

Fisheries for Communities 2020 MLA Survey

October 16, 2020

All confirmed 2020 BC MLA candidates were contacted and asked to participate in this survey. In addition all parties with at least one candidate running were asked to fill out the survey on their parties behalf. A total of 48 candidates responded to the survey, and the BC Liberal, NDP, and Green parties gave response statements.

Each survey participant was asked the following questions:

- **Question 1:** Will you work to build more resilient coastal communities? (Y/N)
- **Question 2:** Will you work to include local seafood throughout BC’s food security programs? (Y/N)
- **Question 3:** Will you support independent harvesters building viable enterprises and providing local jobs? (Y/N)
- **Question 4:** Will you work to implement the Wild Salmon Advisory Council Recommendations, especially Goal 2? (Goal 2: Enhance the economic, social and cultural benefits that accrue to B.C. communities from wild fisheries.) (Y/N)
- **Question 5:** As a marine province, are you committed to building leadership in managing our ocean and our seafood? (Y/N)
- **Question 6:** Do you have any comments for coastal communities and fish harvesters? Open answer.

Riding	Name	Party	1	2	3	4	5	6
-	BC Green Party Statement	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Thank you for your inquiry into the B.C. Greens position on working for coastal communities and the fisheries they depend upon. We hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of our work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement of the last government, the B.C. Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in B.C. Standing up for wild salmon has been a defining mission for the B.C. Green caucus during the minority government. Over the course of the last government term, MLA Adam Olsen dedicated a large portion of his work in the Legislature to salmon policy. He questioned every ministry about their fisheries policies and learned that six Ministries all have a “lead role” in managing salmon and steelhead, in addition to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. From a provincial perspective, we urgently need better coordination and accountability. We pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and B.C.’s \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. We will continue to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social, and environmental values in tandem. We need

									to see far more regulatory and financial support to aid in the creation of a closed-containment land-based fish farm sector. Likewise, we would consult on alternate aquaculture practices that are not polluting, such as the farming of food-grade seaweed, to create new and sustainable employment opportunities. For the recovery of wild salmon, the B.C. Greens would move urgently to implement all of the Cohen Commission recommendations, as well as the Wild Salmon Advisory Council recommendations. There have been countless studies on what we should do to help wild salmon - what is missing is the political will to action those solutions. We must act urgently and ambitiously to save B.C.'s salmon. As part of our platform released last week, we are dedicated to protecting and restoring B.C.'s wild fish populations and support the use of sustainable selective fishing methods. The B.C. Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems, recognizing the interconnectedness of issues facing water and our coastal communities from climate-related risks, to development, to decades of poor management decisions. In the face of this we need to take an integrated approach that puts the security of watersheds at the centre. Other related aspects of our platform on water sustainability include creating a dedicated Watershed Security Fund that will create sustainable jobs in communities across BC in watershed restoration, monitoring, technology, training, and education; conducting comprehensive watershed planning in conjunction with First Nations, communities, government agencies, stewardship organizations and industry and, including watersheds as part of a landscape-level ecosystem-based management approach to development; implementing the Water Sustainability Act to secure the environmental flows needed to sustain healthy and functioning rivers, lakes and watersheds; working with local governments, school districts and other stakeholders to upgrade municipal infrastructure and replace household pipes through grants and incentives; and exploring science-based solutions to reduce water acidity. Thank you for your commitment to our coastal communities.
-	BC Liberals Party Statement	Liberal							Dear Members of Fisheries for Communities, On behalf of all BC Liberal candidates, please accept the following statement in response to your 2020 provincial election questionnaire: As BC Liberals, we know we must act to enhance fish and wildlife populations, for the benefit of all British Columbians and especially those in coastal communities that depends on our coastal environment for jobs and recreation. Ensuring our coastal communities are resilient is key to rebuilding B.C. and restoring confidence. B.C. has an enviable reputation as a leader in the production and processing of a wide range of safe, high quality seafood products. Our seafood is enjoyed locally and worldwide. We support the growth of our province's sustainable seafood sector and consider the health of wild fisheries an important priority. We are committed to taking a leading role in protecting our coastal resources while managing responsible resource development. This includes taking action on salmon and steelhead conservation in order to protect these vital and iconic species. As our full platform is still pending release, we look forward to sharing more with British Columbians over the coming days. Thank you, BC Liberal Candidates
-	BC NDP Party Statement	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Starting in 2018, the BC NDP funded a network of local food hubs across the province that gave local farmers, fishers and food producers the ability to value-add their products and contribute to the local food economy. The BC NDP provided \$750,000 to the community of Port Alberni to create one such

								hub, focused on local seafood and foraging. The “Sea to Forest” food hub opened in the Summer of 2020. Part of the BC NDP’s plan for economic recovery after the pandemic includes more than \$25 million towards more food hubs, investing in local food processing capacity and funding innovative technology for more sustainable practices. If re-elected a BC NDP government will continue to work with the federal government to develop new strategies that: -Protect and revitalize BC’s salmon populations by building on the successful Broughton process and supporting innovation in fish hatcheries. -Step up protection of fish habitat through our biodiversity strategy. -Ensure BC processing of BC-caught fish. We will also act to better protect marine life and habitats while enhancing coastal economies through a new provincial coastal strategy, developed in partnership with First Nations, business, environmental groups, and federal and local governments. We hope you will join this process.
Burnaby North	Janet Routledge	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Burnaby North	Norine Shim	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	Adam Bremner-Akins	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Just want to thank you for the work you do in protecting our ocean eco systems, and fighting for local businesses and jobs!
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	Fin Donnelly	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Coquitlam-Maillardville	Will Davis	Liberal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Also supporting stewardship of the Marine environment, advocating adherence to international and national regulations covering water quality and fish and wildlife protection.
Courtenay-Comox	Gillian Anderson	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Thank you for your inquiry into the B.C. Greens position on working for coastal communities and the fisheries they depend upon. We hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of our work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement of the last government, the B.C. Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in B.C. We pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and B.C.’s \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. We commit to continuing to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social, and environmental values in tandem. The B.C. Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems. More details relevant to these commitments will be included in our platform.
Cowichan Valley	Rob Douglas	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above

Cowichan Valley	Sonia Furstenau	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	As your members are well aware, the majority of B.C.'s wild salmon stocks are in significant decline. They are threatened by habitat and ecosystem degradation, poor management, fish farms, and climate change. The BC Green caucus is committed to addressing these issues. In March 2018, my BC Green colleague in the legislature, Adam Olsen, proposed the idea of a Wild Salmon Secretariat to the NDP government. This led to the creation of a provincial Wild Salmon Secretariat and the Wild Salmon Advisory Council. In recognition of his passion for protecting wild salmon, Olsen was appointed as a member of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council when it was formed in June 2018. The recommendations for a made-in-B.C. wild salmon strategy were submitted to the provincial government as part of the final report of the B.C. Wild Salmon Advisory Council in February 2019. As part of the 2019 budget submission process, the BC Green caucus submitted four requests for funding related to wild salmon and habitat restoration. Unfortunately, there was no substantive investment in wild salmon by the NDP government in Budget 2019. After lobbying from Olsen and the BC Green caucus, the federal and provincial governments announced a joint investment of \$142 million over a five-year period in the restoration and enhancement of wild salmon habitats. There is much more work to do. I believe that protecting wild salmon will advance Indigenous rights and reconciliation, support sustainable economic development, and lead to better management of our natural environment. As leader of the BC Greens, I will hold the B.C. government to account on these issues.
Esquimalt Metchosin	Mitzi Dean	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Kamloops South Thompson	Dan Hines	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Food security is essential. A safe, local and community-beneficial food supply, and the spin-offs to the local economy, is vitally important. I stand with you in solidarity as we try to find a way to enhance our local, sustainable food networks, including fish and seafood. Thank you for the work you are doing, Dan
Kamloops-North Thompson	Thomas Martin	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	We in the Interior have seen first-hand the tragic collapse of the steelhead run in the last few years, so I fully appreciate the urgency of doing what we can to preserve the coastal fisheries that remain. I'm proud to be running in this election for the same party as Alexandra Morton, another tireless fighter for a more sustainable approach to fishing.
Kelowna - West	Spring Hawes	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	My riding is not on the coast, but we do have an indigenous salmon fishery in the Okanagan river system. I'm a proud and long-time consumer of their products. I have an interest in food security, local food systems, and have been involved with Slow Food Canada.
Kelowna-Mission	Amanda Poon	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	The Okanagan region is blessed to have the Okanagan Nation Alliance working in the area of Salmon fishery restoration. They have proven conservation, and responsible management can be performed in conjunction with economic prosperity. I have loved fishing since I was a little girl growing up in Kelowna. My first political activity occurred when I was about 14. Our church ran a fly fishing camp for boys. I insisted they run a fly fishing camp for girls at a rec site in Kelowna. This initiative was a hit. My husband grew up on Galliano Island eating fresh coastal salmon and other seafood every day. We share a mutual respect and passion for fishery preservation and good practices in commercial and

									sport fishing. Fishing is in our blood. I will always defend the coast, our local lakes, and fishery habitats to ensure the children in our family can pass on this practice to our grandchildren.
Kootenay East	Kerri Wall	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC Greens will work with Pacific Region Fishers to advocate for change in federal policy that enables BC fishers to have access to the resources off our coast and BC-based processing. We support independent operators and the removal of licences and quota from the speculative market.
Langley	Bill Masse	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I fully support vibrant coastal communities and a sustainable wild fisheries resource
Langley East	Cheryl Wiens	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	The climate crisis threatens our food security. I am intent on being part of a government that addresses the climate crisis and works to protect food security. Currently BC imports around 50% of our food. I would like to improve on that and sustainable harvesting of local wild fish/seafood can help.
Mid Island Pacific Rim	Evan Jolicoeur	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	We need to provide communities, and especially First Nations the support and funding required to ensure that the industry is sustainable for generations to come.
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	Chris Istace	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	My work as small business owner, and community advocate, has allowed me insight into the challenges that my neighbours and fellow small business owners encounter. I spent twenty years working in the resource sector myself, and understand the value of stable resource based jobs like fisheries, forestry, and oil and gas. Both small businesses and those local resource jobs help feed our families and communities, and in the case of coastal communities and fish harvesters, they literally feed families across BC and further. To ensure these jobs remain for generations we need to ensure that harvests are done sustainably and continue to support our coastal communities. From a party perspective, we hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of our work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement of the last government, the B.C. Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in B.C. We pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and B.C.'s \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. We commit to continuing to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social, and environmental values in tandem. The B.C. Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems. More details relevant to these commitments will be included in our platform.
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	Doug Routley	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	As Co-Chair of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council I am fully committed to seeing our recommendations implemented. I am very proud of the work we accomplished on this council in working with various partner groups, leading to a consensus on how to move forward with a province wide strategy. If elected I fully commit to continuing to advocate for better protection of marine life and habitats while enhancing coastal economies, and I know from my extensive conversations with my BC NDP colleagues that they support this work as well.
New Westminster	Donald Wilson	Libertarian	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Seafood is among the most nutritious foodstuffs available. BC, positioned on the coast, is uniquely positioned to be an international leader in the seafood industry.

North Island	Alexandra Morton	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I have fought for 30 years to protect wild salmon and I can be counted on to continue this whether I am elected or not. I have a clear vision on how to restore salmon by moving the salmon farming industry into land based contained facilities, while tapping the powerful genomic science to allow salmon to speak directly to us and inform us on exactly what they need. I think the farm salmon processing plants are assets that should be encouraged to diversify. There is no reason to lose wild fish, if we relieve them from necessary impacts. I see fish harvesters as an essential part of building strong local food security and I am encouraged by the creativity of fishermen during COVID to link communities with highly nutritious seafood.
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	Bowinn Ma	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Oak Bay Gordon Head	Nicole Duncan	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I will support progressive economic policies that meaningfully address climate change while supporting the innovation needed to make our communities stronger and more resilient.
Oak Bay Gordon Head	Roxanne Helme	Liberal						
Parksville Qualicum	Rob Lyon	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Send me your concerns and I will fight to represent you. Rob.Lyon@GreenParty.bc.ca
Port Moody - Coquitlam	Rick Glumac	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Powell River Sunshine Coast	Kim Darwin	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	CAVEAT to the above answers: I cannot agree to work to promote anything related to ocean based fish farms
Prince George-Mackenzie	Catharine Kendall	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I am an advocate for our remaining wild salmon stocks, safe and sustainable ocean harvesting, healthy marine ecosystems, clean ocean waters.
Saanich North and the Islands	Adam Olsen	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Thank you for your inquiry into the B.C. Greens position on working for coastal communities and the fisheries they depend upon. We hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of our work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement of the last government, the B.C. Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in B.C. We pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and B.C.'s \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. We commit to continuing to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social, and environmental values in tandem. The B.C. Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems. More details relevant to these commitments will be included in our platform.

Stikine	Nathan Cullen	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Surrey Green Timbers	Rachna Singh	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Surrey Newton	Asad Syed	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Fisheries are the most valuable and significant industry for the BC and playing an important role in the economy of the province and providing jobs for British Columbians, if elected I will work to strengthen the industry and the local harvesters.
Surrey-Cloverdale	Mike Starchuk	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Surrey-Cloverdale	Rebecca Smith	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Surrey-Guildford	Jodi Murphy	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC Greens hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of their work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement (CASA) with the last government, the BC Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in our province. BC Greens pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and BC's \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. As the BC Green candidate for Surrey-Guildford, I'm personally very happy that the party is committed to continuing to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social and environmental values in tandem. The BC Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems. More detail relevant to these commitments will be included on the Party platform as it becomes released during the campaign. As a BC Green MLA - likely holding a critical balance of power in a minority government - I would be able to influence government towards these views. As a Green MLA I would be a strong voice and advocate for resilient coastal communities, including local seafood in BC's food security program, and implementing the Wild Salmon Advisory Council Recommendations.
Surrey-White Rock	Bryn Smith	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I appreciate all the work our coastal communities and fish harvesters do in providing for us and ensuring a healthy salmon population for future generations. I'm proud to commit to conserving our salmon and coastal waterways.
Vancouver False Creek	Maayan Kreitzman	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I believe in prioritizing sustainable wild harvest fishing industries. As a former member of Skipper Otto's community supported fishery, I know that innovative business models are needed for independent fishers to compete with larger commercial ventures that have control over most of the licences. At the same time, warming waters and the pollution from oil tankers and fish farms threaten fisheries that depend on the health of ecosystems. Wild-harvest seafood is both nutritionally and culturally critical to British Columbians and specifically to coastal First Nations. We need to develop these industries so that they can continue to feed and sustain us over the long term, with equitable ways of sharing in the bounty. Thank you for your important work.

Vancouver Langara	Tesicca Truong	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	I am especially supportive of the BC NDP's plan for economic recovery after the pandemic including \$25 million towards more food hubs, investing in local food processing capacity and funding innovative technology for more sustainable practices. This will have compounding positive effects for local communities.
Vancouver-Kingsway	Scott Bernstein	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Our fisheries are a sacred heritage we are entrusted to protect for generations beyond us. This means creating a fishing industry that not only benefits local communities - particularly Indigenous ones - but is grounded in principles of conservation and preservation of salmon and other wild sea life populations and their habitat.
Vancouver-Langara	Stephanie Hendy	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC Greens have always stood by wild salmon: https://www.bcgreens.ca/salmon I am a member of a community supported fishery (CSF) - Skipper Otto's. I would work with the government to find a way to make it easier for CSFs to work in British Columbia.
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	Kelly Tatham	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Vancouver-Point Grey	Dr. Devyani Singh	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Thank you for your inquiry into the B.C. Greens position on working for coastal communities and the fisheries they depend upon. We hold fisheries and wild salmon at the heart of our work; through the Confidence and Supply Agreement of the last government, the B.C. Greens were able to hold government to account for the issues facing wild salmon and steelhead in B.C. We pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, the \$142 million Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund, and B.C.'s \$5 million contribution to the Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as supporting the approval of nearly \$65 million in habitat restoration, conservation, and clean up funding. We commit to continuing to push for enhancing funding to conservation efforts, creating dedicated endangered species legislation, and adopting holistic natural resource management practices that address economic, social, and environmental values in tandem. The B.C. Greens strive to make a positive impact by targeting the root cause of systemic environmental problems. More details relevant to these commitments will be included in our platform.
Victoria Swan Lake	Rob Fleming	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC NDP Party statement, see above
Victoria-Swan Lake	Annemieke Holthuis	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	The BC Greens pushed for the creation of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, to restore fish habitats and protect watersheds. Protecting watersheds is important for all coastal communities, including watersheds in more urban communities like the Gorge Waterway and Portage Inlet in the riding of Victoria-Swan Lake. I believe we should be supporting the work of local communities' organizations that are working hard to improve, and restore, these marine ecosystems.
West Vancouver - Sea to Sky	Keith Murdoch	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

West Vancouver Capilano	Amelia Hill	NDP	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Our coastline is extremely precious. In collaboration with Indigenous communities we need to move forward in a manner that is both economically and environmentally sustainable.
West Vancouver Capilano	Rasoul Narimani	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	Jeremy Valeriotte	Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	BC Green MLA Adam Olsen has been one of the strongest advocates for wild salmon to ever be elected to the BC legislature. I share Adam's environmental values, and support for local harvesters and coastal communities.