

Human Rights

All people are free to be themselves, to thrive

HOW WE'RE THINKING ABOUT THIS

The freedom to be yourself and express yourself in a manner that aligns with your identity is fundamental. We are committed to shaping a province where human rights are upheld—and where everyone, regardless of their identity or background, can fully participate and belong in our communities.

We know that racism and discrimination continues in British Columbia. This can be overt, or it can present in subtle ways, where people don't feel safe to be present in the ways that are true to them.

We affirm that abortion is healthcare, that conversion 'therapy' is abhorrent, and that trans women are women, and trans men are men.

All people in BC should have the ability to safely access essential services and public spaces – free from hate and discrimination. The BC Greens commit to defending and advancing human rights in BC. Our province is diverse, and we all thrive when our rights are upheld by decision-makers.

Our work in British Columbia is to create the conditions where people are safe, where people are free from discrimination and hatred, where people can fully participate in our society.

We need to renew our commitment to fighting for inclusion and equity across our province and in every aspect of our society.

PROBLEM DEFINITION

Despite federal legislation, conversion therapy is still being practiced in British Columbia. This practice harms young people in particular, with victims describing the lifelong impact that this has had on them.

Access to abortion and reproductive healthcare is not just about the legislative settings, it's also about service availability. We need to ensure that these services are available to people across the country, in settings that align with preferences and cultural safety needs.

People experiencing poverty and homelessness can be discriminated against, without recourse to the Human

Rights Code. For some of the most vulnerable British Columbians, we need to extend the protections of this code, to make sure they can access services and opportunities.

Too many people continue to experience sexual harassment and discrimination, and then are silenced through unfair non-disclosure agreements. Non disclosure agreements are contracts that were created to protect trade secrets but when used wrongly become secret settlement contracts used to buy the silence of a victim or whistleblower. They have become the default solution for organisations, corporations and public bodies to settle cases of sexual misconduct, racism, pregnancy discrimination and other human rights violations.

POLICIES FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Protecting Social Condition

- We will add 'social condition' as a protected ground under the Human Rights Code to prevent discrimination based on socioeconomic status.

Better Data

- We commit to using disaggregated data to eliminate barriers that racialized, Indigenous, and 2SLGBTQ+ people face in accessing public spaces and essential services.

Protecting youth

- We will re-introduce legislation to ban conversion therapy in BC.

Protecting reproductive rights and freedoms

- We commit to ensuring that all people can access reproductive health services, at a time and a place that meets their needs.

Protecting victims, not harassers

- Introduce legislation to prevent the misuse of non-disclosure agreements in cases of sexual assault and harassment