

Email to Parties/Candidates

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Subject: BC election 2026: Invitation to respond to ACE's arthritis questionnaire

Dear [Candidate name / Party representative],

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in British Columbia.

Arthritis affects more than 900,000 BC voters. Two-thirds of BC residents with arthritis are younger than 65. It is the leading cause of work disability in BC and had a \$6.5 billion economic impact in BC in 2025 related to direct health care costs and indirect costs to the economy related to lost workforce productivity ([see attached Arthritis Backgrounder](#)).

On behalf of Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE), I'm inviting [you / your party] to complete the attached Arthritis Consumer Experts Questionnaire for B.C. Candidate and Political Parties and share your perspective on how to meet the needs of the one in five BC residents living with arthritis (see [attached questionnaire](#)). Voters living with arthritis want to know how candidates and parties will improve access to arthritis care, from timely diagnosis to medication coverage and joint replacement surgery.

The questionnaire covers four priorities:

- Timely access to team-based arthritis care
- Joint replacement surgery and rehabilitation
- Access to evidence-based arthritis treatment
- Equitable care in rural and remote communities and culturally safe care for Indigenous people

We ask that you return your responses by **Tuesday, October 20** by replying to this email.

ACE may publish responses on its website and in #Vote4Arthritis election materials to help voters compare commitments and make informed decisions. Any substantive edits will be shared with you for approval before publication.

Thank you for taking the time to address the priorities for British Columbians living with arthritis. Please contact me if you have questions. We look forward to sharing your response with the arthritis community.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn

President

Arthritis Consumer Experts