

BC NDP
320 - 34 W 7th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1L6
Sent via email

October 16, 2026

Alouette River Management Society
% Greta Borick-Cunningham

Re: Candidate Questions from the Alouette River Management Society (ARMS)

Dear Alouette River Management Society,

Thank you for reaching out to us at the BC NDP during this critical moment for British Columbians. We appreciate the opportunity to respond by way of this letter and hope that it provides your members with clarity this election season.

On the proportion of gaming revenue allocated to nonprofits

The BC NDP supports our charitable sector and has taken many steps during our tenure in Government to maintain, support, and expand the footprint of their activity in the province. We regularly seek the insight of nonprofit leaders in the development of new services and programs, and often provide direct financial support through grants. We noted your point that the proportion of gaming revenue allocated to the sector has changed over time, and have passed this information along to our policy team.

We would be interested in exploring funding opportunities through the Canada-BC Shared Prosperity Agreement, which discusses enhanced watershed protection through B.C.'s Watershed Security Fund. This fund, announced in 2023, is a \$100 million investment in healthy watersheds, in partnership with First Nations.

On climate action and environmental priorities

The BC NDP is committed to protecting our land and water, reducing pollution, and expanding EVs and Energy Efficient homes. We know that a strong

economy and healthy environment can be compatible, and we reject the conservative idea that lands, waters, and ecosystems should come last. Expanding our clean electricity system is a priority for us – we're proud to say that 98% of BC's electricity is now generated from clean and renewable sources, and we've invested \$36 billion to expand the clean electricity system.

We've also expanded recreation and conservation to nearly 1,050 provincial parks, recreation areas, conservancies, ecological reserves, and protected areas, covering more than 14 million hectares, or about 15% of the provincial land base. With \$6 billion added to our provincial GDP in 2024 alone, it's clear: outdoor recreation isn't just a hobby in BC, it's an economic driver. Since 2017, we've invested over \$225 million into expanding access, including campground expansions, accessibility improvements, and upgrades to trails, parking lots, and facilities. Further growth in this area benefits us all.

A BC NDP government will also install more heat pumps in homes. By enabling more heat pumps instead of gas-fired furnaces we can reduce both emissions and utility bills. We've committed an additional \$50 million per year to support even more households to make the switch. The BC Conservatives will slash these investments resulting in higher emissions and utility bills. These are not just for single family homes, but for renters, too. The cost savings will be appealing to all as we face extreme weather and heat in the region.

A BC NDP government will cut red tape and simplify the process for households to install balcony solar and produce their own clean energy. We will eliminate administrative barriers to install hardwired balcony solar and qualify for rebates. And we will enable low-cost plug-in solutions with clear safety and electrical standards.

On the Alouette River and Dam

The BC NDP is committed to protecting our waterways, and it is essential to consider how local wildlife, including salmon, are impacted by major projects and water infrastructure. We're excited by the work that BC Hydro is doing in partnership with First Nations and local environmental organizations to restore salmon habitat and migration routes, and we welcome further conversation about whether a restoration project like this in Maple Ridge is feasible.

-End-