

## **Media Kit:**

IAFF Local 18, Vancouver's Fire Fighter Union, is endorsing 6 candidates in the 2026 municipal election. Candidate photos and questionnaire are available on request.

During this election period, IAFF Local 18 has focussed on [three key issues](#) that they would like to see advanced at City Hall:

1. Continued growth in fire service staffing: matching population growth and density with boots on the ground.
2. Affordable housing: first responders need to be able to live in the communities they serve. No frontline worker deserves to be struggling with housing affordability.
3. Establishing a fire board: this innovative idea would remove oversight from political and government control ensuring decisions are coming from best practices and ensure the safest Vancouver possible.

As part of their public engagement during the election, IAFF Local 18 circulated a survey with over 468 Vancouverites completing it:

- 94% state that elected officials should listen to fire fighters on public safety issues
- 93% said staffing should keep the pace as our City grows
- 90% support the creation of an independent Fire Board, and
- 90% said the City must support affordable housing solutions

## **Key facts**

- Local 18's Public Engagement Committee interviewed 13 candidates. The committee votes on its selections and the Local 18 Executive approves the list.
- Candidates were asked about three priorities: a fire board, future staffing, and essential worker housing.
- Selections are based on track record, questionnaire and interview answers, and how candidates communicate and work with the union.
- An endorsement is not a verdict on the candidates who did not receive one. The number of endorsements is limited.

## **Quotes**

Scott Rose - VP of Public Engagement - Vancouver Fire Fighters

On why Local 18 endorses:

"City Council makes decisions that affect our staffing, our safety, our mental health and how well we can serve the public. Those decisions can save lives, and they can also stop us from saving lives. We want the council to have the best possible information when they make them. The election is a key opportunity not only to engage candidates but also educate the public on the key issues we're advocating for and why."

On candidates who were not endorsed:

"We have a limited number of endorsements, so we had to make some very tough decisions. We see every one of those candidates as an ally in building a better Vancouver."

## **Background**

Local 18 has made endorsements in every election since the mid-1970s. The number varies from election to election.

Vancouver Fire Fighters IAFF Local 18 represents 940 fire fighters in Vancouver. Chartered in 1916 with the AFL, it was the only Canadian local among the founders of the International Association of Fire Fighters in 1918. More at [iaff18.org](http://iaff18.org).

## **Media contact**

Scott Rose

Scottrose@iaff18.org