

NDP Making Life More Expensive



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Why am I having a harder time making ends meet?

You're not wrong; things have gotten much more expensive. **More than 1 in 3 British Columbians** now say they've given serious thought to leaving the province. And it's not just talk – last year, we lost 8,000 more people leaving for other provinces than moved here.

What's pushing people away from B.C.?

The biggest single thing is housing. In Canada, the share of income needed to own a home is 63%. In Vancouver, it's 106% – **significantly higher than other major cities.**

It's not just harder to own in B.C., it's even finding places to rent. B.C. has the highest asking prices in Canada. Average rent for a two-bedroom unit in Vancouver is almost double the national average.

Is it just the housing market?

Sadly, no. **B.C. is also worst for cost of living**, excluding housing – and it's not close. At \$4,800 per month, it's significantly more than second-place Ontario, and more than double Newfoundland. There are dozens of factors here, but the most expensive gasoline in North America certainly doesn't help.

Is it all the NDP's fault?

Despite an obvious shortage, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation says housing starts will actually decline – and even when things get built, the NDP have been caught touting new subsidized buildings as “affordable” and hoping you don't notice it's just 14 units out of 68.

What about the basic cost of living? **B.C.'s inflation rate is still the highest in Canada.** That means B.C. will get even more expensive than other provinces.

But inflation is going down, right?

Yes, which is good news! Let's see if it holds. One of the biggest drivers of inflation is excess government spending. This is a good time to mention B.C.'s current deficit is a record \$8.9 billion. **Yes, Billion with a B.**