

B.C. Election 2026 - Day 3 Brief

Campaign Day 3: Thursday, September 24 | Final voting day: Saturday, October 24

DAY 3 IN 30 SECONDS

- **A new Angus Reid Institute poll put the BC Conservatives at 43% and the NDP at 35%** among decided and leaning voters. Fieldwork ran September 22-24; one-in-five respondents overall were undecided, so the electorate remains fluid.^[2]
- **David Eby announced "Built in B.C. and Canada" procurement rules** for public infrastructure, including a commitment to Canadian steel for 70% of Phase 1 and 100% of Phase 2 of the North Coast Transmission Line.^[3]
- **OneBC did not obtain official caucus status before dissolution** because Brent Chapman's switch paperwork was not filed with the legislature before the writs were issued; leader Dallas Brodie separately claimed more than 300 people had expressed interest in running for the party.^[5]

What changed on Day 3

AREA	CONFIRMED DEVELOPMENT
Polling	Angus Reid Institute reported Conservatives 43% and NDP 35% among 682 decided/leaning respondents within a Sept. 22-24 online survey of 801 B.C. adults. The survey also found 20% undecided overall and only 35% "very certain" of their vote choice. ^[2]
NDP policy	David Eby proposed procurement rules requiring ministries, Crown agencies and health authorities to prioritize B.C.- and Canadian-made materials when they can be supplied on budget and on time. The plan specifically targets wood, steel, aluminum and cement. ^[3]
BC Greens	The Greens added Rajinder Sahota in Victoria-Beacon Hill and David Evans in Juan de Fuca-Malahat. The party's current candidate page now lists four candidates: Sahota, Evans, Emily Lowan and Jeremy Valeriote. ^[4]
OneBC	The legislature clerk's office confirmed Brent Chapman had not notified the Speaker or clerk of his switch before dissolution, so OneBC did not gain official caucus status. Brodie said the party had received more than 300 prospective-candidate sign-ups; that figure is a party claim, not an independently verified candidate count. ^[5]
Conservatives	Pavneet Singh was confirmed as the Conservative candidate in Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream after former federal MP Tracy Gray sought the nomination. Separately, John Rustad issued a Sept. 24 statement confirming his retirement and endorsing interim leader Lorne Doerkson - confirmation rather than a new leadership change. ^{[7][8]}
CentreBC	No additional Day 3 leadership change or candidate announcement was identified in the sources reviewed by close of day. Elenore Sturko remains leader and Andrew Weaver remains the latest publicly listed high-profile candidate, in Oak Bay-Gordon Head. ^[9]
Election admin.	September 24 was the final day available for standing nominations in this unscheduled general election under Elections BC's second-day-after-the-call rule. Ordinary nominations remain open until 1:00 p.m. Pacific on October 3. ^[1]

Campaign framing at close of Day 3

■ **NDP** - Eby kept U.S. trade pressure at the centre of his campaign and tied it to domestic procurement, arguing public infrastructure spending should create more demand for B.C. and Canadian suppliers.^[3]

■ **BC Conservatives** - No new partywide policy launch was identified today. The party's candidate build-out continued, while Rustad's public retirement statement reinforced Doerkson's position as interim leader without changing the formal constitutional issue identified on Day 2.^{[7][8]}

■ **BC Greens** - The party expanded its announced slate on southern Vancouver Island, adding Sahota and Evans to Lowan and Valeriote.^[4]

■ **CentreBC** - No comparable Day 3 expansion was confirmed. The party remains led by Elenore Sturko, with Andrew Weaver its most recent major recruit.^[9]

■ **OneBC** - Brodie emphasized rapid candidate recruitment and criticized the snap election's overlap with municipal campaigns. OneBC's own site currently lists Brodie, Chapman, Warren Hamm and Jim McMurtry as candidates.^{[5][6]}

Election clock

DATE	MILESTONE
OCT 1	Register or update voter information by this date to ensure a Where to Vote card is mailed. ^[1]
OCT 3	Provincial candidate nominations close at 1:00 p.m. Pacific. ^[1]
OCT 16-21	Provincial advance voting, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. local time. ^[1]
OCT 17	General local elections across B.C. - a separate electoral event with separate voting arrangements. ^[10]
OCT 24	Final Voting Day for the provincial election. ^[1]

Polling: a sharp new post-writ reading

Angus Reid Institute's September 24 release reported **BC Conservatives 43% and NDP 35%** among decided and leaning voters. The online survey ran **September 22-24** among 801 B.C. adults; 682 were decided or leaning. ARI says the sample was weighted to demographic benchmarks. Because it is an online panel survey, it does not carry a formal probability-sample margin of error; ARI notes that a probability sample of 801 would be about +/-3.5 points, 19 times out of 20.^[2]

Interpretation caution: This result differs substantially from the Liaison Strategies poll released September 23, which had NDP 41% and Conservatives 36% using Sept. 21-22 IVR fieldwork. The two polls used different methods and substantially different fieldwork windows, so the gap should not be treated as a single measured swing.

Provincial-local election overlap

The overlap was visible in real time on Day 3. While the provincial campaign continued, local all-candidates events were scheduled for September 24 in communities including **Whistler** and **Penticton**. Provincial advance voting begins October 16, one day before local general voting on October 17.^{[10][11]}

OneBC leader Dallas Brodie also explicitly criticized the provincial writ as "big-footing" the civic elections. That is a party position; Elections BC continues to treat the provincial and local elections as separate processes with separate administration.^{[5][10]}

What to watch on Day 4

- Whether additional polls confirm or contradict the large gap between the Angus Reid and Liaison readings.
- Further candidate announcements as parties race toward the October 3 nomination deadline, especially in seats opened by incumbent departures.
- Whether the Conservatives unveil a substantive campaign policy package beyond candidate consolidation and previously stated priorities.
- Whether CentreBC expands beyond Sturko and Weaver, and whether OneBC converts its claimed recruitment interest into filed candidates.
- Any new Elections BC candidate, voting-place or campaign-finance updates.

Scope note: This is a factual public-source monitoring brief. It does not endorse, oppose, rank, score, or recommend any party, leader, candidate, or electoral choice. Attributed campaign claims are identified as such.

Sources

[1] **Elections BC**. [2026 Provincial Election; Candidate nominations](#) (current, accessed Sep. 24).

[2] **Angus Reid Institute**. [Ballot Backlash](#) (Sep. 24).

[3] **Canadian Press / Lethbridge Herald**. [Eby procurement announcement](#) (Sep. 24).

[4] **BC Green Party**. [Candidates](#) (current); Sher-E-Punjab, [Sahota/Evans announcement](#) (Sep. 24).

[5] **Canadian Press / CKPG Today**. [OneBC status/recruitment](#) (Sep. 24).

[6] **OneBC**. [Candidates](#) (accessed Sep. 24).

[7] **iNFOnews**. [Singh selected in Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream](#) (Sep. 24).

[8] **Canadian Press / CityNews**. [Rustad retirement statement](#) (Sep. 24).

[9] **CentreBC**. [Leadership; Weaver profile](#) (accessed Sep. 24).

[10] **Elections BC**. [General local elections](#) (current).

[11] **Whistler / Penticton official event pages**. [Whistler](#); [Penticton](#) (Sep. 24).