B.C. Election 2026 - Day 18 Brief

Campaign Day 18: Friday, October 9, 2026 | Final Voting Day: Saturday, October 24

DAY 18 IN 30 SECONDS

- **Four substantive platform releases:** NDP primary-care access; Conservative seniors' care and tax deferral; Green transit and rail; CentreBC manufacturing and job training. [1]-[5]
- **New polling:** Liaison reports Conservatives 43%, NDP 37% among decided and leaning voters; survey fielded Oct. 7-8. [6]
- **New labour-market context:** B.C. employment fell 20,000 in September, according to Statistics Canada, released today. [7]
- **Organizational status:** No additional Oct. 9 leadership change, MLA switch or official candidate-list revision verified; Elections BC's Oct. 8 update remains the latest found. [8]

What changed on Day 18

AREA	CONFIRMED DEVELOPMENT	STATUS / CONTEXT
BC NDP	**Oct. 9:** Eby pledged **20 additional team-based primary-care clinics**, 1,000 more training seats for nurses and allied workers, and a bridging route for qualified international medical graduates; also extended same-day care. [1][5]	Party platform pledge; none of these measures is enacted.
BC Conservatives	**Oct. 9:** Doerkson pledged to reverse 2026 property-tax-deferment interest changes; expand long-term care and publicly funded home care; make long-term-care funding portable to qualified providers. [2][5]	Party policy commitments; costing and implementation remain to be tested.
BC Greens	**Oct. 9:** Lowan proposed fare-free transit for people **under 25** and **65+** in phases, doubling buses in the first term, and work on passenger rail, ferry services and local shipbuilding. [3]	New transport platform release; phased timing and costs need detail.
CentreBC	**Oct. 9:** Sturko proposed doubling the **Manufacturing Jobs Fund to $60m** and lifting job-training support to $60m; detailed platform launch flagged for Oct. 10. [4][5]	Reported announcement; platform launch is prospective.
Polling	**Released Oct. 9:** Liaison IVR tracker: Conservatives **43%**, NDP **37%**, Greens **10%**, OneBC **4%**, CentreBC **3%**, other **4%** among decided/leaning. [6]	New survey release; not a result or seat projection.
Economic data	**Oct. 9:** Statistics Canada reported B.C. employment **down 20,000 (-0.7%)** in September, with unemployment little changed at 6.4%. [7]	Official labour estimate; not attributable to a campaign pledge.

Candidate administration: Oct. 8 additions/withdrawals were covered in the previous brief; no separate new Oct. 9 correction is reported here. [8]

Campaign framing at close of Day 18

- **BC NDP** - Emphasized faster primary care, training capacity and additional clinics while contesting Conservative fiscal projections. [1]
- **BC Conservatives** - Centered seniors' home ownership, long-term-care supply and choice of care providers. [2]
- **BC Greens** - Advanced a staged transit-affordability and service-expansion agenda across bus, rail and ferry systems. [3]
- **CentreBC** - Shifted to value-added manufacturing and skills investment; a fuller platform is expected Oct. 10, not yet released at cutoff. [4]
- **OneBC** - No new Oct. 9 leader, caucus, candidate or platform development was independently verified. The Oct. 8 Elections BC list amendment is not a new Day 18 event. [8]

Election clock

DATE	MILESTONE	WHY IT MATTERS
OCT 10	CentreBC says its full platform is due for release. [4]	Announced plan; confirm publication and costing.
OCT 12	Thanksgiving; Elections BC district offices closed. [9]	Holiday interruption to in-office voting.
OCT 14	Broadcast leaders' debate, 6:15-8 p.m. Pacific. [10]	Eby, Doerkson and Lowan scheduled; Sturko and Brodie not on announced panel.
OCT 16-21	Provincial advance voting, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. local time. [9]	Starts one day before local General Voting Day.
OCT 17	B.C. local General Voting Day. [11][12]	Separate municipal, school and regional contests.
OCT 18	Last day to request provincial vote-by-mail package online/by phone. [9]	Completed ballots due by 8 p.m. Oct. 24.
OCT 24	Provincial Final Voting Day, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Pacific. [9]	15 days after Day 18; 93 seats contested.

Polling: a new six-point Liaison lead, with caveats

Released Oct. 9; fielded Oct. 7-8: Liaison's decided/leaning estimate is **Conservative 43%, NDP 37%, Green 10%, OneBC 4%, CentreBC 3%, other 4%** (rounding affects totals). Eby job approval measured 34%; 48% disapproved. [6]

Method: 1,000 adults contacted via random-digit-dialled interactive voice response (landlines and mobile phones), weighted to census targets. The published **±3.1-point, 19-times-in-20** margin applies to the **entire sample**; the decided/leaning subgroup has greater uncertainty. Among all respondents, 23% were undecided on the initial ballot measure. This is not a seat forecast. [6]

Comparison caution: Angus Reid's Oct. 5 report (field Oct. 1-3) showed 48%-43% Conservative-NDP among decided/leaning adults using an online panel; different modes, dates and party grouping prevent direct point-for-point comparisons. [13]

Provincial-local election overlap

Oct. 9: Victoria's deadline to request a **local** mail ballot passed at **4 p.m.**; those requested must reach the city by 8 p.m. on Oct. 17. Surrey's next local advance-voting date is **Oct. 10**. [11][12]

Next collision: Province-wide advance voting begins **Oct. 16**, one day before municipal General Voting Day. The Oct. 17 local election is not a shared ballot with the Oct. 24 provincial election. Different authorities and eligibility rules apply; no new coordinated measure was verified today. [9][11][12]

What to watch on Day 19

- **Oct. 10:** Whether CentreBC publishes its promised platform and itemized costings. [4]
- Funding and implementation detail for the four Oct. 9 policy packages, particularly provincial transit and care staffing. [1]-[4]
- Any further Elections BC ballot correction, leadership/caucus movement or post-nomination polling. [8][9]

Scope note: Nonpartisan public-source account of developments newly reported or confirmed on Friday, Oct. 9, 2026, through approximately 8:28 p.m. Pacific. Policy pledges are **proposals, not enacted programs**; politicians' disputed fiscal claims are not adopted as fact. No party, leader, candidate or electoral option is endorsed, opposed, ranked or scored. Prior-day items are not repeated without a material update.

Sources (numbered; titles link to original reporting or documents)

[1] BC NDP. Primary-care plan: 20 clinics, 1,000 seats (9 Oct).
[2] BC Conservatives. Support B.C. seniors policy release (9 Oct).
[3] BC Greens. Transit, ferries and passenger-rail release (9 Oct).
[4] Peace Arch News / Black Press. Sturko manufacturing-fund commitments (9 Oct).
[5] Global News. Leaders campaign on care, seniors and industry (9 Oct).
[6] Liaison Strategies. B.C. Political Tracker, fielded Oct. 7-8 (9 Oct).
[7] Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey, September 2026 (9 Oct).
[8] Elections BC. Official candidate-list update (8 Oct).
[9] Elections BC. 2026 provincial election dates (current).
[10] Global News. Oct. 14 broadcast leaders' debate (6 Oct).
[11] City of Victoria. Local election and vote-by-mail information (current).
[12] City of Surrey. 2026 municipal voting dates (current).
[13] Angus Reid Institute. Vote intention; fielded Oct. 1-3 (5 Oct).