WESTERN AFFAIRS MONTHLY · BC · AB · SK · MB + FEDERAL · NOVEMBER 2026 (COVERS OCTOBER)

FREE ISSUE

A Conservative B.C., a settled referendum in Alberta and two western megaprojects on Ottawa's fast track: October in Western Canada

B.C. elected a Conservative majority, the first under that banner since 1928, pending the final count. Albertans voted three to one to stay in Canada, and Premier Smith ruled out another vote while she leads. Saskatchewan opened a sitting focused on affordability, and Manitoba closed one with more than 50 bills. Ottawa listed Pacific Link and Roberts Bank Terminal 2 as national-interest projects, raised interest rates and set a Nov 5 budget. On the defence side: Bill C-40, about $8B in Alberta base investments, a polar icebreaker keel in Vancouver and a deadly training fire at CFB Wainwright. Here's what changed in October and what comes next.

Published Mon Nov 2, 2026 **Coverage** Oct 1–31, 2026 **Horizon** to Jan 31, 2027 **Scope** BC · AB · SK · MB + federal
Items 7 · **Sources** 46 **Reading time** ~18 min

63 of 93
B.C. Conservative seats, initial count; final count Nov 6–10 [S1, S2]

74.95%
Albertans who voted to remain in Canada, official result [S7]

2
Western projects listed as of national interest in October: Pacific Link and RBT2 [S27, S28]

~$8B
Federal defence investments in Alberta highlighted Oct 7 [S35]

Bottom line: October reset the political map in two of the four western provinces. B.C. moves to a Conservative government on Nov 18 if the final count confirms the result, with a finance review and a shortened fall session signalled. In Alberta, the referendum settled the separation question for now, and the premier's leadership is secure until the next election. Ottawa is using national-interest listings to move western trade projects, while Bill C-40 and the November budget will set the pace of defence spending. Organizations with business before the B.C. government may want to consider how a new cabinet changes their files.

1 · Executive summary

The month's developments that matter, and options to consider

#	What changed	Why it matters	Risk	Worth considering
1	**B.C. elects a Conservative majority (preliminary)** [S1, S3]	63 of 93 seats on the initial count. Eby resigned as NDP leader. Doerkson signals a finance review and possible short fall session [S1, S3, S4].	HIGH	Organizations with B.C. files may want to consider mapping which programs and laws, such as Bill 44 housing rules, a new cabinet could revisit [S5].
2	**Alberta referendum: remain wins 74.95%** [S7]	Turnout 70.4%. Five of nine policy questions passed. Smith says no repeat vote while she is premier [S7, S8].	HIGH	Organizations that paused Alberta decisions over separation risk may want to reassess, while tracking how the five passed questions are acted on.
3	**Saskatchewan throne speech; Manitoba session ends** [S17, S22]	Saskatchewan's sitting runs to Dec 10. Manitoba passed rent, grocery-tax and hydro-rate measures, and returns Nov 17 [S17, S22].	MEDIUM	Organizations affected by Manitoba's data-centre and crypto levy may want to consider its effect on 2027 costs [S22].

#	What changed	Why it matters	Risk	Worth considering
4	**Ottawa fast-tracks Pacific Link and Roberts Bank Terminal 2** [S27, S28]	RBT2: $5.9B, operations moved to 2035 from 2039. Pacific Link conditions due by Sept 1, 2027 [S28, S27].	MEDIUM	Firms in the supply chains for both projects may want to consider timing bids around the mid-2027 RBT2 investment decision.
5	**Bank of Canada raises to 2.5%; budget Nov 5** [S31, S32]	The budget is framed around people, identity and growth, with defence and infrastructure among the themes [S33].	MEDIUM	Public-sector suppliers may want to consider which program lines in the budget affect 2027 demand.
6	**Defence: Bill C-40, Alberta base investments, CFB Wainwright fire** [S37, S35, S42]	C-40 is at the Commons defence committee. Ottawa highlighted about $8B in Alberta investments. Four CAF members died at Wainwright on Oct 17 [S38, S35, S42].	MEDIUM	Western defence suppliers may want to consider how C-40's new defence investment corporation could change contracting routes [S38].

Also in this issue: the Calgary-Shaw by-election context in item 2, the Yorkton-Melville federal by-election in item 3, and a western defence **contracts and opportunities** table after item 7.

Significance rating = likelihood × effect on public policy, programs or the operating climate for organizations in Western Canada over the next 90 days. HIGH likely and material across sectors or a whole province. MEDIUM likely but narrower, or material but uncertain in timing. LOW monitor only. ESTIMATE marks Damocles Edge arithmetic, not a published figure.

> **Important:** This brief is general information and analysis. It is not legal, tax, financial, investment, engineering or other professional advice, and it is not tailored to any reader. Consult qualified advisors before acting on anything in it. The information is believed accurate at publication but is not guaranteed and may change. Nothing here is a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any security, commodity or credit.

2 · The issues in detail

Background · who is affected · impact · timeline · risk · considerations

ITEM 1 · BRITISH COLUMBIA · ELECTION · TRANSITION — HIGH

B.C. elects a Conservative majority, the first under that banner since 1928, pending the final count

Risk rationale: High: a change of government after nine years affects every provincial program, regulation and funding relationship.

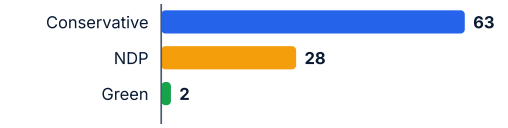
BACKGROUND

On the Oct 24 initial count, the B.C. Conservatives won 63 of 93 seats with 48.06% of the vote, the NDP 28 seats with 37.37%, and the Greens 2 seats with 10.97% [S1]. These results are preliminary. Elections BC plans the final count for Nov 6–10, and Return Day, when results become official, is Nov 18 [S2].

Conservative Leader Lorne Doerkson, appointed interim leader before the campaign, is premier-designate; CBC notes it would be the first majority under the Conservative banner since 1928. David Eby resigned as NDP leader in his concession speech [S3]. Doerkson has said he may recall the legislature for a shortened fall session. His stated early priorities are an independent review of provincial finances and an expert commission on emergency room closures and wait times [S4]. Members cannot be sworn in until results are certified, expected Nov 18 [S4].

B.C. SEATS, INITIAL COUNT

93 seats; 47 for a majority



Source: Elections BC, preliminary results [S1]. Preliminary; final count Nov 6–10.

Municipalities are waiting to see what happens to Bill 44, the NDP government's small-scale multi-unit housing law [S5]. During the campaign, Eby pledged $250M toward a new shipyard or expanded capacity so future BC Ferries vessels could be built in B.C.; that was an NDP pledge and is not government policy after the result [S6].

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Organizations with B.C. government contracts, grants or regulatory files
- Municipalities and home builders working under Bill 44
- Health-sector organizations (ER commission)
- Public-sector unions and employers

TIMELINE

Oct 24	Election day; initial count [S1]
Nov 6–10	Final count (planned) [S2]
Nov 18	Return Day [S2]
After Nov 18	Swearing-in; possible fall session [S4]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Seats (initial count)	Conservative 63 · NDP 28 · Green 2 [S1]
Popular vote	48.06% · 37.37% · 10.97% [S1]
Official results	Return Day Nov 18 [S2]
Early agenda	Finance review; ER commission [S4]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Organizations with active B.C. files may want to consider preparing briefing notes for incoming ministers and deputy ministers.
- Municipal and housing stakeholders may want to track any signal on Bill 44 before planning 2027 zoning work [S5].
- Worth reviewing which provincial commitments in contracts are tied to programs a finance review could revisit.

ITEM 2 · ALBERTA · REFERENDUM · LEGISLATURE

HIGH

Albertans vote three to one to remain in Canada, and Smith rules out another vote while she is premier

Risk rationale: High: the result removes a near-term separation vote, but five passed policy questions and an election run-up keep Alberta policy active.

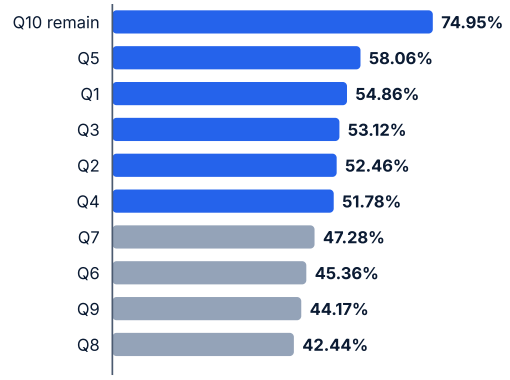
BACKGROUND

Elections Alberta's official results, released Oct 29, show 74.95% (1,556,316 votes) for remaining in Canada and 25.05% (520,233) against on Question 10. Turnout was 70.4% of 3,148,205 eligible electors [S7]. Questions 1 to 5 passed, with support from 51.78% to 58.06%, and Questions 6 to 9 failed, with 42.44% to 47.28% [S7].

In an address to the province, Premier Danielle Smith said there would be no repeat referendum while she is premier [S8]. The fall sitting opened Oct 27; Opposition Leader Naheed Nenshi called the referendum a waste of money [S9, S10]. UCP president Rob Smith said 65 of 87 constituency associations passed motions supporting the leader and there will be no leadership review before the next general election; five or more associations had asked for one, short of the 22 needed [S11]. The party revoked Jeffrey Rath's membership for cause on Oct 29; he intends to appeal [S12].

REFERENDUM RESULTS, % YES

Q10 = remain in Canada



Source: Elections Alberta, official results, Oct 29 [S7]. Grey = failed.

Elections Alberta's chief electoral officer raised the possibility of delaying the next election to allow time to implement new boundaries [S13]. In reply, Justice Minister Mickey Amery wrote that the government has "no intention of changing" the election date (on or before Oct 18, 2027) and that the boundaries report would be tabled Nov 2 [S14]. On Oct 30 the province froze education property tax rates for three years, at $2.65 per $1,000 for residential and farmland and $3.98 for non-residential, collecting about $99M less [S15]. Smith linked the move to the message of the Calgary-Shaw by-election, which the NDP won in September on 35.0% turnout [S15, S16].

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Investors and lenders weighing Alberta political risk
- Municipalities and property owners (education tax)
- Political parties preparing for 2027
- Organizations engaged on the five passed questions

TIMELINE

Oct 19	Referendum [S7]
Oct 27	Fall sitting opens [S10]
Oct 29	Official results [S7]
Nov 2	Boundaries report tabled [S14]
Nov 27–28	UCP convention, Calgary [S11]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Remain (Q10)	74.95% · 1,556,316 votes [S7]
Turnout	70.4% of 3,148,205 electors [S7]
Policy questions	Q1–Q5 passed; Q6–Q9 failed [S7]
Education tax	Frozen 3 years; about $99M less [S15]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Organizations that deferred Alberta investment decisions over separation risk may want to reassess them in light of the official result.
- Groups affected by the five passed questions may want to track any legislation the government brings forward on them.
- Municipal finance teams may want to consider the frozen education rates in 2027 budgets [S15].

ITEM 3 · SASKATCHEWAN · THRONE SPEECH · POLLS

MEDIUM

Saskatchewan opens a sitting on affordability and health care as a poll shows an urban–rural split

Risk rationale: Medium: a busy legislative agenda through Dec 10, with a governing party ahead overall but trailing in Regina.

BACKGROUND

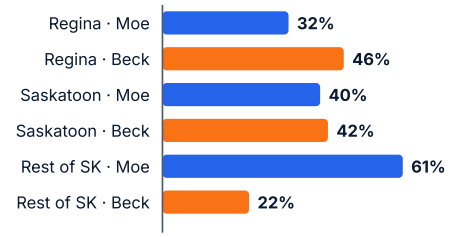
The Oct 27 Speech from the Throne focused on affordability, health care and public safety, and said the province has more than 60 major projects worth more than $100 billion under way or proposed [S17, S18]. The sitting runs to Dec 10 [S17]. Henry's Law, which requires carbon monoxide detectors, came into force Nov 1 [S20].

An Angus Reid Institute online survey (Oct 22–26, n=505; comparable margin of error ±4 points) put the Saskatchewan Party at 51% and the NDP at 40% among decided and leaning voters [S19]. Premier Scott Moe's approval was 49% and NDP Leader Carla Beck's favourability 33%. Cost of living (70%) and health care (63%) were the top issues. Half of respondents (50%) said the government is not focused on the issues that matter to them [S19].

Federally, a by-election in Yorkton–Melville is set for Dec 7, one of six that day, after Cathay Wagantall resigned on Aug 31 [S21].

APPROVE OF MOE VS. FAVOURABLE TO BECK, BY AREA (%)

Angus Reid Institute, Oct 22–26, n=505



Source: Angus Reid Institute [S19]. Blue = Moe approval; orange = Beck favourable.

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Organizations with Saskatchewan legislative or regulatory files
- Landlords and property managers (Henry's Law)
- Major-project proponents
- Parties and campaigns in Yorkton–Melville

TIMELINE

Oct 27	Throne speech [S17]
Nov 1	Henry's Law in force [S20]
Dec 7	Yorkton–Melville by-election [S21]
Dec 10	Sitting ends [S17]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Vote intention	Sask Party 51% · NDP 40% [S19]
Leader ratings	Moe approval 49% · Beck favourable 33% [S19]
Sitting	Oct 27 – Dec 10 [S17]
By-election	Yorkton–Melville, Dec 7 [S21]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Organizations with bills before the legislature may want to consider timing input before the Dec 10 rise.
- Landlords and property managers may want to confirm Henry's Law obligations with their advisors [S20].

ITEM 4 · MANITOBA · LEGISLATURE

LOW

Manitoba ends its session with more than 50 bills and opens a new one with a Nov 17 throne speech

Risk rationale: Low: measures are passed and known; the next agenda arrives Nov 17.

BACKGROUND

The third session of the 43rd legislature concluded Oct 29. Government House Leader Nahanni Fontaine said the government introduced more than 50 bills [S22]. Key measures include stronger protections for renters facing unfair rent increases, a levy on crypto operations and data centres used to cut residential hydro rates by about $50 a year, removing PST from grocery store food items, and steps against predatory pricing in grocery stores [S22]. Other measures cover intimate image protection, pepper spray sales, breast cancer screening and labour mobility for skilled trades [S22].

The fourth session opens with a throne speech on Nov 17 [S22]. Doctors Manitoba called for a review of physician recruitment [S23]. No provincial by-election or published provincial poll fell in the October window.

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Data-centre and crypto operators (new levy)
- Landlords (rent control expansion)
- Grocery retailers (PST and pricing measures)
- Health-sector organizations

TIMELINE

Oct 29	Session ends [S22]
Nov 17	Throne speech [S22]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Bills introduced	More than 50 [S22]
Hydro	About $50 a year off residential bills, funded by a levy [S22]
Next session	Throne speech Nov 17 [S22]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Data-centre and crypto operators in Manitoba may want to consider the levy in 2027 site and cost planning [S22].
- Organizations with Manitoba priorities may want to watch the Nov 17 throne speech for the next agenda.

ITEM 5 · INTERGOVERNMENTAL · FIRST NATIONS · TRADE

MEDIUM

First ministers and First Nations leaders meet; Ottawa commits to reform or abolish the Indian Act

Risk rationale: Medium: new federal money and a reform commitment with long and uncertain timelines.

BACKGROUND

At the Oct 26 First Nations–First Ministers' Meeting, Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew called for abolishing the Indian Act, and Prime Minister Mark Carney said he would direct ministers to reform or abolish it [S24]. Ottawa committed more than $2.5B over five years for emergency preparedness and more than $630M over four years for policing. Three premiers did not attend [S24].

In October, inland ports in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (CentrePort Canada, the Global Transportation Hub, Port Alberta and Calgary–Rocky View's Prairie Economic Gateway) signed an MoU creating the Canadian Inland Ports Alliance to co-ordinate planning, advocacy and investment [S25]. Canada–U.S. trade talks continued, with sources describing a wide gap [S26].

WHO IS AFFECTED

- First Nations governments and organizations
- Provincial emergency management and policing
- Shippers and logistics firms on prairie corridors

TIMELINE

Oct 26	First Nations–First Ministers' Meeting [S24]
Oct	Inland ports MoU [S25]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Emergency preparedness	More than $2.5B over 5 years [S24]
Policing	More than $630M over 4 years [S24]
Inland ports	Four-hub western alliance (MoU) [S25]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Organizations working with First Nations partners may want to track how the Indian Act commitment is scoped.
- Logistics firms may want to consider engaging with the inland ports alliance as it sets priorities [S25].

ITEM 6 · FEDERAL · PROJECTS · ECONOMY

MEDIUM

Ottawa lists Pacific Link and Roberts Bank Terminal 2, raises rates and sets a Nov 5 budget

Risk rationale: Medium: large western projects move faster, but final decisions and conditions run into 2027.

BACKGROUND

On Oct 1 the Prime Minister listed the west coast oil pipeline, now called Pacific Link, as a project of national interest; federal conditions are to be finalized by Sept 1, 2027 [S27]. On Oct 30 Transport Canada listed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 in Delta: $5.9B excluding financing, a final investment decision targeted for mid-2027 and operations moved to 2035 from 2039 [S28]. The government projects about 17,000 jobs and 2.4 million more containers a year; 27 mutual benefit agreements are in place and TerraMarine is the construction partner [S28, S29].

Bill C-264, which would have repealed the north coast oil tanker moratorium, was defeated at second reading on Oct 28 [S30]. The Bank of Canada raised its policy rate to 2.5% on Oct 28; the next decision is Dec 9 [S31]. Finance Canada set Budget 2026 for Nov 5 [S32]; CBC reports it is framed around people, identity and growth, including affordability, defence and infrastructure [S33]. Environment and Climate Change Canada proposed changes to the Clean Fuel Regulations; industry said a 1.3x multiplier for ethanol falls short [S34].

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Port, rail and marine supply chains (RBT2)
- Oil producers and pipeline suppliers (Pacific Link)
- Borrowers with variable-rate debt
- Biofuel producers (Clean Fuel Regulations)

TIMELINE

Oct 1	Pacific Link listed [S27]
Oct 28	Rate hike; C-264 defeated [S31, S30]
Oct 30	RBT2 listed [S28]
Nov 5	Budget [S32]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

RBT2	$5.9B; FID mid-2027; operations 2035 [S28]
Pacific Link	Conditions by Sept 1, 2027 [S27]
Policy rate	2.5%; next decision Dec 9 [S31]
Budget	Thu Nov 5 [S32]

ROBERTS BANK TERMINAL 2, AS STATED BY TRANSPORT CANADA

$5.9B
Capital cost, excluding financing [S28]

2035
Operations, moved from 2039 [S28]

~17,000
Projected jobs [S28]

27
Mutual benefit agreements [S28]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Suppliers to port and pipeline projects may want to consider early contact with proponents and construction partners [S28].
- Organizations funded by federal programs may want to review the Nov 5 budget tables for program changes.

ITEM 7 · SECURITY & DEFENCE · WEST

MEDIUM

Bill C-40 goes to committee, Ottawa highlights Alberta bases, and a polar icebreaker keel is laid in Vancouver

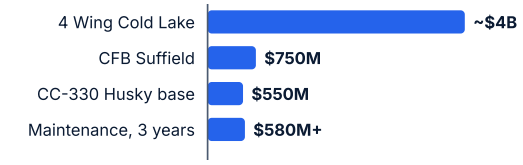
Risk rationale: Medium: procurement rules and western base spending are changing, but budget numbers arrive Nov 5.

BACKGROUND

Bill C-40, introduced Oct 6, would create the Canadian Corporation for Defence Investment and amend the Defence Production Act, including procurement and stockpiling authorities [S37, S38]. It passed second reading and was referred to the Commons defence committee on Oct 26 [S38]. On Oct 7 at CFB Edmonton, Defence Minister David McGuinty highlighted about $8B in Alberta investments, including nearly $4B at 4 Wing Cold Lake, $750M for a chemical and biological laboratory and blast assessment centre at CFB Suffield, and $550M for the western operating base of the RCAF's CC-330 Husky fleet. He also said the Defence Drone Initiative Marketplace request for supply arrangements is reopening [S35]. PrairiesCan announced $8,439,279 for seven defence-related Alberta projects [S36].

On Oct 14, Seaspan Vancouver Shipyards laid the keel of the polar icebreaker CCGS Imnaryuaq, the largest vessel built for the Coast Guard [S39]. Seaspan says it will be 158 m long, with delivery in the early 2030s [S40]. On Oct 21, Canada hosted national coordinators for the Icebreaker Collaboration Effort [S41].

ALBERTA DEFENCE INVESTMENTS NAMED OCT 7 ($M)



Source: National Defence, Oct 7 [S35].

On Oct 17, four Canadian Armed Forces members were killed and 39 injured in a fire-related incident during live-fire training at CFB Wainwright [S42]. National Defence said a fire ignited during training and high winds spread it rapidly [S42]. As of Oct 22, 27 remained in hospital and 12 had been released [S43]. The Military Police investigation is independent of the chain of command, and a separate Board of Inquiry will be convened [S43, S44]. Findings will be reported here only once they are released.

WHO IS AFFECTED

- Western defence suppliers and contractors
- Communities near CFB Edmonton, 4 Wing Cold Lake and CFB Suffield
- B.C. shipbuilding supply chain
- Drone and uncrewed systems firms

TIMELINE

Oct 6	C-40 introduced [S38]
Oct 7	CFB Edmonton announcement [S35]
Oct 14	Icebreaker keel laid [S39]
Oct 17	CFB Wainwright fire [S42]
Oct 26	C-40 to committee [S38]

KEY FIGURES AND EFFECTS

Alberta investments	About $8B highlighted [S35]
PrairiesCan	$8,439,279 for 7 projects [S36]

Bill C-40	At committee since Oct 26 [S38]
Icebreaker	Keel laid Oct 14; delivery early 2030s [S39, S40]

WORTH CONSIDERING (general, not advice)

- Western suppliers may want to consider following committee hearings on C-40, where contracting rules may be clarified [S38].
- Drone and uncrewed-systems firms may want to consider the reopened supply arrangement request [S35].

C · Contracts and opportunities: western defence

October 2026 awards and open calls

Defence Construction Canada listed 30 award lines at western bases dated Oct 5–30; 29 carry a value, totalling about $18.8M ESTIMATE (our sum of the listed amounts) [S45]. By site: Wainwright 7 (including one standing offer without a value), Esquimalt and View Royal 6, Shilo 5, Vernon 4, Cold Lake 3, Suffield 2, Moose Jaw 2, Edmonton 1. The largest awards and selected CanadaBuys notices with a western supplier or delivery point are below.

Date	Work	Place of work	Supplier (city)	Value	Source
Oct 20	Replace underground utilities, phase 2	Vernon, B.C.	Chapman Industries (Spallumcheen, B.C.)	$7,356,290	DCC [S45]
Oct 9	Bulk aviation fuel 2025-2027, standing offer for several federal departments	Delivery AB, BC, MB, NWT	Executive Flight Centre Aviation (Calgary)	$13,100,940	CanadaBuys CW2472384 [S46]
Oct 8	Construct spray park and playground	CFB Edmonton	G.L.V. Travellers (Nisku, Alta.)	$2,699,996	DCC [S45]
Oct 16	Water source protection study, south of 60 (for DND)	Canada-wide	Jacobs Consultancy Canada (Calgary)	$1,935,125	CanadaBuys CW2448636 [S46]
Oct 20	H7 renovation, lunch and PR room	15 Wing Moose Jaw	Leeville Construction (Moose Jaw)	$1,814,417	DCC [S45]
Oct 28	Replace siding, windows, doors and gutters	CFB Esquimalt	Cascadia West (Victoria)	$1,351,450	DCC [S45]
Oct 23	Commissioning services	CFB Suffield	Maritech Commissioning Works (Winnipeg)	$1,284,191	DCC [S45]
Oct 9	Exterior retrofit, Canadian Forces housing	4 Wing Cold Lake	Value Master Builders (Cold Lake)	$1,026,019	DCC [S45]
Oct 13	Interior retrofit	CFB Shilo	Jacobson Commercial (Brandon)	$475,745	DCC [S45]
Oct 13	Roofing recapitalization, building SH522	CFB Esquimalt	Baja Construction (Canmore)	$399,000	DCC [S45]
Oct 8	Battlefield simulation training support	Delivery Québec	ST/OPS Tactical Training (Medicine Hat)	$118,817	CanadaBuys cb-648-56026209 [S46]
Open	**Opportunity:** Defence Drone Initiative Marketplace request for supply arrangements, reopening	National	Open to qualified suppliers	Not stated	National Defence [S35]

Values as published, rounded to the dollar. Award notices can lag award dates, and a supplier's address is not the place of work. Supply arrangements often show a nominal value. CanadaBuys rows are identified by reference number in the open-data file.

3 · Political and legislative calendar

Nov 2, 2026 – Jan 31, 2027 · Mountain Time

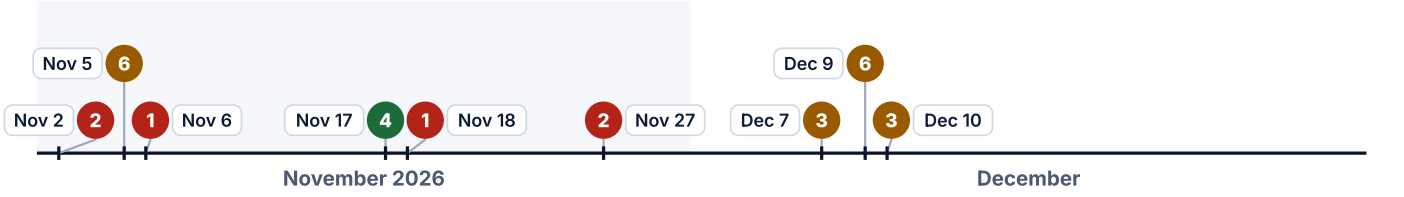
Date	Event	Body	Status	Item
Mon Nov 2	Alberta electoral boundaries report tabled	Legislative Assembly of Alberta	Scheduled	2 [S14]
Thu Nov 5	Federal Budget 2026	Finance Canada	Scheduled	6 [S32]
Nov 6–10	B.C. election final count (planned)	Elections BC	Planned	1 [S2]
Tue Nov 17	Manitoba throne speech	Government of Manitoba	Scheduled	4 [S22]
Wed Nov 18	B.C. Return Day: results official	Elections BC	Scheduled	1 [S2]

Date	Event	Body	Status	Item
Nov 27–28	UCP annual convention, Calgary	United Conservative Party	Scheduled	2 [S11]
Mon Dec 7	Six federal by-elections, incl. Yorkton–Melville	Elections Canada	Scheduled	3 [S21]
Wed Dec 9	Bank of Canada rate decision	Bank of Canada	Scheduled	6 [S31]
Thu Dec 10	Saskatchewan fall sitting ends	Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan	Scheduled	3 [S17]

Further out: RBT2 final investment decision targeted for mid-2027 [S28] · Pacific Link federal conditions by Sept 1, 2027 [S27] · Alberta general election on or before Oct 18, 2027 [S14].

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Numbers are issue items; colour is the item's risk (red High · amber Medium · green Low). Hollow dashed dots are approximate or estimated dates.



Source: Dates as listed in the table above and its sources.

4 · Stakeholder and political read

The theme this month is **new governments and settled questions**. B.C. changes government for the first time since 2017. Alberta's referendum answered the separation question decisively, and the UCP closed off a leadership review. Saskatchewan and Manitoba are mid-term, with the next tests being Saskatchewan's urban vote and Manitoba's Nov 17 agenda. Ottawa is pairing national-interest listings in the West with a defence procurement bill.

Actor	Stated position	Our read
B.C. Conservatives (Doerkson)	Finance review; ER commission; possible short fall session [S4].	Setting up a transition before Nov 18 certification.
B.C. NDP	Eby resigned as leader [S3].	Leadership process ahead; campaign pledges no longer government plans.
Government of Alberta (Smith)	No repeat referendum while premier; education tax freeze [S8, S15].	Turning to affordability before the 2027 election.
Alberta NDP (Nenshi)	Referendum a waste of money; tax freeze not enough [S9, S15].	Building on the Calgary-Shaw win [S16].
Government of Saskatchewan (Moe)	Affordability, health care and public safety [S17].	Leads overall; trails in Regina [S19].
Government of Manitoba (Kinew)	Indian Act abolition call; 50+ bills [S24, S22].	Positioning on national Indigenous policy.
Government of Canada (Carney)	National-interest listings; C-40; budget Nov 5 [S27, S28, S38].	Using project listings and procurement law to move faster.

5 · Watch list

Not yet actionable. Signals that would change our assessment

Signal	Why it matters	What it could mean
B.C. final count	Whether any close seats change on Nov 6–10 [S2].	If the majority holds: cabinet named after Nov 18.
Alberta boundaries	Report tabled Nov 2; CEO readiness concerns [S14, S13].	If new ridings are adopted late: tighter run-up to Oct 2027.
Budget defence lines	Defence and infrastructure themes [S33].	If funded: more western base and supply contracts in 2027.
C-40 committee	Witness list and amendments [S38].	If passed early in 2027: new contracting routes for suppliers.

6 · Outlook for November and December

November and December 2026

- **Federal budget (Thu Nov 5).** Affordability, defence and infrastructure measures [S32, S33].
- **B.C. transition (Nov 6–18).** Final count, Return Day and a new cabinet [S2, S4].
- **Manitoba throne speech (Tue Nov 17).** The fourth session's agenda [S22].
- **UCP convention (Nov 27–28).** More than 6,000 registered in Calgary [S11].
- **December.** Yorkton–Melville by-election Dec 7, Bank of Canada Dec 9, Saskatchewan rises Dec 10 [S21, S31, S17].

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Method and conventions. Scope: politics and government in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, intergovernmental relations, federal decisions with a western effect, and western security and defence activity. Public sources only, accessed Nov 1–2, 2026 (Mountain Time); coverage month Oct 1–31, 2026, with a few early-November items where they complete an October story. Each fact carries a source tag [S#]. Election and campaign commitments are reported as pledges, not policy. Poll figures are reported with the pollster, field dates, sample and method. Preliminary results are marked as preliminary. The contracts table is compiled from Defence Construction Canada's recently awarded contracts list and the CanadaBuys award notice open data; a supplier's address is not the place of work, and award notices can lag award dates. Dollar amounts are C$. Significance ratings are our judgment. Neutral summary of public information; no endorsement of any party, person or position.

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