



2018 Election Candidate Survey

The Vancouver Humane Society (VHS) works to encourage individuals, organizations, and governments to take responsibility for the welfare and rights of animals influenced by human activities. This election survey outlines several areas of priority when it comes to protecting and advancing animal welfare. We appreciate candidates taking the time to respond to these key issues. VHS will publicly share candidate responses in order to help inform voters about candidate positions on animal welfare issues.

Please choose “Yes” or “No” in response to each question. You are also welcome to use the “Additional Comments” section to elaborate on your answer if you wish. Please send the completed survey to emily@vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca.

CANDIDATE NAME:

JURISDICTION/ELECTION AREA:

OFFICE:

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

ZOOS/AQUARIUMS:

Wild and exotic animals (including those who are captive-bred) have unique biological and behavioural needs that cannot be met when kept in captivity. These animals can suffer greatly when confined in unnatural environments. If elected, will you support ending the keeping of wild and exotic animals in permanent captivity, in favour of genuine rescue, rehab and release programs and wildlife conservation efforts?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT:

Public sentiment surrounding the use of animals for entertainment (e.g. circuses, dog-sledding, rodeo events like calf-roping, steer-wrestling and team-roping, use of wild or exotic animals for

tv/film) has shifted in recent years, due to increased awareness surrounding animal welfare concerns. If elected, will you support ending the use of animals for entertainment purposes in favour of animal and family-friendly events?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

FACTORY FARMING:

More than 100 million animals are raised and slaughtered for food every year in British Columbia. The vast majority are confined in unnatural and intensive conditions and a number of undercover investigations in recent years have revealed widespread issues of animal cruelty. Growing public concern for animal welfare has resulted in calls for stronger on-farm regulations, as well as on-farm government oversight and enforcement, as opposed to leaving the animal agriculture industry to self-regulate. If elected, will you support government regulation and oversight of the animal farming industry?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

PLANT-BASED FOODS:

There is growing consensus among experts that significantly reducing or eliminating our consumption of animal products is a necessary step in mitigating climate change, addressing factory farming and protecting public health. If elected, will you support efforts at the municipal level/within your school district to increase availability of plant-based foods?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

MEATLESS MONDAY:

Meatless Monday is an international movement that aims to help protect animal welfare, the environment and public health by encouraging people to skip meat one day a week. This initiative to reduce our collective overconsumption of animal products has seen significant

growth in Metro Vancouver in recent years. If elected, will you support the local Meatless Monday movement?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

PET-FRIENDLY HOUSING:

Amidst an unprecedented affordable housing crisis and historically low vacancy rates across British Columbia, affordable pet-friendly housing is in dramatically short supply. If elected, will you support ending the 'no pets' rental policies?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

ANIMAL-RELATED BYLAWS:

Municipalities have the ability to regulate concerns related to animals. If elected will you ensure that standards of care are outlined in your animal-related bylaws, ensuring that nuisance and welfare issues are addressed together?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

SCHOOL TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

PLANT-BASED FOODS:

There is growing consensus among experts that significantly reducing or eliminating our consumption of animal products is a necessary step in mitigating climate change, addressing factory farming and protecting public health. If elected, will you support efforts at the municipal level/within your school district to increase availability of plant-based foods?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

MEATLESS MONDAY:

Meatless Monday is an international movement that aims to help protect animal welfare, the environment and public health by encouraging people to skip meat one day a week. This initiative to reduce our collective overconsumption of animal products has seen significant growth in Metro Vancouver in recent years. If elected, will you support the local Meatless Monday movement?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

ANIMAL DISSECTION IN SCHOOLS:

As effective and low-cost alternatives to animal dissection have become widely available, a growing number of school districts are enacting student choice policies that allow students the ability to opt out of animal dissections and be given non-animal alternatives. Meanwhile, a recent survey indicates that 72% of British Columbians agree that school boards should have written student choice policies to this effect. If elected, will you support the inclusion and implementation of a student choice policy for animal dissection within your school district?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

PARK BOARD CANDIDATES

CETACEANS IN CAPTIVITY:

Public sentiment regarding the ethics of keeping cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) in captivity has undergone a significant shift in recent years. A recent survey indicates that Canadians support banning cetacean captivity by a two-to-one margin. If elected, will you support the growing movement to ban the practice of keeping cetaceans in permanent captivity?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

ZOOS/AQUARIUMS:

Wild and exotic animals (including those who are captive-bred) have unique biological and behavioural needs that cannot be met when kept in captivity. These animals can suffer greatly when confined in unnatural environments. If elected, will you support ending the keeping of wild and exotic animals in permanent captivity, in favour of genuine rescue, rehab and release programs and wildlife conservation efforts?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT:

Public sentiment surrounding the use of animals for entertainment (e.g. circuses, dog-sledding, rodeo events like calf-roping, steer-wrestling and team-roping, use of wild or exotic animals for tv/film) has shifted in recent years, due to increased awareness surrounding animal welfare concerns. If elected, will you support ending the use of animals for entertainment purposes in favour of animal and family-friendly events?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

PLANT-BASED FOODS:

There is growing consensus among experts that significantly reducing or eliminating our consumption of animal products is a necessary step in mitigating climate change, addressing factory farming and protecting public health. If elected, will you support efforts at the municipal level/within your school district to increase availability of plant-based foods?

Yes / No

Additional Comments:

MEATLESS MONDAY:

Meatless Monday is an international movement that aims to help protect animal welfare, the environment and public health by encouraging people to skip meat one day a week. This initiative to reduce our collective overconsumption of animal products has seen significant

growth in Metro Vancouver in recent years. If elected, will you support the local Meatless Monday movement?

Yes / No

Additional Comments: