

RESOLUTIONS

Emergency Resolution ER-1

CUPE BC WILL:

Support locals to fight back against any and all local government leaders who attack public services and workers with “zero means zero budget” re-election schemes;

Support locals to build strong public support for the crucial role of fair taxation in ensuring the future of strong public services, well-maintained public infrastructure, and respected and fairly paid public workers; and

Ensure that members are well-informed about the damage done by these cynical anti-tax campaigns as part of broader work to mobilize members for the 2026 local government elections.

BECAUSE:

- “Zero means zero” actually means tax breaks for the wealthiest at the expense of public services, residents, and workers – and results in increased user fees, longer waitlists, and fewer supports for parents, seniors, and our communities’ most vulnerable;
- Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim and his ABC Council members have already implemented a “zero means zero budget” for 2026, and this has resulted in cuts to public services and the layoff of CUPE members;
- On April 8, Mayor Sim announced that a second “zero means zero budget” would be implemented in 2027 if he is re-elected, and this will result in even more cuts to public services, and more job loss for CUPE members;
- These austerity budgets are causing real damage to the public services Vancouver communities rely on, and making life harder for the Vancouver frontline workers who deliver them;
- Also in the past month, former Mayor of Surrey Doug McCallum – running again for mayor in the upcoming 2026 election – has also committed to a “zero percent” property tax increase for Surrey if elected;
- It is clear that these “zero means zero budget” schemes are a partisan election strategy that cater to the wealthy and well-connected, and run counter to the best interests of residents and businesses;
- With mayoral candidates in the two largest B.C. municipalities promising “zero means zero budget” models, this toxic idea will surely spread, and given the local government elections later this year, it is critical to present a strong united, and vocal opposition.

CUPE BC Executive Board

CONVENTION Carried Defeated