

### **Methodology:**

Results are based on an online survey conducted from April 16 to April 18, 2026, among 802 adults in British Columbia. The data has been statistically weighted according to Canadian census figures for age, gender and region in British Columbia. The margin of error—which measures sample variability—is +/- 3.5 percentage points, nineteen times out of twenty.

### **All things considered, do you the Conservative Party of BC should focus on the following issues during the next four years? – “Definitely” or “Probably” listed**

Getting the government to invest more on health care – 81% (+1)  
Fostering economic growth in all areas of the province – 78% (-2)  
Developing a housing policy that rivals what the provincial government is doing – 65% (-5)  
Getting more pipelines built and more energy projects approved – 61% (+2)  
Banning transgender women from taking part in women's sports leagues competitions – 49% (+7)  
Ending “SOGI-Inclusive Education” – 44%  
Repealing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) – 40%  
Reverting the ban on plastic straws – 37% (+2)

### **Conservative Leadership Change Heralds Close Election in BC**

*Sizeable majorities of the province's residents want the Official Opposition to focus on health care and economic growth.*

Vancouver, BC [April 30, 2026] – The perceptions of British Columbians on the five contenders in the Conservative Party of BC's leadership race have not changed dramatically over the past two months, and no candidate would award the party a significant advantage over the governing BC New Democratic Party (NDP) in a snap election, a new Research Co. poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative provincial sample, the favourability rating for the five people seeking to lead the Official Opposition is similar. Caroline Elliott is in first place (19%, +6 since a similar Research Co. poll [conducted in February](#)), followed by Kerry-Lynne Findlay (18%, +4), Peter Milobar (17%, +4), Yuri Fulmer (15%, +3) and Iain Black (14%, =).

At least one-in-five British Columbians who voted for the BC Conservatives in the 2024 provincial election hold favourable views on Elliott (27%, +9), Milobar (25%, +9), Findlay (23%, +7), Black (22%, =) and Fulmer (20%, +4).

The favourability rating is higher for John Rustad, who served as leader of the BC Conservatives from March 2023 to December 2025 (23% among all British Columbians and 39% among BC Conservative voters in 2024).

The “vote consideration” question also shows no decisive frontrunner among all British Columbians. Just under one-in-four say they would “definitely” or “probably” cast a ballot for the BC Conservatives with Milobar (24%, +4) or Elliott (also 24%, +2) as leaders, with slightly lower numbers for Findlay (21%, =), Fulmer (20%, +1) and Black (19%, -1).

When the perceptions of BC Conservative voters in 2024 are assessed exclusively, Milobar is ahead in “vote consideration” with 46% (+13), followed by Elliott (44%, +5), Findlay (41%, +7), Fulmer (38%, +6) and Black (37%, +2).

In head-to-head contests against the BC NDP in a provincial election, Elliott places the BC Conservatives two points ahead of the governing party (23% to 21%). Milobar and Black are one-point ahead (22% to 21% in each matchup), while Findlay and Fulmer are two points behind (23% to 21%, and 22% to 20% respectively).



In each of these five hypothetical scenarios, two-in-five British Columbians (40%) are undecided, support for the BC Green Party fluctuates between 6% and 8%, and CentreBC and OneBC are each below 5%.

When asked what is the most important issue facing the province, 30% of British Columbians (+5 [since October 2025](#)) mention housing, homelessness and poverty, followed by the economy and jobs (26%, +4), health care (23%, =) and crime and public safety (7%, +2).

The survey also asked British Columbians about specific issues the Conservative Party of BC should focus on during the next three years.

More than three-in-five respondents want the Official Opposition to get the government to invest more on health care (81%, +1 [since March 2025](#)), foster economic growth in all areas of the province (78%, -2), develop a housing policy that rivals what the provincial government is doing (65%, -5) and get more pipelines built and more energy projects approved (61%, +2).

Fewer British Columbians want the BC Conservatives to focus on banning transgender women from taking part in women's sports leagues competitions (49%, +7), ending "SOGI-Inclusive Education" (44%), repealing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) (40%) or reverting the ban on plastic straws (37%, +2).

==30==

**About Research Co.**

Simply put, we are curious about what people think and the decisions they will make. Some call it public opinion, others call it polling or public affairs. We never compromise facts for profit. Our agenda is the truth.

We have a global network of partners in the qualitative, data collection and data visualization specialities.

==30==

**Media contact:**

Mario Canseco, President, Research Co.  
[c] 778.929.0490  
[e] [mario.canseco@researchco.ca](mailto:mario.canseco@researchco.ca)



[mario.canseco@researchco.ca](mailto:mario.canseco@researchco.ca)



[mario\\_canseco](https://twitter.com/mario_canseco)



778.929.0490



Mario Canseco



PRESS RELEASE | British Columbia

==30==



mario.canseco  
@researchco.ca



mario\_canseco



778.929.0490



Mario Canseco