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For immediate release:

Vancouver Police Union launches Vote Public Safety campaign and issues questionnaire to municipal parties

Responses will help Vancouver voters compare parties' public-safety priorities and commitments

VANCOUVER, BC – The Vancouver Police Union today launched **Vote Public Safety**, an advocacy campaign that will keep public safety at the forefront of Vancouver's 2026 municipal election.

As part of the campaign, the VPU is circulating a public-safety questionnaire to the **major municipal parties fielding candidates for mayor and council**. Parties will be asked to explain how they would build on Vancouver's recent progress, support front-line policing, and address the public-safety challenges facing the city.

Responses will be published and shared with Vancouver voters exactly as received, without editing or editorial commentary. The VPU will also identify parties that do not respond by the deadline.

"Public safety affects everything," said Jason Chan, President of the Vancouver Police Union. "It supports a strong local economy, gives people confidence to invest, and helps create the conditions for quality housing, vibrant neighbourhoods, and a good quality of life. When people do not feel safe, every other municipal priority becomes harder to achieve. That is why the VPU will be active in this campaign and why parties should be clear about their plans."

Four years ago, Vancouver voters elected a mayor and council that promised to make public safety a priority. The current council followed through by making important investments in front-line policing.

The results show Vancouver has made important progress. Statistics Canada reported that the Vancouver census metropolitan area's Crime Severity Index was 83.5 in 2025, down from 90.2 in 2023. Vancouver Police Department data also showed a 9.7 per cent year-over-year reduction in reported violent-crime incidents, while total reported crime remained well below 2019 levels and thefts from vehicles continued their substantial decline.

Crime trends are shaped by many factors, and effective policing is one of them. Adequate staffing gives police greater capacity for visible patrols, thorough investigations, proactive enforcement, and timely responses when problems emerge. That capacity helps prevent crime, hold offenders accountable, and make communities safer.

That capacity was also evident this summer when the VPD served as the lead police agency for FIFA World Cup 2026 Vancouver. VPU members carried out the front-line work that allowed Vancouver to welcome the world safely while continuing to serve neighbourhoods across the city.

The questionnaire asks parties about their public-safety priorities, police funding and staffing, recruitment and member well-being, mental-health and substance-use crises, street disorder, repeat violent offenders, bail, and School Liaison Officers.

Vancouver continues to face serious public-safety challenges, and the gains of recent years cannot be taken for granted. The decisions made by the next mayor and council will determine whether the city builds on its progress and gives police the resources and support required to keep moving forward.

“Vancouverites should expect every party seeking office to explain how it will keep them safe,” Chan said. “Our members see every day how decisions made at City Hall affect police capacity and the safety of communities across Vancouver. This questionnaire brings that front-line experience into the election conversation and gives voters a clear record of which parties are prepared to build on the city’s progress and keep public safety a priority.”

Prioritize Public Safety. Vote Public Safety.

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