

B.C. Election 2026 - Day 25 Brief

Campaign Day 25: Friday, October 16, 2026 | Final Voting Day: Saturday, October 24

DAY 25 IN 30 SECONDS

- **Voting is underway:** Six days of provincial advance voting began Oct. 16. Local general voting is tomorrow, Oct. 17; the administrations and ballots are separate. [1][15]
- **New campaign promises:** NDP proposed up to **\$90M** for involuntary care in Oliver, urgent/primary-care centres in Greater Victoria and Port Hardy, and a Burke Mountain school. CentreBC pledged **25,000** permanent school spaces by 2031. [2]-[5][9]
- **Candidate scrutiny:** First Nations leaders condemned remarks by Conservative candidate Mike Hicks; he disputes their framing. Eby retained NDP candidate Linda Li following reporting on an earlier **\$8,500** regulator sanction. [6][10][11]
- **Polling and leadership:** Pollara figures circulated Oct. 16 but its original methodological release was not independently recovered. No verified new leadership change, MLA switch or formal candidate withdrawal. [13]

What changed on Day 25

AREA	CONFIRMED DEVELOPMENT / ANNOUNCEMENT	STATUS / CONTEXT
● Election administration	Oct. 16: Provincial advance polling opened; voting runs Oct. 16-21, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. local at participating sites. [1][15]	Official schedule. First-day province-wide turnout not verified by cutoff.
● BC NDP	Oct. 16: Proposed up to \$90M for involuntary care at the Okanagan Correctional Centre in Oliver; urgent/primary-care centres in Greater Victoria and Port Hardy; and a Burke Mountain middle school. [2]-[5]	New campaign commitments; not funded construction approvals or operating services.
● BC Conservatives	Oct. 16: Doerkson said a costed platform was coming "imminently"; none was released by the cutoff. The party's "Get BC Moving" message largely restated tax, growth and service positions. [6][7]	Platform-costing gap confirmed; policy themes mostly previously announced.
● BC Greens	Oct. 16: Valeriote detailed distributed clean-power measures: balcony/rooftop solar, household storage and community project support. Much of the framework was in the party's earlier platform. [8]	New presentation and detail; not a wholly new fiscal platform.
● CentreBC	Oct. 16: Sturko pledged 25,000 permanent public-school spaces by 2031 , 1,500 more education assistants and 350 child/youth-care and behaviour staff. [9]	New education promises; costs and delivery depend on a future government.
● Candidate scrutiny	Oct. 16: FNLC demanded retraction of Hicks's First Nations "conquered" remarks; Hicks said comments were taken out of context. Separate reporting surfaced a June 30 real-estate sanction against NDP candidate Linda Li; Eby said she stays. [6][10][11]	FNLC statement and sanction documented; Hicks's meaning disputed. No formal ballot withdrawal established.
● Endorsements	Oct. 16: Grand Chief Stewart Phillip endorsed Emily Lowan as a local candidate in Saanich North and the Islands, and separately David Eby for premier . [12]	Distinct endorsements, not a party, caucus or leadership switch.

Campaign framing at close of Day 25

- **BC NDP** - Highlighted health-care capacity and schools; criticized the still-unreleased Conservative platform costing. [2]-[6]
- **BC Conservatives** - Restated affordability and infrastructure priorities; maintained that full costings will follow. [6][7]
- **BC Greens** - Emphasized household/community renewable power and Lowan's Saanich riding campaign. [8][12]
- **CentreBC** - Centred education capacity, classroom supports and school infrastructure in Langley. [9]
- **OneBC** - No separately verified substantive Oct. 16 policy, candidate, leadership or caucus change in sources reviewed.

Election clock

DATE	MILESTONE	MEANING AT CUTOFF
OCT 16-21	Provincial advance voting, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. local time at sites open on each date. [1][15]	Day 1 underway; no verified province-wide tally yet.
OCT 17	General local voting day for municipalities and other local bodies. [1]	Coincides with Day 2 of provincial advance voting.
OCT 18	Deadline to request a provincial mail-ballot package online or by telephone. [15]	Package must reach Elections BC by 8 p.m. Oct. 24.
OCT 24	Provincial Final Voting Day, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Pacific. [15]	8 calendar days from this brief.

Polling | Pollara figures surfaced Oct. 16, methodology incomplete

Pollara - fieldwork **Oct. 8-13**; **1,212** respondents; tracker reports mixed online/automated telephone methods. These toplines are reproduced from two aggregators, not a verified full original release. [13][16]

Conservatives

41%

BC NDP

36%

BC Greens

13%

OneBC

5%

CentreBC

4%

Other: 1%. **Caveats:** Full weighting, respondent base and variance details not independently retrieved; no defensible margin of error is stated here. Different pollsters and field dates cannot establish a day-to-day shift or a guaranteed electoral lead. [13][16]

Provincial-local election overlap

New Oct. 16 turnout data: Surrey reported **52,600** local advance ballots (15% of registered electors), up from **35,701** in 2022. Voting locations increased from six to ten, so this is not a like-for-like participation-rate comparison. [14]

Oct. 17 administration: Provincial advance and local final polling take place on the same day but remain separately administered. Elections BC says paid local election advertising may not be transmitted on Oct. 17; unpaid social posts are permitted. Local campaigning within 100 m of a local voting place is restricted. [1]

What to watch on Day 26

- **Saturday, Oct. 17:** Local election voting, polling-place notices, advertising compliance and preliminary municipal results. [1]
- **Provincial voting:** First advance-vote turnout totals, any accessibility or ballot-administration changes, and mail-voting demand. [1][15]
- **Campaign follow-up:** Conservative costed platform; responses to the Hicks controversy; details/costings of new party commitments. [6]-[10]

Scope note: Neutral public-source review through 7:46 p.m. Pacific, **Oct. 16, 2026**. Party releases confirm their stated commitments, not funding, outcomes or fiscal feasibility. Hicks's account of his remarks is contested; Li's sanction dates to June 30 and was newly reported in campaign coverage today. Pollara toplines are provisional without the full original release. No new confirmed leadership change, MLA floor-crossing or formal candidate withdrawal was found. No electoral endorsement or recommendation is made.

Sources (numbered; clickable references)

- [1] Elections BC, Oct. 15: Oct. 16-21 advance-vote opening and local restrictions.
- [2] BC NDP, Oct. 16: up to \$90M for Okanagan involuntary care.
- [3] BC NDP, Oct. 16: Greater Victoria urgent/primary-care proposal.
- [4] BC NDP, Oct. 16: Port Hardy urgent/primary-care proposal.
- [5] BC NDP, Oct. 16: Burke Mountain middle-school commitment.
- [6] Canadian Press / Global News, Oct. 16: leaders, costed platform and candidate disputes.
- [7] BC Conservatives, Oct. 16: Get BC Moving campaign release.
- [8] Sitka Media, Oct. 16: BC Greens distributed-energy plan.

- [9] Langley Advance Times / Clearwater Times, Oct. 16: CentreBC schools proposal.
- [10] First Nations Leadership Council / UBCIC, Oct. 16: Hicks statement.
- [11] Richmond News, Oct. 16: Li disciplinary decision and Eby response.
- [12] Canadian Press / iFONews, Oct. 16: Stewart Phillip endorsements.
- [13] BCPoliTracker, updated Oct. 16: Pollara toplines; original methods not recovered.
- [14] City of Surrey, Oct. 16: local advance turnout, 52,600 ballots.
- [15] Elections BC: voting sites, hours, and mail-ballot deadlines.
- [16] Poliwave, updated Oct. 16: independent Pollara topline listing.