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FORMER BC PREMIER SHOWS HIS SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENT INITIATIVE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA AS BOTH BC AND NOVA SCOTIA MAKE PROGRESS ATTRACTING CANDIDATES

Dateline: VANCOUVER, BC — The world continues to respond to the negative impacts of the party system of political governance with independent initiatives, including across Canada.

Both British Columbia and Nova Scotia started building independent initiatives in 2023 and are well underway with several candidates stepping forward and announcing their intent to run in the next provincial elections. Independent initiatives are not managed under the umbrella of a party platform, but rather focused on the peoples' needs in the individual ridings.

A recent Town Hall held Monday, February 26, 2024, in Maple Ridge BC is part of a provincial tour planned for spring to educate the public about how the independent process works. Local Maple Ridge – East candidate [Susan Einarsson](#) was on hand with MC Chia Vander Zalm, daughter of former BC Premier Bill Vander Zalm, who brought a personal [video](#) message with her, from her father.

“It has been clear to me for some time that the people in BC have been looking for solutions that will lead to a more responsive and responsible government,” says Salvatore Vetro, founder of Independent BC, “someone who is not driven by traditional party politics. With independent representatives there is no party, just the people.”

In Nova Scotia the situation is similar according to Peter Mac Isacc, one of three founding directors of the Nova Scotia Independent initiative. “[Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin](#), MLA Cumberland North, was booted out of her Progressive Conservative party and was then re-elected as an Independent with 62% support in the last election,” said Mac Isacc. “Elizabeth wholly supports our initiative and agrees it is the solution to broken party politics.”

Virtual Town Halls are currently underway in both provinces with the initiative in BC and NS both picking up speed.

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