



Paton raises concerns about shortage of veterinarians in B.C.

VICTORIA (April 26, 2021) – BC Liberal Agriculture Critic and MLA for Delta South Ian Paton says the NDP government needs to be doing more to address a critical shortage of veterinarians in this province.

Speaking in the Legislature, Paton noted that many people have adopted pets during the pandemic which has increased the demand for veterinary services. He notes demand already outstripped the number of vets available before the pandemic — so the situation is becoming increasingly urgent.

Paton says B.C. has an opportunity to access 20 additional seats at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon (WCVN) — B.C.'s regional vet school. However, the Ministry of Advanced Education has been unwilling to meet with the Society of B.C. Veterinarians Chapter to discuss the issue or find solutions to the problem.

Paton [raised the issue in December 2019](#) and there has been no movement on it from the NDP government.

VIDEO CLIP: [MLA Ian Paton Private Member's Statement on Vet Shortage](#)

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