



For Immediate Release

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Surrey, BC The Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) calls on all candidates in the upcoming October 19 provincial election in British Columbia to ensure that seniors' issues are prioritized.

CARP members are encouraged to see that political party leaders and candidates are beginning to address seniors' health care and other needs on the campaign trail. But they must keep up the pressure and challenge each party leader and candidate on their plans to support older British Columbians today and in the future.

THE BC CARP 5

<https://carp-20230727.s3.amazonaws.com/2024/06/BC-CARP-5.pdf>

CARP has identified the top five issues of members in B.C. calling on the millions of B.C. voters over age 60 to demand that all candidates commit to supporting these priorities:

- **Provide FREE access to latest expert-recommended vaccines for seniors**
- **Tackle the healthcare worker shortage**
- **Fund better home care**
- **Provide tax relief to caregivers and for home adaptations**
- **Reduce transit fares for seniors**

"The CARP 5 election priorities are completely non-partisan. They are 'must-haves' for older adults in B.C. and we believe every party and every candidate should come right out and say that they support THE BC CARP 5, and that they will act immediately to implement them, if elected. If a party leader or candidate won't commit, voters should change their vote." –

Ramona Kaptyn, CARP BC Chief Advocacy & Communications Officer & B.C Election Lead

Zoomer Voters are 'mad as hell and they're not going to take it anymore'.

They're mad that a global pandemic upended the pattern of their daily lives. They're mad that prices keep going up. They're mad about renovations, rising rents. They're mad about increased taxes. They're mad that they have to pay for shingles vaccines. They're mad that they cannot find a doctor, get timely appointments and tests. They're mad about clinic & hospital emergency department closures. They're mad about long wait times for surgery & cancer treatment.

"Plans that are five and ten years down the road won't win our members' votes any longer. Promises made are often promises not kept. We want leaders & candidates who will take immediate action and be accountable." – **Ramona Kaptyn**



Of all the important mandates that fall under provincial jurisdiction, including education, justice, children and social services, highways and transportation, culture and tourism, **CARP members are laser focused on health care and more in this provincial election.**

The BC CARP 5 are the issues of most concern to our members and taken together, offer solutions to ongoing problems and will help us to prepare for the growing number of older adults who will be relying on already strained systems. That's why it's so important that these issues be front and centre in leaders' campaigns and debates.

The Canadian Association of Retired Persons - CARP advocates for financial security and better access to healthcare for older adults and leads the fight to end ageism. CARP is a non-partisan, non-profit association of hundreds of thousands of members, with a community of local chapters from coast to coast representing Canada's most powerful generation – engaged citizens who believe in action and aren't shy about exercising influence on public policy.

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