

## **Michelle Corfield**

Nanaimo • Ladysmith Your Liberal Party of Canada MP Candidate **2025** 





MARK CARNEY'S PLAN
UNITE • SECURE • PROTECT • BUILD

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# **MICHELLE'S PLATFORM**

I'm running because people in Nanaimo–Ladysmith deserve results—not excuses. Whether it's housing you can afford, health care that's close to home, or jobs you can build a future on, I'm focused on what matters here. My platform is built for our region—from faster builds using Island wood, to better care at the Nanaimo Regional Hospital, to smart investments in forestry, clean energy, and Indigenous leadership.

And I'm not doing this alone. The national plan put forward by Mark Carney backs these priorities—dollar for dollar, program for program. From a \$25B investment in prefab housing to a permanent youth mental health fund, from faster approvals to credential recognition for health workers, we're aligned. That means when I fight for Nanaimo–Ladysmith, I'll have the federal firepower to get things done.

Let's move forward together. Together, we are Canada Strong.



#### **FORESTRY**

#### **Local Jobs, Clean Innovation, Global Leadership**

"Forestry has always been a backbone of our region. We have the people, fibre, and leadership to drive climate-smart growth—but Ottawa needs to clear the roadblocks. I believe in a future where forestry creates good jobs, advances reconciliation, and helps lead Canada's clean economy. Forestry is still one of the best tools we have for driving clean growth on the Island—if we invest in it, innovate in it, and use it wisely. We don't have to choose between protecting forests and creating jobs—we can do both. That's the future I'll fight for." – Michelle Corfield

Michelle Corfield has decades of experience in resource policy and sits on the board of Iskum Investments, which unites Vancouver Island and coastal First Nations to transform the forest sector through Indigenous leadership, sustainability, and value-added production. She has deep experience in marine and resource policy, and heavily influenced the ocean protection plan through the marine round table. She recently organized a roundtable of forestry industry leaders. Along with Vancouver Island forestry sector stakeholders, Michelle supports bold federal action to:

- Unblock forest supply chains by resolving fibre access delays, protecting
   Notice 102, and strengthening coordination between harvesting and milling.
- **Expand Indigenous leadership** in the sector by funding capacity for timber tenure, second-growth milling, and Nation-to-Nation forest governance.
- Align carbon policy with forest realities by recognizing carbon storage in long-life wood products, delaying tax hikes on clean transition mills, and rewarding co-generation.
- Cut red tape and fix permitting by streamlining rules for certified builders and removing federal loopholes that inflate costs and delay investment.
- Make freight and ferries work for industry by designating ferry routes as essential infrastructure, investing in coastal ports, and reassessing Island Rail.
- Prioritize value-added and Indigenous-led bids in procurement for housing, infrastructure, and clean manufacturing.
- Launch a reconciliation investment stream for Indigenous-led forestry and housing ventures—including infrastructure ownership and export development.
- **Grow Island exports** by expanding trade missions, harmonizing export standards, and opening new markets in Japan and South Korea.

Michelle will work with industry, labour, and communities to ensure forestry continues to be a pillar of Vancouver Island's economy—while adapting to today's environmental and market realities.

## **CANADA STRONG**

Michelle's forestry plan is backed by national commitments in Mark Carney's *Canada Strong* platform.

Together, they'll prioritize Buy Canadian standards—especially for clean, sustainable forestry products—and restore natural infrastructure like wetlands and old-growth forests to protect communities from wildfires and floods.

Carney's plan invests in Indigenous-led conservation, expands the Indigenous Guardians Program, and creates a new Indigenous Climate Readiness Fund—perfectly aligned with Michelle's focus on economic reconciliation.

Clean growth is also at the core: six major Clean Investment Tax Credits, carbon contracts to derisk forestry innovation, and fast-tracked approvals for clean energy projects that respect Indigenous rights.

His plan also simplifies building codes and cuts red tape—backing Michelle's call to modernize forestry permitting and support low-cost wood-frame housing.

Finally, by repealing the consumer carbon tax and strengthening carbon pricing for big emitters, Carney's plan defends Canadian industry with a Carbon Border Adjustment that levels the playing field.

Together, Michelle Corfield and Mark Carney will grow a forestry sector that's sustainable, resilient, and rooted in local jobs.



#### HOUSING

#### **Building Faster, Smarter, and More Affordably**

"We need homes people can afford to rent, buy, and grow in—without destroying what we love about living here. That means smarter density, sustainable materials, and partnerships that actually get shovels in the ground. We need to break through the red tape and get homes built that people can actually afford—without losing what makes our communities livable." – Michelle Corfield

Housing is out of reach for too many in Nanaimo–Ladysmith. Whether you're a young family, a senior, or a working renter, the system isn't delivering. Michelle will fight for faster builds, better infrastructure, and smarter density, including advocating for resources for supported housing projects in Nanaimo-Ladysmith that keep new mothers and babies together.

Michelle supports Carney's plan to double housing construction, remove the GST on new builds at or below \$1 million, and fast-track housing projects. Locally, she'll advocate for:

- **Doubling the pace of home construction**—especially mid-rise, modular, and wood-frame builds that cut costs and timelines.
- A 'Harvest to House' strategy, using locally sourced wood in faster, lower-cost housing construction.
- Prefabricated and mid-rise wood-frame housing using Vancouver Island forestry products, lowering costs and boosting local jobs.
- Speeding up federal approvals and cutting red tape for non-profit,
   Indigenous, co-op, and market housing projects and establishing a federal-municipal innovation fund.
- **Skilled trades training** to build the workforce needed to deliver on targets.
- **Federal support for municipal infrastructure**—like water, transportation, and climate resilience—so communities like Nanaimo, Ladysmith, and Gabriola can absorb growth sustainably.
- **Ensure new builds are climate-resilient** and located outside high-risk flood and wildfire zones, with insurance programs to match.

Michelle brings experience balancing development with environmental protection—from protecting Colliery Dam Park to championing resilient marine infrastructure. She has spent her career balancing economic development with environmental stewardship. She understands that sustainable growth means homes people can afford *and* communities we can sustain.

## **CANADA STRONG**

Michelle's housing plan is backed by national commitments in Mark Carney's *Canada Strong* platform.

From Build Canada Homes—a new public developer with \$35B for prefab, Indigenous, and affordable builds—to fast-tracked permitting, bulk purchasing, and pre-approved housing designs, Michelle has the federal tools to get homes built faster and smarter.

Carney's plan speeds up approvals by reforming national building codes, eliminating duplicative inspections, streamlining prefab and modular regulations, standardizing pre-approved designs for use on public lands, enabling multi-project applications and fast-tracking proven builders.

Carney's plan cuts municipal charges, streamlines inspections, and funds the infrastructure—water, power, transit—that communities need to grow sustainably.

Together, they'll reduce red tape, streamline building codes, and speed up builds that use mass timber, recycled materials, and low-emission technologies.

The plan also supports apprenticeships to grow the trades workforce, tax incentives for rental construction, and flood-resilient development.

With Michelle in Ottawa, Nanaimo– Ladysmith will finally have a strong voice to break ground—not promises—and deliver the kinds of homes families, workers, and seniors in our region urgently need.



# **HEALTH AND HOSPITAL CARE Local Jobs, Clean Innovation, Global Leadership**

"No one in Nanaimo-Ladysmith should wait in pain, drive for hours, or age in fear because their local hospital is under pressure. Fixing health care is about getting staff hired, surgeries done, and funding where it's needed. When someone is sick, they don't need a spot on a waiting list—they need care that's close, fast, and fair. People here are tired of waiting lists and hallway medicine. I'll fight for the care we need. Here, not hours away. On the Island, we take care of our own. It's time Ottawa helped us do the same with our health care." – Michelle Corfield

From growing surgical backlogs to ER overcrowding, residents of Nanaimo–Ladysmith know the health system is under pressure. Michelle will fight to make sure this region gets its fair share of federal support and attention.

Michelle is committed to:

- Backing long-overdue investments at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, including infrastructure and staff recruitment.
- **Supporting expanded federal transfers** that prioritize front-line services and timely access.
- Accelerating credential recognition and workforce training to address staffing shortages—especially in rural and Island communities.
- Improving access to mental health and addictions supports, particularly for youth and underserved areas.
- Delivering on the Liberal dental care expansion, making care more affordable and accessible for seniors and working families.
- **Securing federal health transfers** to fund Nanaimo General's long-awaited upgrades and reduce ER congestion.
- **Supporting the health workforce** by investing in training, retention, and credentialing for nurses and doctors—especially for rural and Indigenous communities.
- **Expanding access to mental health and addictions care**, especially youth and culturally grounded services.
- **Advancing Indigenous health equity** by ensuring First Nations health priorities are at the table—from infrastructure to policy.

As someone who's worked in frontline community development and advised on health policy, Michelle understands that care must be local, accessible, and rooted in trust. Health care is about trust and timely access. She'll work to make sure Nanaimo–Ladysmith residents are not an afterthought in Ottawa.

## **CANADA STRONG**

Michelle's health care platform is backed by the national plan in *Canada Strong*, with billions on the table to fix what's broken—starting here.

Carney's plan invests \$4 billion in hospital infrastructure, funds equipment like MRIs, and cost-shares with provinces to reduce ER wait times and surgical backlogs. Michelle will fight to make sure Nanaimo General gets its long-overdue upgrades and staff support.

Carney's plan also makes it easier for internationally trained doctors and nurses to work in Canada and introduces national licensure—tools that will help Michelle tackle staffing shortages on the Island.

Together, they'll expand youth mental health services, fund treatment for the overdose crisis, and improve access in underserved and Indigenous communities.

A permanent youth mental health fund and a \$500M emergency treatment investment will help local families get the support they need faster.

With First Nations priorities embedded in federal health planning, Michelle will ensure Indigenous health equity is part of every conversation.

With Michelle in Ottawa, our region won't be an afterthought—it will be a priority for timely, trusted, local care.



#### TARIFFS AND TRADE

### **Protecting Our Jobs, Growing New Markets**

"Washington tariffs can't keep deciding our future. We need to protect our workers, diversify our markets, and assert economic sovereignty—especially for communities built on natural resources." – Michelle Corfield "Too many Vancouver Island businesses are paying the price for broken trade relationships and outdated policies. It's time for a smarter, stronger Canada-first approach." – Michelle Corfield

Michelle's deep knowledge of cross-border trade and resource diplomacy makes her a strong advocate for Vancouver Island workers and entrepreneurs on the global stage. Michelle will advocate for a bold, coordinated response to unfair U.S. tariffs, and push Ottawa to be more aggressive in defending Vancouver Island jobs and industries. Michelle will champion a Team Canada approach to:

- Oppose export quotas and U.S.-imposed taxes that punish Canadian producers.
- Defend B.C. workers with job-saving tools like wage subsidies, retraining, and targeted trade supports.
- **Leverage federal tools to protect local jobs**—including job transition programs, innovation support, and export promotion.
- **Secure better market access** for forestry and manufacturing products in new and emerging markets.
- **Invest in "boots-on-the-ground" trade promotion** to open up new markets in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East.
- Increase the use of Canadian-made low-carbon materials in public infrastructure to grow demand at home.
- **Ensure regulatory clarity** to attract investment and restore confidence in Canada's forest and manufacturing sectors.

Michelle knows how to work across government and industry. She'll make sure Nanaimo–Ladysmith businesses and workers aren't left behind.

## **CANADA STRONG**

Michelle Corfield's plan to defend Vancouver Island jobs and industries is backed by real federal tools in *Canada Strong*.

While Michelle pushes Ottawa to take a tougher stand against unfair U.S. tariffs, Carney's plan restores Canada's global trade presence—with more diplomatic presence, better export support, and a new Carbon Border Adjustment to level the playing field.

Together, they'll back Island workers with job-saving supports, including wage support, retraining, and new tools to help Canadians switch careers or move to job sites.

Carney's plan also opens a \$25 billion export credit facility and expands the CanExport program to help Canadian businesses reach new markets—just as Michelle calls for boots-on-the-ground promotion in Asia and Europe.

Both support Buy Canadian policies that grow demand for low-carbon materials like Island-made wood and steel.

While Washington punishes, Michelle and Carney will invest in workers, diversify our markets, and make sure trade policy serves Canadian jobs—not foreign interests.

With Michelle in Ottawa, Island industries will finally have someone fighting for them on the global stage.