op-Ed.....	9
Sample Letter to the Editor.....	10
Submission Process:	10
Templates	11
Meeting Request.....	11
Sample 1	11
Sample 2	11
Advocacy Letter	13
Sample Questions for Candidates	14
Better Integration of Naturopathic Doctors into BC's Healthcare System	14

Publicly Funded Laboratory Testing	14
Specialist Referrals	14
Access to Health Information and Clinical Resources	15
Scope of Practice and Scope Modernization	15
Access and Affordability	16
Healthcare Workforce and Primary Care	16
Prescribing and Access to Medications	16
Women's Health.....	17
Rural and Underserved Communities.....	17
Preventive and Chronic Disease Care	17
Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) and Regulation.....	18
Looking Ahead	18

2026 Provincial Election

On October 24, 2026, British Columbians will vote in a provincial election, less than two years after the last provincial election in 2024.

Provincial elections are an important opportunity to learn more about the candidates seeking to represent your community, understand the issues and priorities being discussed, and engage directly with those seeking public office. We encourage all NDs to research the candidates in their riding, review party platforms as they become available and make informed decisions.

This toolkit is intended to provide BCND members with information and practical resources for the provincial election. It includes information about finding and connecting with local candidates, key issues affecting naturopathic medicine and BC's health-care system, and templates and resources to help members participate in the democratic process and make their voices heard.

The environment for naturopathic medicine has changed considerably since BCND's last provincial election toolkit was released in 2024. The Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) has now been fully enacted, with major provisions that came into force on April 1, 2026. The new legislative and regulatory framework has changed the environment in which regulated health professionals, including naturopathic doctors, practise in British Columbia.

At the same time, important opportunities and challenges remain for the profession. BCND continues to advocate for better integration of naturopathic doctors into BC's health-care system, including improved access to the tools and infrastructure NDs need to provide coordinated patient care. An election provides an important opportunity for NDs to speak with local candidates about the profession, the patients and communities they serve, and the health-system issues that matter to them.

The pages that follow provide information and resources to help you take part in those conversations.

Are you registered to vote?

Canadian citizens 18 years or older who have been residents of BC for at least six months are eligible to vote in the 2026 provincial election.

The Elections BC website has a wealth of information and details very clearly how you can go about registering to vote. The process takes only a few minutes and can be completed online.

[Learn more.](#)



Important Dates

September 22	Writ Drop - Campaign Officially Begins
October 1	Register or update your voter information to make sure you receive a Where to Vote card
October 3	Last Day for Candidate Nominations (1pm PT)
October 16-21	Advance Voting
October 18	Last day to request a vote-by-mail package online or by phone
October 24	Day of Election
November 6-10	Final Count
November 18	Return Day

Your Electoral District

Elections BC makes it easy to find your district. [Go here](#), and input your address to find which electoral district you live in.

Where to Vote

Voting in the 2026 Provincial Election takes place either via Advance Voting or on Election Day at designated locations within your electoral district or “riding.”

Advance voting will be available October 16-21 with polls open from 8am to 8pm.

[Learn more about Advance Voting.](#)

Final voting, or voting on the day of the provincial election, will occur on October 24th, with voting stations open from 8am-8pm. [Learn more about election day voting locations.](#)

Candidates

The final list of candidates will be available after nominations close on October 3 at 1pm PT. The Elections BC website keeps this information up to date and you can find the [list of candidates here](#). You might want to check back once the deadline has passed to see the final list.

Political Party Websites

BC Greens

<https://bcgreens.ca/>

The BC Greens 2026 Election Platform is found on their website (noted above).

BC New Democratic Party

<https://www.bcndp.ca/>

The BC NDP 2026 Election Platform is found on their website (noted above).

Centre BC

<https://www.centrebc.ca/>

The Centre BC 2026 Election Platform is found on their website (noted above).

Conservative Party of BC

<https://www.conservativebc.ca/>

The Conservative Party of BC 2026 Election Platform is found on their website (noted above).

One BC

<https://1bc.ca/>

The One BC 2026 Election Platform is found on their website (noted above).



[Full list of current registered political parties.](#)

Polls

While there are many polls and polling aggregators available, 338Canada provides polling-based electoral projections using publicly available polling, electoral history and other data. As with all polling and projections, results should be interpreted as estimates rather than predictions of the final election outcome.

[Check it out.](#)

Advocacy Tips

Key Messages. A strong key message is short, clear and easy to understand. Think about the one or two issues that matter most to you or have the greatest impact on your work as a naturopathic doctor. What would you want a candidate to understand if you had only a minute to speak with them? Focus on the issue, why it matters to patients or your practice, and what you would like to see change. Personal experience can make your message more meaningful, but keep it focused, factual and constructive.

Getting the Attention of Policy Makers. During an election, candidates hear from many people about many different issues. One of the most effective ways to make your conversation memorable is to be prepared, focused and constructive. Introduce yourself as a local naturopathic doctor, explain the issue you want to discuss, describe why it matters to your patients or community, and offer a practical idea or solution where appropriate. Keep the conversation concise and leave the door open to provide additional information or continue the discussion after the election.

Asking Relevant Questions. We have some suggestions to help you ask relevant and important questions.

- a) Focus on issues that affect your patients, your practice, your profession or healthcare in your community.
- b) If you are attending with colleagues, coordinate your questions so you can raise several different issues rather than repeating the same one.
- c) Keep your question short and focused. Avoid complicated or multi-part questions.
- d) Ask open-ended questions that encourage a substantive response, such as: "What is your position on...?", "How would you approach...?", "What changes would you consider...?" or "What would you do to address...?"

Using Social Media Platforms. Social media can be a useful way to follow candidates, learn about campaign announcements and events, and engage directly on issues that matter to you. Follow local candidates and political parties on the platforms you use, and pay attention to opportunities to ask questions or respond to healthcare-related discussions.

If you engage publicly, keep your comments focused, factual and respectful. Social media can amplify both constructive and contentious exchanges, so consider whether your post advances the issue you care about and reflects the way you want to represent yourself as a healthcare professional.

Understand Partisan and Non-Partisan Advocacy:

BCND is a non-partisan organization. Non-partisan is defined as 'objective' or not being controlled or unduly influenced by a political party or special interest group. In other words, we have no bias towards any political party and do not endorse or support one political party over another. Instead, we are interested in talking to and hearing all perspectives on issues that impact the profession and working towards a solutions-oriented approach.

On the flip side, sometimes organizations (or individuals) are partisan, which is defined as something that is partial to a particular person, party or outcome. There's nothing wrong with this, and many NDs have very good reason to be partisan, perhaps they tend to have conservative or liberal views or feel particularly strongly about one party or another. BCND welcomes the involvement of NDs who have a partisan viewpoint, but just note that we won't publish or support anything overly partisan. To represent the profession effectively in the province, we need to be able to work with governments across the political spectrum and to maintain constructive relationships with decision makers.



As a non-partisan organization, BCND welcomes NDs bringing issues that affect the profession and patients to the forefront. These issues should stand on their own and not be directly associated with a particular political party or partisan position. Taking them into one political camp or another can potentially harm the profession's capacity for influence as a shaper of public and health policy. If you as an individual wish to take a position on something a political leader or party has said or proposed, consider whether the way you engage will help advance the issue.

Engagement Opportunities

Getting involved is empowering. By taking the time to help candidates understand key issues, you can have a lasting impact on the health and well-being of all British Columbians. When candidates see large numbers of people voicing the same concerns and desires, they pay attention. Below are some ideas for how you might use this opportunity to make sure NDs voices are heard loud and clear by all candidates.

Please note, if you'd like BCND to support you with preparing for a meeting, reach out to us at bcnd@bcnd.ca and we're happy to discuss.

Public Zoom/Online Meeting Sessions

There's nothing like personal interaction to help start a dialogue with candidates and bring a human face to the issues that are important to BC NDs. Meetings that are open to the public usually have reporters in attendance and may even be televised. This makes them great opportunities to get your points across, find out what the candidates are really thinking about, and share your ND perspective with the media and the public. Here are a few handy tips to consider before you head to a public (or online) meeting:

- **Invite your colleagues:** Make it a team effort - post public meeting information in group chats, text or in your clinics. Remind your fellow NDs of how important it is that the next government understands that naturopathic doctors are an important part of the healthcare discussion and can bring valuable perspectives and practical solutions to healthcare policy discussions.
- **Prepare questions:** Prepare some questions to ask candidates at the meeting. And don't forget to divvy up the questions so each of your colleagues can ask one - chances are good the moderator of the session won't let any attendees ask more than one.
- **Question preamble:** When asking a question, first take a moment to thank or acknowledge the candidates, introduce yourself as an ND, and then ask your question.
- **Follow-up:** Follow up once the meeting is over. E-mail the candidates and thank them for their participation. Remind them of any questions that were discussed and offer to send them additional material or information.

Social Media

Most candidates use social media to share their platforms, campaign announcements, events and positions on issues. Social media can therefore be a useful way to learn more about candidates and engage directly during the campaign.

Follow local candidates and political parties on the platforms you use. Candidate websites will often link to their social media accounts, making it easier to follow campaign updates and identify opportunities to engage.

Here are some social media tips to help you embrace the digital space:

- 1) The main political parties have social media accounts and so do the party leaders. Follow them and use this medium to 'hear' from those candidates and parties. You'd be surprised how much information about a political platform can be shared in very few characters! Keep in mind that local candidates may also be online. Check the website of your local candidate to see which social media platforms they use.
- 2) If you're on social media already and have utilized # (hashtags - or a type of filing system) search for and use #bcpoli or #BCElection & #BCElection2026. These #'s are already in use and you can see all posts with this tag by doing a quick search.

Ask for a Meeting

Candidates love to meet with constituents during elections and will want to hear from you about the issues that matter to you in your region. Identify the candidates running in your electoral district and request a meeting to talk about the issues affecting your patients, your profession and healthcare in your community.

Remember, if you'd like BCND to support you with preparing for a meeting, reach out to us at bcnd@bcnd.ca and we're happy to discuss.



Write Letters or Email

Take the time to contact the campaign offices of the candidates you're interested in and write personalized letters that outline your points of view. Be clear and concise (see above sections for tips on key messages) and avoid 'over-issuing' your letter. Pick one or two issues that really matter and outline your argument in a clear and factual way.

Engage with Advocacy Groups

There are many advocacy organizations that work to influence politicians on specific issues. By partnering with groups who share your values, you can amplify your voice.

Connect with Media Outlets

Write op-eds or letters to the editor in local newspapers to publicly share your views. Politicians often pay attention to media coverage in their districts and op-eds are a great way to highlight a point of view.

Key Tips for Writing Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor

- Stay Concise: Most op-eds are between 500-700 words, while letters to the editor are shorter (around 150-250 words). Stick to one or two key points.
- Be Timely: Tie your piece to a recent news event, policy debate, or election issue to make it relevant.
- Back Your Argument with Facts: Use data or real-world examples to support your claims.
- Use a Clear Call to Action: State what you believe should happen or what the public or politicians should support.
- Maintain a Professional and Respectful Tone: Even when disagreeing with policies or politicians, keep your tone respectful and constructive.

Sample Op-Ed

Title: Better Connecting Naturopathic Doctors to BC's Healthcare System

By Dr. [Your Full Name]

As a naturopathic doctor practising in [Your City], I see every day how important it is for patients to be able to move through our healthcare system efficiently. I also see what happens when the professionals involved in a patient's care do not have access to the same tools, information and pathways.

British Columbia continues to face significant pressures across its healthcare system. As candidates discuss the future of healthcare during this provincial election, there is an opportunity to look at practical ways to make better use of healthcare professionals who are already providing care in communities across the province.

Naturopathic doctors are regulated health professionals with an established scope of practice in British Columbia. Yet there are still important gaps between the care NDs are authorized to provide and the public healthcare infrastructure available to support that care.

For example, patients generally pay privately for routine laboratory testing ordered by a naturopathic doctor, even when the same test may be publicly funded when ordered elsewhere in the healthcare system. NDs also face barriers to making direct non-urgent referrals to specialists, which can require patients to return to another provider simply to obtain a referral. Access to provincial healthcare tools and information systems, including resources such as CareConnect and Pathways, is also important to ensuring that providers have the information they need to support coordinated patient care.

These are practical barriers with practical solutions.

Better connecting naturopathic doctors to BC's healthcare system does not require creating a new profession or a new healthcare workforce. NDs are already here, already regulated and already caring for British Columbians. The opportunity is to ensure that the systems around them allow that care to connect more effectively with the rest of a patient's healthcare.

For patients, that means fewer unnecessary steps and better continuity between providers. For healthcare professionals, it means better access to information and clearer pathways for coordinating care.

As healthcare continues to be an important issue in this provincial election, I encourage candidates to consider how British Columbia can make better use of its existing healthcare workforce. Giving naturopathic doctors appropriate access to routine laboratory testing, referral pathways and provincial health information infrastructure is a practical place to start.

British Columbians deserve a healthcare system in which qualified health professionals can work together effectively. Better integration of naturopathic doctors is one part of building that system.

Dr. [Your Full Name]

Naturopathic Doctor

[Your Clinic/Practice Name]

[Your City/Region]



Sample Letter to the Editor

Subject: Better Connecting Naturopathic Doctors to BC's Healthcare System

Dear Editor,

I am writing as a naturopathic doctor practising in [Your City] to highlight a practical healthcare issue worth discussing during this provincial election: how we can better connect existing healthcare professionals to the systems and resources that support patient care.

Naturopathic doctors are regulated health professionals who already care for patients in communities across British Columbia. Yet there are still barriers that can make it more difficult for NDs to coordinate that care with the broader healthcare system.

Patients generally pay privately for routine laboratory testing ordered by an ND, even when the same testing may be publicly funded when ordered by another provider. NDs also face barriers to making direct non-urgent specialist referrals and accessing provincial health information and clinical resources such as CareConnect and Pathways.

Addressing these gaps would help reduce unnecessary steps for patients and support better continuity and coordination between healthcare providers. It would also make better use of a regulated healthcare workforce that is already practising throughout the province.

As candidates discuss the future of healthcare in British Columbia, I hope they will consider these practical opportunities to better integrate naturopathic doctors into the healthcare system.

Sincerely,

Dr. [Your Full Name]

Naturopathic Doctor

[Your City/Region]



Submission Process:

- Follow submission guidelines: Check your local newspaper's website for submission rules, word count limits, and formatting requirements.
- Include your credentials: Mention your title (e.g., naturopathic doctor) and any relevant affiliations.
- Stay timely: Submit your letter or op-ed when the topic is most relevant (e.g., during the election or after healthcare news).

Templates**Meeting Request****Sample 1**

Dear [Candidate's Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I am a naturopathic doctor practising in [Your City/Region]. As a local healthcare provider, I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you during the provincial election campaign to discuss several issues affecting my patients, my profession and the broader healthcare system.

Naturopathic doctors are regulated health professionals who already provide care to patients across British Columbia. However, there are still barriers that make it more difficult for us to coordinate that care effectively with the rest of the healthcare system. These include access to publicly funded routine laboratory testing for our patients, the ability to make direct non-urgent specialist referrals, and access to provincial health information and clinical resources such as CareConnect and Pathways.

I would welcome the opportunity to share my perspective as a local naturopathic doctor and hear your views on how BC can better connect its existing healthcare workforce to the systems and resources that support patient care.

If you have some time available, I would be very happy to meet either virtually or in person.

Thank you for your consideration, and for putting your name forward to serve our community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]



Sample 2

Subject: Healthcare Priorities for Naturopathic Doctors in BC

My name is [Your Name], and I live in [Your City/Region]. As a [Your Profession, e.g., naturopathic doctor], I am writing to share some issues that are important to me as a healthcare provider and that affect my patients and our broader healthcare system.

As healthcare continues to be an important issue in this election, I would like to bring the following issues to your attention:

[Issue 1: e.g., Expanding or Modernizing the Scope of Naturopathic Practice]

[Describe the change you would like to see and why it matters. For example: Are there areas of the naturopathic scope of practice that could be modernized or expanded to allow NDs to better serve their patients? Are there services, medications, diagnostic tools or other aspects of care you believe appropriately trained NDs should be able to provide? Explain how the current limitation affects your practice or your patients.]

[Issue 2: e.g., Better Integration with the Healthcare System]

[Describe opportunities you see for naturopathic doctors to work more effectively within BC's healthcare system. This could include publicly funded routine laboratory testing, direct non-urgent specialist referrals, access to provincial health information and clinical resources, or other changes that would improve coordination and continuity of care.]

[Issue 3: e.g., Improving Patient Access to Naturopathic Care]

[Describe changes that could make naturopathic care more accessible to British Columbians. This might include public funding or expanded coverage for some naturopathic services, improved access for particular patient populations, or other approaches that would reduce financial or system barriers to care.]

These are just some examples. You may wish to raise a different issue based on your practice, your patients or the needs you see in your community.

I encourage you to consider these issues as you develop your healthcare priorities and speak with constituents during the campaign.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues in more detail and to hear your views. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]

[Your Professional Title/Organization, if applicable]



Advocacy Letter

Subject: Better Integrating Naturopathic Medicine into BC's Healthcare System

Dear [Candidate's Name],

My name is Dr. [Your Full Name], and I am a naturopathic doctor practising in [Your City/Region]. As a regulated healthcare professional caring for patients in our community, I am writing to encourage greater integration of naturopathic doctors within British Columbia's healthcare system.

BC continues to face significant healthcare challenges, including access to care, coordination between providers and pressures across the healthcare workforce. More than 800 naturopathic doctors are already practising in communities across the province. There are practical opportunities to make better use of this existing regulated healthcare workforce and improve how the care we provide connects with the broader system.

I would like to highlight several areas for consideration:

Better Access to Healthcare Infrastructure

Naturopathic doctors do not currently have the same access to some of the systems and pathways that support coordinated patient care. This includes barriers related to publicly funded routine laboratory testing, direct non-urgent specialist referrals, and access to provincial health information and clinical resources such as CareConnect and Pathways. Addressing these gaps would help reduce unnecessary steps for patients and support better communication and continuity between providers.

Modernizing Naturopathic Scope of Practice

As healthcare evolves, there is also an opportunity to consider whether the naturopathic scope of practice continues to reflect the education, training and competencies of the profession and the needs of British Columbians. Where appropriate and supported by training and patient safety, modernization of scope could allow naturopathic doctors to provide additional services and make fuller use of their clinical skills.

Improving Access to Naturopathic Care

Most naturopathic care is paid for privately or through extended health benefits, creating financial barriers for some patients. There is an opportunity to explore how government programs, coverage or other approaches could improve access to naturopathic care, particularly for British Columbians who face financial barriers to accessing the care they choose.

These are examples of practical and longer-term opportunities to better utilize naturopathic doctors within BC's healthcare system. As a naturopathic doctor practising in [Your City/Region], I see firsthand both the contribution our profession already makes and the opportunities to improve how our care connects with the rest of the system.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues with you and to hear your perspective on the role naturopathic doctors can play in the future of healthcare in British Columbia.

Thank you for your time and for putting your name forward to serve our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. [Your Full Name]

Naturopathic Doctor

[Your Clinic/Practice Name]

[Your Contact Information]

[Your City/Region]



Sample Questions for Candidates

Please note that these are examples of questions that could be asked. Members are encouraged to choose the questions most relevant to their practice, patients and community, and to raise other healthcare issues that matter to them.

You do not need to ask every question. Choose one or two that matter most to you, adapt them to your own experience and community, and use the examples below as a starting point for conversation.

Better Integration of Naturopathic Doctors into BC's Healthcare System

- 1) Naturopathic doctors are already a regulated healthcare workforce practising in communities throughout BC. What opportunities do you see to better connect NDs with the broader healthcare system?
- 2) What steps would you take to remove unnecessary system barriers that make it more difficult for regulated healthcare professionals to coordinate patient care?
- 3) How can BC make better use of healthcare professionals who are already trained, regulated and practising in the province?
- 4) What role do you see naturopathic doctors playing in a more collaborative and integrated healthcare system?
- 5) How would your government improve communication and coordination between healthcare professionals working inside and outside publicly funded primary care settings?
- 6) Would you support examining where existing policies or administrative rules prevent regulated healthcare professionals from working to the full extent of their authorized scope?

Publicly Funded Laboratory Testing

- 1) Patients generally pay privately for routine laboratory tests ordered by a naturopathic doctor, even where the same test may be publicly funded when ordered by another healthcare provider. Would you support reviewing this policy?
- 2) Do you believe eligibility for publicly funded medically appropriate laboratory testing should depend on which authorized healthcare professional orders the test?
- 3) Would you support allowing patients to access publicly funded routine laboratory testing when it is appropriately ordered by a naturopathic doctor within their scope of practice?
- 4) How would you address situations where a patient must visit another healthcare provider primarily to have laboratory testing reordered through the public system?
- 5) Would you support examining whether greater access to publicly funded laboratory testing for NDs could improve continuity and coordination of patient care?
- 6) More broadly, how should government determine which regulated healthcare professionals can access publicly funded diagnostic services on behalf of their patients?



Specialist Referrals

- 1) Naturopathic doctors face barriers to making direct non-urgent referrals to medical specialists. Would you support reviewing those barriers?
- 2) If an ND identifies that a patient may require specialist assessment, should the patient need to see another primary care provider solely to obtain the referral?
- 3) Would you support creating pathways that allow appropriately regulated healthcare professionals to make direct non-urgent specialist referrals where clinically appropriate?
- 4) How can BC reduce unnecessary steps in a patient's journey through the healthcare system while ensuring that specialist referrals remain clinically appropriate?
- 5) What opportunities do you see to improve referral pathways between healthcare professionals practising in different parts of BC's healthcare system?

Access to Health Information and Clinical Resources

- 1) How will your government ensure that regulated healthcare professionals involved in a patient's care have appropriate access to the health information they need to make informed clinical decisions?
- 2) Would you support appropriate access for naturopathic doctors to provincial health information systems such as CareConnect?
- 3) Would you support giving naturopathic doctors access to clinical referral and navigation resources such as Pathways?
- 4) What principles should determine which regulated healthcare professionals have access to provincial digital health infrastructure?
- 5) As BC continues to invest in digital health and interoperability, how will you ensure that regulated providers outside traditional publicly funded settings are appropriately considered?
- 6) How can government improve the flow of information between healthcare providers so that patients do not have to repeatedly carry information between different parts of the system themselves?

Scope of Practice and Scope Modernization

- 1) How should BC determine when the scope of practice of a regulated health profession should be reviewed or modernized?
- 2) Would you support reviewing the naturopathic scope of practice to determine whether it continues to reflect current education, training, competencies and patient needs?
- 3) Where a regulated healthcare profession can demonstrate the education, training and competency required to safely provide an additional service, what process should exist for considering scope expansion?
- 4) Are there areas where you believe BC could make better use of the existing skills and training of regulated healthcare professionals rather than creating additional points of care for patients?
- 5) Would you support examining whether naturopathic doctors could appropriately have access to additional medications, diagnostic services or restricted activities where supported by training, competency and patient safety?
- 6) How would your government ensure that decisions about scope of practice are based on evidence, competency, patient safety and health-system need?
- 7) What role should professional associations, regulators, educators and practising clinicians have in discussions about scope modernization?
- 8) How can government ensure that scope-of-practice decisions keep pace with changes in healthcare, clinical education and the needs of British Columbians?

Access and Affordability

- 1) Most naturopathic care is paid for privately or through extended health benefits. What role, if any, do you see for government in improving access to naturopathic care for British Columbians who face financial barriers?
- 2) BC currently provides limited MSP Supplementary Benefits coverage for eligible British Columbians accessing naturopathic and several other health services. Would you support reviewing whether the current level of support remains adequate?
- 3) Would you support expanding eligibility for MSP Supplementary Benefits so that more low- and moderate-income British Columbians can access covered services?
- 4) Should government consider increasing the amount reimbursed for eligible supplementary benefit visits to better reflect the current cost of healthcare services?
- 5) Should children, seniors, people with disabilities or others facing financial barriers receive greater access to publicly supported naturopathic care?
- 6) Are there circumstances in which you would support publicly funding particular naturopathic services or programs where there is evidence of patient or health-system benefit?
- 7) How would you approach improving access to healthcare services that currently rely heavily on private payment or extended health insurance?

Healthcare Workforce and Primary Care

- 1) BC continues to face healthcare workforce pressures. How would you identify opportunities to make better use of regulated healthcare professionals who are already practising in the province?
- 2) What role do you see naturopathic doctors playing in BC's evolving primary care system?
- 3) Would you support exploring models that allow naturopathic doctors to participate more directly in interdisciplinary or team-based care?
- 4) What changes would make it easier for naturopathic doctors and other regulated healthcare professionals to collaborate with family physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists and other providers?
- 5) How would you improve access to healthcare in rural and underserved communities, and what role could naturopathic doctors play?
- 6) Should BC examine new models for incorporating privately practising regulated healthcare professionals into particular publicly supported programs or services?
- 7) How can government encourage better collaboration across healthcare professions without unnecessarily duplicating services?



Prescribing and Access to Medications

- 1) Naturopathic doctors in BC have prescribing authority within a defined scope. How should government ensure that prescribing authorities continue to reflect current education, competency, evidence and patient needs?
- 2) Would you support reviewing restrictions on the medications naturopathic doctors may prescribe where there is evidence that appropriately trained NDs can prescribe them safely?
- 3) What process should regulated professions have for requesting additions or changes to their prescribing authority?
- 4) How can government ensure that prescribing frameworks evolve as clinical practice, education and available therapies change?
- 5) Where prescribing restrictions cause a patient to seek another provider solely to obtain a medication that could otherwise be appropriately managed by their existing healthcare provider, should government examine whether those restrictions remain necessary?

Women's Health

- 1) Women and people experiencing menopause often receive care from multiple healthcare providers. How would you improve coordination between those providers and ensure patients can access appropriate diagnostic services regardless of where they seek care?
- 2) Naturopathic doctors frequently provide care to patients during perimenopause and menopause. Would you support publicly funded routine laboratory testing ordered by NDs when it is clinically appropriate and within their scope?
- 3) What steps would your government take to improve access to menopause care and ensure that regulated healthcare professionals with relevant training can contribute appropriately?
- 4) How can BC improve continuity of care for patients seeking support for reproductive, hormonal and menopausal health across different healthcare settings?
- 5) Would you support reviewing scope or prescribing restrictions where appropriately trained healthcare professionals could safely provide additional options for patients seeking menopause-related care?

Rural and Underserved Communities

- 1) How will your government improve access to healthcare in rural, remote and underserved communities?
- 2) Where naturopathic doctors are already practising in these communities, what opportunities do you see to better connect them with public healthcare infrastructure and local healthcare teams?
- 3) Would you support expanding access to provincial clinical information, referral pathways and diagnostic services for regulated providers practising in rural communities?
- 4) How can government make better use of existing local healthcare capacity rather than requiring patients to travel or seek another provider unnecessarily?
- 5) What incentives or supports would you consider to encourage regulated healthcare professionals, including naturopathic doctors, to establish and maintain practices in underserved communities?



Preventive and Chronic Disease Care

- 1) What role should prevention play in BC's long-term healthcare strategy?
- 2) How can government better support healthcare professionals who work with patients on prevention, lifestyle, chronic disease management and long-term health?
- 3) What opportunities do you see for naturopathic doctors to contribute to prevention and chronic disease care alongside other healthcare professionals?
- 4) Would you support exploring collaborative models that draw on the different expertise of regulated healthcare professionals in managing chronic disease?
- 5) How should BC evaluate new models of preventive care to determine whether they improve patient outcomes, access or health-system sustainability?

Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) and Regulation

- 1) The Health Professions and Occupations Act came into force in 2026 and significantly changed the regulatory framework for health professionals in British Columbia. What will you be watching as the new system continues to take shape?
- 2) How will you ensure that the implementation of the HPOA achieves its objectives while avoiding unnecessary regulatory or administrative burdens that could interfere with healthcare professionals' ability to provide patient care?
- 3) What mechanisms should be available to healthcare professionals and professional associations to identify unintended consequences of the new regulatory framework and bring them to government's attention?
- 4) Would you support reviewing or amending aspects of the HPOA or its regulations if experience demonstrates that changes are needed to improve fairness, effectiveness, patient access or healthcare delivery?
- 5) How will you ensure that regulation under the HPOA remains transparent, proportionate and consistent across regulated health professions?
- 6) How should government evaluate whether the new regulatory framework is working effectively for patients, healthcare professionals and the health system?
- 7) As standards and regulatory requirements continue to evolve under the HPOA, how will you ensure that healthcare professionals have meaningful opportunities to provide input into changes that affect their practice?
- 8) What role do you see for professional associations in helping government understand the practical effects of health-profession regulation on practitioners and patients?

Looking Ahead

- 1) If elected, what is one change you would make to improve the way regulated healthcare professionals work together in BC?
- 2) What would better integration of BC's existing healthcare workforce look like to you?
- 3) Where do you see the greatest opportunities to remove unnecessary barriers for patients navigating the healthcare system?
- 4) How would you ensure that smaller regulated health professions have a meaningful voice in government healthcare policy?
- 5) Would you be willing to meet with naturopathic doctors in your community after the election to learn more about their practices, patients and experiences with the healthcare system?
- 6) What would you like to better understand about naturopathic medicine and the role naturopathic doctors currently play in BC healthcare?