



PAN (Pacific AIDS Network)
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October 1, 2026

The Honourable David Eby, MLA
#320 - 34 West 7th Ave
Vancouver, BC
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Re: 2026 British Columbia Provincial Election Questions on behalf of PAN Members and Allies

Dear Premier Eby and the BC NDP team,

On behalf of PAN, our member organizations and our allies across British Columbia, we are writing ahead of the October 24, 2026, provincial election to ask your party to outline its commitments to the health, well-being and dignity of people living with and affected by HIV, viral hepatitis, other sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBIs), substance use, and the toxic drug supply.

PAN is a provincial network of over 40 community-based organizations and allies working across British Columbia. Our members bring widespread expertise and lived and/or living experience(s) to the development and delivery of HIV, viral hepatitis, harm reduction, STBBI and health-equity services. They work alongside communities in urban, rural, remote and Indigenous settings and regularly support people who experience significant barriers to accessing health and social services. PAN's member organizations also have extensive experience working alongside government, health authorities, Indigenous partners and other community organizations to develop and deliver effective, evidence-informed and community-responsive programs and services. This work is often delivered in partnership with, and led by, people with lived and/or living experience(s), whose expertise is essential to understanding the realities faced by communities these services are intended to support. We believe that people with lived and/or living experience(s) should be meaningfully engaged, appropriately compensated and recognized as partners in the design, delivery, and evaluation of policies, programs, and services.

We believe that effective public policy requires more than individual interventions or single points of care. It requires a connected continuum of prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, after-care and ongoing health and social supports, alongside action on the broader conditions that shape people's health and wellbeing.

We also ask each party to consider harm reduction broadly, not solely as overdose prevention or naloxone distribution, but as a public-health approach that can include drug checking, access to safer options, peer support, health and social services, education, prevention, connection to treatment, housing and other supports that reduce the harms associated with substance use. These services are often delivered by community-based and peer-led organizations and are strengthened by the knowledge and expertise of people with lived and/or living experience(s).

Community-based organizations are essential partners in delivering health and social services across B.C., yet many continue to experience challenges associated with short-term, project-based and restrictive funding. Sustainable and flexible funding is necessary to retain experienced staff, maintain trusted community relationships and ensure continuity of services, particularly in communities that face significant barriers to accessing traditional health and social services.

People affected by HIV, viral hepatitis, substance use, the toxic drug supply, and other health and social inequities including people engaged in sex work, can face significant stigma, discrimination and barriers to care. Addressing these issues requires more than individual-level interventions. It requires public policies and services that promote dignity, compassion, inclusion and health equity, while recognizing the interconnected roles of housing, healthcare, income security, social connection and other determinants of health.

We hope that whichever government is elected will recognize the expertise of community-based and peer-led organizations and engage with them as meaningful partners in improving health outcomes and reducing inequities across British Columbia.

With this context in mind, we are asking each provincial political party to respond to the following questions:

1. **HIV, viral hepatitis and STBBIs:** What specific commitments will your party make to improve prevention, testing, treatment, care and support for people living with or affected by HIV, viral hepatitis and other STBBIs in British Columbia? What commitments will your government make to ensure equitable access to emerging HIV prevention options, including long-acting injectable PrEP, including through public funding and other measures to address barriers to access?
2. **The toxic drug supply and harm reduction:** What is your party's comprehensive plan to address the toxic drug supply and prevent drug-poisoning deaths, including its approach to harm reduction, prevention, treatment, recovery and other evidence-

informed approaches? What commitments will your government make to ensure continued access to a broad range of harm-reduction services, including those delivered by community-based and peer-led organizations?

3. **Involuntary treatment:** Regardless of your position on involuntary treatment:
 - a. What safeguards, oversight and accountability mechanisms would you put in place to protect people's rights, dignity and safety, and how would you ensure that involuntary care is part of a broader continuum of care rather than a stand-alone intervention?
 - b. How will your government ensure that people leaving withdrawal management, treatment or involuntary care have access to the ongoing supports they need including housing, primary and mental-health care, harm reduction, medications, peer support, community connection and other services?
 - c. How will your government measure whether treatment and recovery systems are resulting in sustained improvements in people's health and well-being, rather than simply measuring the number of beds or admissions?
4. **Sustainable community-based and peer-led services:** Will your party commit to sustainable, multi-year and core funding models for community-based organizations and networks delivering HIV, viral hepatitis, harm reduction, STBBI and related services to provide greater stability and allow organizations to retain experienced staff, sustain community relationships and plan for the longer term? If so, how?
5. **Stigma compassion and education:** More broadly, how will your government approach public education and communications about substance use, HIV, viral hepatitis and other health issues in ways that promote compassion, dignity and understanding rather than stigma, division, scapegoating or exclusion?
6. **Health equity and access;** What does your party believe is the role of government in addressing the social and structural factors including poverty, housing instability, access to health care and social isolation, that contribute to health inequities and barriers to care?
7. **Sex work, health and human rights:** What commitments will your government make to address barriers to health care, housing, social services and workplace safety experienced by people engaged in sex work, and how will you support their health, safety, dignity and human rights?
8. **Rural, remote, Indigenous and underserved communities:** How will your government ensure equitable access to HIV, viral hepatitis, harm reduction, STBBI and substance-use services throughout British Columbia, including by ensuring that provincial and health-authority funding decisions do not create or deepen service gaps in smaller, rural, remote or underserved communities?

We recognize that political parties may have different approaches to these issues. Our purpose is to understand those approaches and provide PAN members, allies and the communities they serve with clear information about the commitments being made during this election.

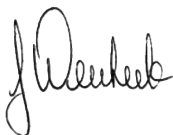
We ask that your party respond to each question directly and, where applicable, identify:

- existing commitments in your party's platform or policy;
- new commitments being made in response to these questions;
- the evidence, principles, or policy objectives informing these commitments;
- anticipated timelines for implementation (where applicable);
- proposed investments or resources associated with those commitments; and
- how your government would measure progress and accountability.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to these questions. **We would appreciate receiving your response by October 12, 2026.** PAN will share responses with our members and allies to support informed discussion and civic participation during the 2026 provincial election.

We look forward to learning about your party's commitments and to continuing this dialogue following the election.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Demchuk
Co-Executive Director, PAN