



**New
Westminster**

GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

VOTER'S GUIDE

>>>>>>>>>> 2026 <<<<<<<<<<<

Saturday, October 17, 2026

Advance Voting Days: October 7, 8, 9, 10 & 14, 2026

**Election
2026 >>>>**



Vote by mail option

Did you know all eligible voters can vote by mail? See page 6 for details. In person voting is also available.

See page 6 for details.



Read this guide online in other languages

Versions of this guide are available in French, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, Punjabi, and Spanish. Find them online at: newwestcity.ca/elections

Consultez le guide électronique en français

在线阅读本指南的简体中文版本

在網上閱讀本指南的繁體中文版本

이 안내서를 한국어로 온라인으로 읽기

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਹ ਗਾਈਡ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਪੜ੍ਹ

Consulte la guía electrónica en español

Candidate profiles are not translated.

FOLLOW THE ELECTION:

 /NewWestminster  @New_Westminster  @new-westminster

 newwestcity.ca/elections  #nwelxn



We recognize and respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. We acknowledge that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. As a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

On October 17, 2026, New Westminster voters will elect:

- 1 Mayor
- 6 Councillors
- 7 School Trustees

Positions are held for a four-year term.

This guide includes everything you need to know about when, where, and how to vote. Find out more about the local election process, how to know if you are allowed to vote and if you are already registered to vote, and how to register if you are not.

You will also find short profiles of candidates for Mayor, Councillors and School Trustees to help you vote.

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VOTER INFORMATION

WHY SHOULD I VOTE?

Voting in local government elections is one of the most important things you can do to help shape your community. The people you elect for your local government make decisions that directly affect your everyday life. Some of the decisions they make include:

- Services at libraries and community centers
- Police and fire services that support public safety
- Education services for public schools from kindergarten to grade 12
- The types of buildings and homes in your community
- Sidewalks and roads you walk, cycle, wheel and drive on
- Parks where you enjoy nature, relax and play
- Water and sewers that serve your home

AM I ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

If you live in New Westminster, you can vote if you are:

- 18 years or older on voting day
- A Canadian Citizen
- A resident of British Columbia for at least six months before the day you vote
- Not disqualified from voting by any statute or law

If you don't live in New Westminster but you own property in the city, you may be eligible to vote as a **Non-Resident Property Elector (NRPE)**. Please visit newwestcity.ca/elections for more information regarding voting as a non-resident property elector.

HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

New Westminster uses the most recent Provincial Voters List. This list was finalized on August 25, 2026.

If you are on the list, you should receive a personalized voter information card in the mail at the end of September. The card includes all voting place locations in New Westminster.

CAN I VOTE IF I'M NOT ON THE VOTERS LIST, OR DID NOT RECEIVE A VOTER'S CARD?

Yes, you can register at any voting place on General Voting Day (October 17) or on advance voting days.

To register to vote at a voting place you need to bring two pieces of identification that show who you are and where you live. One of these documents must include your signature. See below for examples of accepted identification. The Election Officials will assist you in completing the registration process.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • BC CareCard* | • NEXUS card |
| • BC Driver's Licence* | • Property Tax Notice |
| • BC Identification Card (BCID) | • Statutory declaration/sworn affidavit |
| • BC Services Card | • Student card |
| • Birth certificate | • Utility bill (electricity, natural gas, water, telephone or cable services) |
| • Canadian passport | • New Westminster Public Library card |
| • Certificate of Indian Status | • ICBC owner's certificate of insurance/vehicle licence |
| • Citizenship card | • Income Tax Assessment |
| • Credit/debit card | |
| • Monthly report form (HR0081) from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction | |

* The combined BC Driver's Licence and CareCard is considered one piece of ID.

If you request a mail-in ballot the registration form will be included in the package.

I ONLY HAVE ONE PIECE OF IDENTIFICATION. CAN I STILL REGISTER TO VOTE?

Yes, you can swear a Declaration of Elector Identity and Place of Residence in front of a Presiding Election Official at a voting place. The declaration will become your second piece of identification.

I DON'T HAVE A FIXED ADDRESS. CAN I STILL VOTE?

Yes, you can register and vote using the address of a New West based local shelter or social agency you go to.

Please request an official letter directly from a shelter or agency before Election Day. This letter will serve as one piece of identification required for registration. The other piece of identification should have your name and signature on it, or you can make a solemn declaration of your identity at the voting place.

WHAT IF I CAN'T VOTE IN PERSON?

Mail ballot voting is available. Starting on August 31, 2026, you can request a mail ballot online at newwestcity.ca/elections, or call 604-527-4618 if you need assistance.

Mail ballots must be returned to City Hall (511 Royal Avenue) no later than 8:00 pm on October 17, 2026, to be counted. The mail drop box is accessible 24/7 and is located next to the north central entrance doors. Ballots received after 8:00 pm on October 17 will not be counted.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN I VOTE?

Voting in Person

You can vote at any voting place in the city on advance voting days or General Voting Day (October 17). All voting places are accessible. If you can't enter the voting place, the Presiding Election Official can assist with curbside voting.

Advance Voting Days – October 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14

You can vote in advance at several locations from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on October 7, 8, 9, 10, and 14. See pages 8/9 for location details.

General Voting Day – October 17

On October 17 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, you can vote at any of the 15 voting places in New Westminster. Take a look at the map of voting places on pages 8/9 and choose the one most convenient for you.

You can also go to newwestcity.ca/elections to see the map of voting places.

If you are registered to vote, you should receive a voter card in the mail at the end of September, which includes voting place locations and addresses.

DO I NEED TO VOTE FOR ALL AVAILABLE POSITIONS?

No. You can select only the candidates you wish to elect to a maximum of:

1 Mayor	6 Councillors	7 School Trustees
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For example, you could select 1 Mayor, 3 Councillors and 2 School Trustees and your choices will still be counted.

If you vote for too many positions by mistake, the vote counting machine will return your ballot, and you will be offered an opportunity to complete a new ballot if you are present in the voting place.

CAN I GET HELP TO VOTE?

If you need help to mark your ballot or need help with translation, ask for the Presiding Election Official in charge of the voting place.

You can choose to:

- Have the Presiding Election Official help you mark your ballot. All election officials must take an oath to keep ballots secret.
- Bring someone you know to the voting place to help you. This person will have to take an oath of secrecy (given by the Presiding Election Official).
- Request curbside voting at the voting place.

Some voting places will have an AutoMark voter assist terminal to help voters independently and privately mark the ballot. Accessibility features include large text, high contrast, audio, tactile controls, and alternative input devices. Look for **AVM** on the site map. Find out more at newwestcity.ca/elections.

FIVE EASY STEPS TO VOTING

1. Have your voter card and ID ready. If you require assistance voting, you can bring someone with you or ask for help at the voting place.
2. When you enter the voting place, you'll be greeted and directed to the first available Election Official.
3. The Election Official will verify your identity, then you will sign a solemn declaration to confirm that you are eligible to vote. You'll receive a ballot.
4. Go to the private voting booth and mark your choices by filling in the oval next to the candidates' names. Do not make any other marks on the ballot.
5. When your ballot is complete, proceed to the voting machine and insert your ballot. An attendant will be there to help you insert it correctly.

WHERE TO VOTE

▲ MAIL BALLOT DROP-OFF ● ADVANCE VOTING ■ GENERAL VOTING



All sites are accessible **AVM** Assistive Voting Machine

● **ADVANCE VOTING**
8:00 am – 8:00 pm

Date	Facility	Address	
A6	Oct 7 and 8	təməsewtxw Community Centre	65 East Sixth Avenue AVM
A3	Oct 9 and 14	Century House	620 Eighth Street AVM
A1	Oct 10	Queen Elizabeth Elementary School	921 Salter Street
A2	Oct 10	Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School	1714 Eighth Avenue
A4	Oct 10	Anvil Centre	777 Columbia Street AVM
A5	Oct 10	Herbert Spencer Elementary School	605 Second Street
A7	Oct 10	Skwo:wech Elementary School	331 Richmond Street

▲ **MAIL BALLOT DROP-OFF**
Late September to October 17 8:00 pm – Accessible 24 hours

Place	Facility	Address
M1	City Hall	Mail Drop Box at Rear Entrance 511 Royal Ave

■ **GENERAL VOTING DAY**
October 17 - 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Facility	Location	Address
1	Queen Elizabeth Elementary School	Gym 921 Salter Street
2	Connaught Heights Elementary School	Gym 2201 London Street
3	Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School	Gym 1714 Eighth Avenue
4	Lord Kelvin Elementary School	Gym 1010 Hamilton Street
5	St Barnabas Anglican Church	Parish Hall 1010 Fifth Avenue
6	Century House	Douglas/Fir Rooms 620 Eighth Street AVM
7	Fraser River Middle School	Gym 800 Queens Avenue
8	Anvil Centre	Ballroom 777 Columbia Street
9	École Qayqayt Elementary School	Gym 85 Merivale St
10	The Armoury	Main Floor 530 Queen's Avenue
11	Herbert Spencer Elementary School	Gym 605 Second Street
12	Glenbrook Middle School	Gym 701 Park Crescent
13	FW Howay Elementary School	Gym 91 Courtney Crescent
14	Skwo:wech Elementary School	Gym 331 Richmond Street
15	Sapperton Pensioners Hall	Lower Hall 318 Keary Street

GUIDE TO CANDIDATES

New Westminster Candidates for the 2026 General Local Election

Below is the list of New Westminster candidates for the 2026 election. Elector Organizations (parties) are indicated under their names, where applicable. Candidate names with no organization noted are running as independent candidates.

Every candidate in New Westminster was invited to submit candidate profile information for publication in this guide and on the City's website. The criteria for the profile can be found at newwestcity.ca/elections.

Candidates for Mayor	Candidates for Councillor	Candidates for School Trustee
FONTAINE, Daniel	AL-HUSSAINI, Dalia	CARLSEN, Kathleen
JOHNSTONE, Patrick	ARMSTRONG, Ken	CHUANG, Junior
Profiles start on page 11	BUDHWANI, Karima	CONNELLY, Danielle
	FOLKA, Richard	DOYLE, Donald
	HENDERSON, Tasha	DUNN, Anita
	HOMEL, Geoff	FAJBER, Liz
	JORGENSEN, Peter	HAK HEPBURN, Michelle
	KEBEDE, Bereket	PERRY, Jeremy
	MCEVOY, Jaimie	ROMEIN, Paul
	MINHAS, Paul	STEELE, Lucas
	MORRISON, Maryann	TRENTADUE, Mary
	PORCELLATO, Ray	Profiles start on page 18
	TSE, Kane	
	Profiles start on page 12	

Candidate for Mayor



FONTAINE, Daniel

New Westminster Progressives

Daniel Fontaine has called New Westminster home for 25+ years, where he and his wife have raised their family. A small business owner and current City Councillor, Daniel has built a career spanning senior leadership roles in government, business and the non-profit sector.

Daniel holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies and an ICD.D designation from the Rotman School of Management. His commitment to public and community service has included numerous volunteer roles, and he currently serves on the Board of Hockey Canada. He was named New Westminster Minor Hockey Association's Volunteer of the Year and is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his contributions to community and public service.

Daniel is running for Mayor to bring experienced, practical leadership to City Hall, with a focus on affordability, public safety, stronger neighbourhoods, economic opportunity and delivering better results for New Westminster residents.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone	(778) 827-1126
Email	info@nwprogress.ca
Website	www.nwprogress.ca
Facebook	/nwprogress
Instagram	@nwprogress

Candidate for Mayor



JOHNSTONE, Patrick

Community First

Patrick Johnstone (he/him) has been showing up for New West for 20 years as a volunteer and community leader. An environmental geoscientist, Patrick got involved with local government after advocating for better environmental policy and safer transportation in the city.

Elected Mayor in 2022 after two terms on council, Patrick forged partnerships with senior levels of government and community organizations to deliver hundreds of new affordable housing units, protect renters, meet legislated housing requirements, support arts and cultural organizations in the city, and advance work on urban reforestation.

He's proud to work in a community that supports helping the city's most vulnerable and where residents show up for public engagement and community events alike. Through uncertain times and economic challenges, strong public services and community connections are more important than ever, and are what make New West one of the most livable cities in Canada.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Instagram	@patrickjohnstone
Bluesky	pjnewwest.bsky.social

Candidate for City Councillor



AL-HUSSAINI, Dalia

Community First New Westminster

Dalia Al-Hussaini (she/her) is a renter, and professional facilitator focused on building networks of support between neighbours, so people feel connected and able to rely on each other when it matters.

As a mother, she understands the stress of trying to make ends meet when childcare is either impossible to find or costs more than an entire paycheck. It's the reason so much of her work in municipal research and public engagement has focused on affordable housing, childcare, and making communities more inclusive.

Dalia has spent her career building bridges between Indigenous, immigrant, and settler communities. She's seen how decision-making stalls when people talk past each other and knows how important it is that policy is made to serve the people.

I want a community culture where disagreement is productive, where everyone feels genuinely heard, and where our unique differences are resources instead of barriers.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



ARMSTRONG, Ken

New Westminster Progressives

Ken Armstrong brings the discipline of a lawyer, the perspective of a Queensborough resident, and the civic experience of someone who has already put his name forward to lead New Westminster. As the NWP's mayoral candidate in 2022 Ken developed a strong understanding of the issues facing residents across the city and the need for prepared, thoughtful, and accountable leadership.

Ken is focused on responsible growth, better infrastructure planning, safer and more livable streets, and stronger respect for neighbourhood voices. He understands that decisions at City Hall have real impacts on families, commuters, taxpayers, and growing communities like Queensborough.

Ken has lived in New Westminster for more than 20 years and Queensborough since 2008. A lawyer and father of two, he has served as a Little League coach, umpire, and board member. His legal judgment, family perspective, community service, and Queensborough experience will bring practical, neighbourhood-focused leadership to council.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Facebook	Ken Armstrong for City Council
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Candidate for City Councillor



BUDHWANI, Karima

New Westminster Progressives

Karima Budhwani was born in Kenya and immigrated to Canada as a child, growing up with a deep appreciation for opportunity, resilience and community. A longtime Queen's Park resident, she holds a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School and a master's in environmental studies from York University.

Karima has over 20 years of experience in the non-profit and justice sectors, including advancing access to justice and environmental justice. She is also a mental fitness and leadership coach and a former longtime Scouter with the Ismaili Scouts Group. She served as NWP President from 2023 to 2025.

A parent of two children raised in New Westminster, Karima cares deeply about the city's future. She is running for Council to focus on affordability, safer streets and strong core services, bringing a resident-centred approach to City Hall: listening early, communicating clearly, using taxpayer dollars responsibly and making practical decisions people can trust.

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Candidate for City Councillor



FOLKA, Richard

New Westminster Progressives

Rick Folka brings financial rigour, public-sector experience, and a practical perspective to the New West Progressives team. A Chartered Professional Accountant with senior management experience in healthcare, not-for-profit, and public-sector settings, he understands how to manage complex budgets, evaluate priorities, and protect taxpayers.

Rick believes New Westminster needs stronger financial oversight, clearer priorities, and a sharper focus on essential services and infrastructure. His priorities include accountable spending, better service delivery, public safety, taxpayer respect, responsive engagement, and decisions grounded in community needs.

Born and raised in New Westminster, Rick grew up in Sapperton and lives in Glenbrooke North. His service on boards, including the Catholic Health Association of BC and Saint Mary's Hospital, reflects his commitment to public service and responsible governance. A husband, father of five, and grandfather of seven, Rick offers deep local roots, financial discipline, and practical leadership.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Facebook	Rick Folka for City Council

Candidate for City Councillor



HENDERSON, Tasha

Community First New Westminster

As an urban planner, Tasha Henderson (she/her) understands how cities work and how to get things done. Throughout her career, she has worked alongside communities tackling poverty, affordable housing, and civic engagement. Her approach is grounded in looking at the bigger picture and addressing the root causes of issues, rather than relying on quick fixes. She also teaches policy and legislation at Douglas College, where she encourages more people to get involved in civic life.

On Council, Tasha has prioritized decisions that protect renters from renovictions and extreme heat, expand affordable housing, increase childcare spaces, and improve road safety around schools. In a second term, she plans to continue supporting small businesses and increasing public amenities in the downtown core.

New West is the regional hot-spot for many young families and I want to make sure New West remains an inclusive place for all families.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



HOMEL, Geoff

Independent

I've been a resident of New Westminster for just over five years, and it has, in this relatively short time, become my true home. I have involved myself with municipal projects a number of times, pushing for park improvements, less 'AI' use in municipal government, and both vehicle and pedestrian accessibility within the uptown core. I'm an archaeologist and small business owner, and a great believer in science-based decision-making.

I'm running as an independent candidate. I don't wish to see New Westminster politics dissolve into the partisan theatre that seems to be encouraged by our federal voting system; we are all New West residents and all Canadians! I support the development of parks and greenspace, city accessibility for both commuters and locals, and programs to support small, unique, and weird businesses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email	geoff.homel@gmail.com
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Candidate for City Councillor



JORGENSEN, Peter

Community First New Westminster

Peter Jorgensen (he/him) is a local small business owner, and past president of the Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA). He's also a dedicated arts leader, educator, and creative, having played an active role in the New West arts community for close to 20 years.

Peter brings his creative approach to business and community life. He has been exploring ways to better support and stabilize small businesses, including reforms to leases, levies, and commercial spaces. In the arts, he champions creative partnerships to help build organizational capacity.

As someone who is deeply connected with the business community, I want to support our small businesses and make New Westminster one of the best cities to start and grow your business. And as an artist who has seen from every angle the ways the arts strengthen a community, I want to help our local artists and arts organizations truly flourish.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



KEBEDE, Bereket

Community First New Westminster

Bereket Kebede ቢረከት ከበደ (he/him) is a transit advocate and community builder who loves to bring people together. A Queensborough local, he's known for his efforts to inspire more civic engagement among youth, particularly in African diaspora communities. Bereket loves New West for its active engagement and continuous growth while still leading the way.

Bereket serves as chair of the Douglas College Board, president of the African Sports and Cultural Alliance, and a board member of the Hogan's Alley Society. He has a proven track record in finding common ground between groups with diverse and conflicting needs. Respectful collaboration has been a key to his success as a community leader.

From advocating for better transit services to supporting newcomers as they built a new life, connecting communities is at the heart of Bereket's work.

When people with different backgrounds come together, we make better decisions and build stronger communities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



MCEVOY, Jaimie

Community First New Westminster

First elected to Council in 2008, Jaimie McEvoy (he/him) has spent nearly two decades working on some of the city's most complex challenges. In the community, New Westies know him as an animal lover whose efforts helped deliver a new animal shelter, a longtime advocate for those in need through his work with the food bank at Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church, and a local historian who has written about Saint Mary's Hospital.

Jaimie's work on Council has focused on housing, accessibility, and community well-being. With a background in heritage preservation, he has been a strong advocate for protecting existing rental housing, and renovation and demolition bylaws to protect tenants.

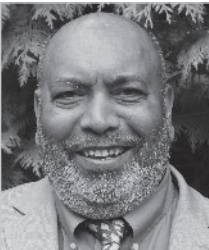
Jaimie has most recently been working with residents with disabilities to improve accessibility across the city.

I've always believed that together we can address problems in our city by being both practical and compassionate. I like to get to work.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



MINHAS, Paul

New Westminster Progressives

Paul Minhas combines the experience of a city councillor with the practical perspective of a longtime New Westminster business owner. Since opening the Heritage Grill in 2005 and later Begbie's Pub, he has learned firsthand what it takes to create jobs, serve customers, support arts and culture, and sustain a small business through changing economic conditions.

Paul believes council must understand how its decisions affect residents, employers, storefronts, and neighbourhood life. His priorities are accountable spending, stronger services, safer communities, support for local businesses, and a stronger voice for residents and taxpayers at city hall.

Born in Punjab, India, raised in Vernon, and a New Westminster resident since 1991, Paul has supported live music, cultural diversity, inclusive events, scholarships, community meals, Pride Week, Show and Shine, and food truck events. These experiences give him a grounded understanding of how local businesses strengthen the city's culture, community, and economy.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Facebook	Paul Singh Minhas

Candidate for City Councillor



MORRISON, Maryann

New Westminster Progressives

Maryann Morrison is an experienced executive, entrepreneur and community leader with deep roots in New Westminster. Born in the city, Maryann has built a career spanning the corporate, non-profit, Indigenous and public sectors, with experience in executive leadership, economic development and community engagement.

As Executive Director of the North Fraser Métis Association, she works with community members, governments, businesses and organizations to develop programs, secure resources and strengthen community partnerships.

Maryann believes local government should be practical, transparent, accountable and responsive. Her priorities include supporting local businesses and economic development, building a safer and more vibrant downtown, strengthening arts, culture and heritage, supporting community organizations, and ensuring residents are heard. She will bring an experienced, practical and results-focused approach to New Westminster City Council.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



PORCELLATO, Ray

New Westminster Progressives

Ray Porcellato brings lifelong New Westminster roots, civic pride, and community leadership as president and general manager of the New Westminster Salmonbellies. In this role, he helps carry forward one of the city's most iconic sporting traditions while supporting teamwork, volunteer spirit, and community connections that make local sport important.

An amateur artist, Ray brings creativity and an appreciation for arts and culture to his community work. He is running to give back to the city that shaped him and protect what makes New Westminster distinct: its heritage, families, small businesses, amenities, and long-term sustainability.

Through the Salmonbellies, Ray has seen how sport, arts, and community traditions unite people across neighbourhoods, backgrounds, and generations. He will bring that teamwork, creativity, pride, and practical leadership to council, focused on making City Hall work better for residents while building a stronger, connected, inclusive New Westminster for the next generation.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for City Councillor



TSE, Kane

Community First New Westminster

Kane Tse (he/him) is an advocate, healthcare worker, and president of the Queensborough Residents Association. He is particularly focused on making sure Queensborough residents are represented at the council table. He wants to strengthen connections between neighbourhoods, improve transportation and public safety, and encourage more people to take part in civic life.

Kane has spent over 20 years working at BC Cancer, including work on DNA sequencing to support patient care. He served as president of the Health Sciences Association (HSA), from 2021 to 2025. Having represented thousands of healthcare and social service workers across our province, Kane is no stranger to listening and delivering results.

He will bring a strong analytical approach to decision-making, along with a commitment to making sure the process is transparent for residents.

Together we can set clear priorities, prepare for growth and make everyday life easier for families across our city.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



CARLSEN, Kathleen

New Westminster Progressives

Kathleen Carlsen has spent over three decades working with children, youth, and families in New Westminster. Elected to the Board of Education in the 2024 by-election, she brings deep community roots and a proven record as trustee.

Known to generations of local families as “Miss Kathleen,” she has worked with the City’s Parks and Recreation Department for more than 30 years as a proud CUPE 387 member. A former four-year Chair of the District Parent Advisory Council, she represents the Board on the BCSTA Provincial Council and District School Naming Committee.

Kathleen believes every child deserves to feel safe, supported, and valued at school. Her commitment led her to initiate the work behind the district’s new School Safety Partnership Framework. She continues to advocate for student mental health supports and provincial funding for our growing district, believing good decisions come from listening and working collaboratively with the community.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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X	@nwprogress

Candidate for School Trustee



CHUANG, Junior

Community First New Westminster

Junior Chuang (he/him) is a parent, public servant and community activist with a track record of success. He has spent 18 years in the public service working with health data, at a national and provincial level.

As a volunteer with the Walking School Bus for Qayqayt Elementary, he’s seen how the kids arrive at school more energized and ready to concentrate, forming strong connections with their peers in this shared activity. It’s why he continues to advocate for funding at the school board and city council meetings to promote active transportation. As School Board Trustee, Junior wants to make it easier and safer for kids to get to school.

I want to create safer, healthier, and more connected school communities for the students of New Westminster and their families. I want to build on that sense of community and help all our kids feel like they belong.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone	(604) 544-1408
Email	junior@communityfirstnw.ca
Website	www.communityfirstnw.ca/junior_chuang

Candidate for School Trustee



CONNELLY, Danielle

New Westminster Progressives

Danielle Connelly is an experienced New Westminster school board trustee and current Vice-Chair who brings proven leadership and a student-first focus to the board. She has served as Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Chair, and is currently Chair of the Coordinating Committee and the BCSTA Metro Branch, and sits on the district’s accessibility, SOGI, audit and policy review committees.

Before serving on the board, Danielle was active in local school communities through the Skwo:wech Elementary and École Glenbrook Middle School PACs and helped organize the Rally to Rebuild New Westminster Secondary School. A Carleton University graduate with a degree in Political Science and Communications, she has worked in the non-profit, public and private sectors, including roles with UNICEF and ICBC. Danielle lives in Sapperton with her husband Trevor and their two sons and has volunteered with seniors’ programs as well as New Westminster minor hockey and lacrosse.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



DOYLE, Donald

New Westminster Progressives

Don Doyle was chair of the Queensborough Parent Advisory Council until June 30 and a longtime New Westminster resident who brings proven parent advocacy, community leadership and budget experience to the role of school trustee. A strong voice for Queensborough families, he has advocated for sustainable school bus services so students can get to school safely.

Don is committed to working with students, parents, teachers and the community to address overcrowding, school safety and the need for more schools. He brings a practical, community-focused approach to making sure New Westminster families are heard in local and provincial decisions.

Don has worked for the City of Burnaby's Parks and Recreation Department as a programmer and has served as an associate fundraiser with United Way. He would bring a professional approach to ensuring education tax dollars are spent effectively and that New Westminster families are represented in decisions made locally and provincially.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



DUNN, Anita

New Westminster Progressives

Born at Royal Columbian and NWSS graduate, Anita Dunn brings a parent's perspective, financial expertise and small business experience to her campaign for school trustee. She has a 15-year-old son that attends NWSS and is a Salmonbellie. She holds a bachelor of commerce degree and a CGA, CPA designation. She was the owner of Mila + Paige for 8 years on Columbia St. During that time, she served as treasurer for the DTNW BIA for 6 years. She is an active supporter of local music, arts and community events. As trustee, she will be focused on fair funding, responsible use of public dollars and practical support for families facing overcrowding and transportation challenges.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



FAJBER, Liz

New Westminster Progressives

New Westminster Secondary School graduate Liz Fajber is running for school trustee to bring practical, accountable, and caring leadership to New Westminster Schools. Liz believes every student deserves safe, inclusive, high-quality education with support to succeed. With 25 years' experience in policy, planning, budgeting, and public accountability, she knows how to listen, make responsible decisions, and get results for students and families.

As trustee, Liz will focus on stronger student supports, responsible budgets, school capacity, and open communication with families, educators, students and the community. Liz has held senior roles in government and non-profit organizations in Canada and internationally, managing budgets, securing funding and supporting education and youth programs. She is a senior adviser with a non-profit on community climate resilience, and serves as president of her strata council.

Liz will bring care, experience, and trusted leadership to help schools deliver for students and families.

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Candidate for School Trustee



HAK HEPBURN, Michelle

Community First New Westminster

Michelle Hak Hepburn (she/her) is a parent, post-secondary educator, and award-winning researcher. In New West, she is an active member of the Brow of the Hill Residents Association. As an educator, she brings people together to advance sustainability through teaching, learning and engagement. As School Board Trustee, she will bring her experience with accessible learning and building community bridges to the table.

She is keen to support alternatives to the portable classrooms that many students are currently learning in and finding more sustainable ways for kids to get to school, whether that's designating safe walkways, or arranging reliable bus service for students from Queensborough.

I want to see students learning in environments that support their needs whether they are a young girl looking to play soccer or a newcomer just looking for a place of belonging.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



PERRY, Jeremy

Community First New Westminster

Jeremy Perry (they/them, he/him) is a longtime advocate for mental health and is known for bringing people together to find solutions that have everyone in mind.

They served on the board of the New West Pride Society for a decade, guiding the organization through years of significant growth. Jeremy has led a city committee that funds local organizations working to make New West safer, more inclusive, and supportive for everyone, especially for children and vulnerable residents.

Currently, Jeremy works supporting education staff during sick leaves and advocating to ensure returning staff receive the support they need to accommodate individual needs. His firsthand insight into the pressures facing students and staff highlighted why stronger mental health supports are urgently needed in schools for everyone.

I want the mental health of students and staff in our school system to be at the forefront of decision making rather than an afterthought.

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Candidate for School Trustee



ROMEIN, Paul

Community First New Westminster

Paul Romein (he/him) cares deeply about funding pressures on schools and families. It's an issue that comes up at District Parent Advisory Council meetings, where he's Skwo:wech Elementary's representative. As Trustee, he plans to press the provincial government for more teachers and resource staff so kids have all the support they need.

Paul has owned a small business for 23 years and taught at BCIT for 13 years. He has deep roots in community organizing as the former vice-president of the Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA) where he helped start Fridays on Front. He is the current co-president of the Sapperton Business Collective, and a member of multiple city advisory committees over the last decade.

I want to make sure that our schools continue to grow with our children and that we can provide a really strong education for all the students in our district.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



STEELE, Lucas

New Westminster Progressives

Born and raised in New Westminster, Lucas Steele has firsthand knowledge of the challenges and triumphs students experience throughout their education. As a recent graduate, Lucas understands the importance of opportunities to participate, build relationships, discover passions, and feel supported in school. A former Hyack football player and New Westminster Royals hockey player, Lucas has deep roots in the local community. Through his work in recreation, fitness, and coaching, he has continued working with youth and community members, seeing the value of mentorship, teamwork, and extracurricular activities. Lucas is looking forward to bringing the voices of students to the table and ensuring their experiences are heard when decisions are made about our schools. His priorities include addressing the capacity crisis, supporting student mental health, and advocating for stronger student supports, including IEPs and the resources students need to succeed. Lucas will bring a fresh, student-focused perspective to the Board.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Candidate for School Trustee



TRENTADUE, Mary

Community First New Westminster

Mary Trentadue (she/her) is a parent and business owner. She previously served eight years as a City Councillor, where she pushed on many fronts to increase childcare availability, recognizing how essential it is for working families. She played a key role in developing and launching New West's first Neighbourhood House, where she now serves as interim executive director.

She is a fierce advocate for others, whether it's by mentoring women running for public office, supporting parents navigating complex systems, or leading community projects like the Paint New West Beautiful murals.

Mary will bring both courage and determination to the role of Trustee. She knows when to push for what's necessary, and when to step back and centre other voices.

It's important to me that people see their voices as meaningful and impactful, and that our community institutions feel welcoming, accessible, and friendly to everyone.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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AFTER YOU VOTE



Wear your voting sticker out and about

“I Voted” stickers are available at voting places. Wearing your sticker reminds others to vote.

Share a selfie with your sticker and use the tag #nwelxn

Once you're outside of the voting place, take a picture with your “I Voted” sticker and share it on your social media networks with the tag #nwelxn. This can also remind others to vote.

IMPORTANT:

Do not take a photo of your ballot. Photos of ballots are not allowed.

CONTACT DETAILS

Need more information or have questions?

Visit: newwestcity.ca/elections

Call: 604-527-4618

Email: elections@newwestcity.ca

TRANSLATIONS



Read this guide online in other languages!

Consultez le guide électronique en français

在线阅读本指南的简体中文版本

在網上閱讀本指南的繁體中文版本

이 안내서를 한국어로 온라인으로 읽기

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਹ ਗਾਈਡ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਪੜ੍ਹੋ

Consulte la guía electrónica en español

Versions of this guide are available in French, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, Punjabi, and Spanish. Candidate profiles are not translated.

Find translations at:

newwestcity.ca/elections

ELECTION RESULTS

Election results will be available online at newwestcity.ca/elections.

Results will begin to be received after 8:00 pm on October 17.

Official results will be declared no later than October 21 and will be posted on the City's website.

Need more information or have questions?

Visit: newwestcity.ca/elections



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