

2026 BC Election – Candidate Questionnaire

Letter to the candidate

North Peace Rod & Gun Club · Charlie Lake, BC · Member club of the BC Wildlife Federation

October 8, 2026

Dear Jordan,

I am writing on behalf of the **over 600 members of North Peace Rod & Gun Club**, a fish and game club serving the Northeast of BC in the riding of **Peace River North since 1945**. Our members are conservationists, hunters, anglers, sport shooters, and outdoor families who run a shooting range, host youth fishing days, and teach CORE and PAL courses.

Our members care about four things: **conservation** of healthy fish and wildlife populations, **public access** to Crown land, rivers, and lakes, the future of **hunting and fishing** as a way of life and a source of wild food, and fair treatment of law-abiding **sport shooters and firearms owners**.

We are one club among 100 in the BC Wildlife Federation, which represents 37,000 members across every region. Province-wide, British Columbia has **370,000 PAL holders, 300,000 freshwater anglers, 275,000 saltwater anglers, and 105,000 licensed hunters**. That is one of the largest single-issue constituencies in BC, larger than the population of dozens of ridings. In Peace River North, our members and their families pay close attention to where candidates stand.

We are asking you to answer the three questions below **in writing by Tuesday, October 13, 2026**. Your answers will be shared with our members, on our social media, and with the BC Wildlife Federation. Candidates who do not respond will be listed as "no response" by the BC Wildlife Federation.

Additionally, we invite you to register for the **Public Town Hall** scheduled for **October 19, 2026, at 7 PM** where Party responses will be discussed: [Register for free on Zoom](#)

Thank you for your time. We look forward to your answers.

Sincerely,

Mr. Shannon Stange, Director · shannon@stange.ca · 778-683-7709

North Peace Rod & Gun Club · <https://nprg.ca/>

Candidate response form

Please complete the details below, mark one response for each question, and add any comment you wish.

Candidate details	
Candidate name	Jordan Kealy
Party	Independent
Riding	Peace River North
Campaign email	Jpkealy82@hotmail.com
Campaign phone	250-263-1482 personal
Date completed	October 13, 2026

Question 1: Enshrine public access to lands and resources into law

Will you commit to legislating public access to sustainable hunting, fishing, camping, and outdoor recreation on Crown land, grounded in science-based decisions?

Why it matters: in 2024, outdoor recreation added \$11.1 billion to BC's economy (3.5% of GDP) and supported more than 127,500 jobs. Yet British Columbians are being removed from the landscape through closures of BC Parks, Forest Service Roads such as Rady Creek, moose hunting in the Northeast, and fishing on the Fraser River. Resident moose harvest fell from 10,894 in 1976 to fewer than 4,000 in 2024, a major loss of wild food for 50,000 residents a year. [Optional: add a local access issue in your riding.]

* Yes, I commit

Candidate comment:

Thank you for the questions and for the important work the Fort St. John hunting and fishing community does to steward our outdoor traditions and local economy.

Yes. As an Independent candidate I can commit to supporting legislation and policy that enshrines and protects public access to sustainable hunting, fishing, camping, and outdoor recreation on Crown land. These decisions must have science-based wildlife and fisheries management, transparent data, and consultation with resident users, local communities, and everyone involved. Not just closures based on a whim.

This is a major economic driver, especially in rural and northern communities.

I share the concern about declining resident opportunity.

The long-term decline has reduced a traditional source of wild food for tens of thousands of British Columbians. Science-based management should aim to recover populations and hunting opportunity where data support it, not simply accept progressive restriction as the default. This has been the story for the past 9 years, restrictions and bad policy layered on itself repeatedly by the government.

The deactivation or restriction of Forest Service Roads, localized moose hunting restrictions in the Northeast, ongoing constraints on the Fraser River system, and reduced access to certain parks and backcountry areas all over the province is concerning. Public Crown land should remain open for sustainable recreation unless clear, evidence-based conservation or safety reasons require otherwise, and those reasons should be publicly justified, time-limited where possible, and subject to regular review.

As an Independent MLA I would support legislation or regulatory amendments that affirm the public's right to access Crown land for sustainable outdoor recreation.

I will push for greater transparency and local involvement in decisions about Forest Service Road maintenance/deactivation, wildlife regulations, and park management.

I will advocate for investment in the data, monitoring, and habitat work needed to support healthy populations and sustainable harvests rather than relying primarily on closures.

I will fight to ensure resident hunters and anglers are treated as partners in management, not afterthoughts.

I will NOT support measures that permanently lock the public out of Crown land without strong, transparent scientific justification and a clear path to restore access when conditions improve.

If I am re-elected, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with the club to discuss local priority access issues in the Peace region and how we can work together on practical solutions.

Question 2: Guarantee dedicated fish, wildlife, and habitat management funding

Will you commit to legislating dedicated funding of \$200 million per year for fish, wildlife, and habitat management, including the four components below?

Why it matters: BC's budget share for renewable resource management has fallen over fifty years to just 1% of the provincial budget. Decades of underinvestment and politically charged decisions are costing British Columbians their homes through floods and wildfire, along with their livelihoods and their fish and wildlife.

\$200 million per year in legislated, dedicated funding

Legislated objectives for fish and wildlife populations

An independent fish and wildlife management commission, insulated from political pressure

50,000 hectares of controlled burns per year

A \$1 billion watershed security fund

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Candidates answer:

While I support this, the answer is complicated.

In an ideal world where there was money to commit to this it would be an absolute yes.

Unfortunately, there are some major blocks for this to happen.

The first being the enormous deficit and debt the NDP government has put the province into leaves very little room to commit to \$1 billion in funding for anything.

The second being that unless it's a governing party introducing bills with money expenditures, it's impossible to do in the opposition.

If I am elected as an Independent MLA, I would have some bargaining power with the conservatives if they are elected, as they will need my vote. That bargaining power can help get actual results for these topics.

I can absolutely advocate for an independent fish and wildlife management commission, insulated from political pressure.

This would be much like what I will do for firearm owners who are being persecuted needlessly by the Federal government. Pushing for a provincial Firearms Officer is an important step to stopping the federal overreach into provinces.

I will also advocate for proper forest management so there are less fires, and more jobs available through production of our forest products - all the way to a finished product, not just shipping out raw resources for other countries to capitalize on.

Better management is a must. That includes treating our forests more like a crop that is harvested before it becomes a hazard, controlled burns, and cutting red tape that stops the cleanup and use of burned wood before it's too far decomposed to be used for anything (biochar, pellet plants come to mind as uses). Speed is a factor for cleaning up after a fire so that there is less tinder to start another fire.

The government needs to do less virtue signalling and more reality-based solutions for the fish and wildlife population to make sure that everything is sustainable and available to everyone.

Proper consultation with groups like yours and others is vital.

Proper counts for numbers to see where things need to improve is very important, hunters, trappers, outdoors-people all help with that if a reporting system is up, that could help with management.

We all want the wildlife to flourish, a strong wildlife population means food for people, it means a healthier environment.

The government needs to realize that hunters and fishers want the population healthy and abundant, vs the current view that food comes from the store and nobody should be able to hunt for it.

I will fight for that. There are a few ways to go about it.
I can encourage other MLAs to help too.

Question 3: Oppose the federal firearms confiscation and buyback

Will you oppose the federal firearms confiscation and buyback program, and commit that provincial and municipal police resources will not be diverted from public safety priorities to administer it?

Why it matters: the program targets law-abiding firearms owners, who are vetted through background checks, rather than criminals using illegally obtained or manufactured firearms. Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba have refused to have police administer it, and other provinces have pushed back; BC's position differs from most of the country. The province should support its law-abiding firearms owners and sport shooters, and focus police resources on the people who pose real public safety risks.

Commitment	Yes	Conditional	No	Undecided
Oppose the federal confiscation and buyback program	☐ YES	☐	☐	☐
Keep provincial and municipal police resources off buyback administration	☐ YES	☐	☐	☐

Candidate comment:

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Town hall and signature

You are invited to a **virtual town hall with BC Wildlife Federation members and the public on Wednesday, October 19, 2026 at 7 PM.** [Register for free on Zoom](#)

By signing, I confirm these are my responses as a candidate and I understand they will be published, by North Peace Rod & Gun Club and the BC Wildlife Federation.

Candidate signature	JPKealy
Printed name	Jordan Kealy
Date	October 13, 2026

Return to: Mr. Shannon Stange, Director, NPRG, shannon@stange.ca · copy Jesse Zeman, Executive Director, BC Wildlife Federation, jesse.zeman@bcwf.bc.ca · **Deadline: Tuesday, October 13, 2026**