

The Sanctity of Human Life: from Conception to Natural Death

Abortion, Euthanasia & Alternatives | Human Engineering | Population Control

The right to life from conception to natural death is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Catholic Teaching

Catholics care about the sanctity of life

because the entire purpose of each soul God endows with life is to find its way back to God by loving God and caring for all the souls God has placed around it. **Voluntary termination of life any time between conception and natural death necessarily frustrates that purpose.**

The source of human dignity is the likeness to God that is bestowed on each of us at the moment we are conceived. We respond appropriately to this gift by **using all the time, talent, and treasure** that God has entrusted to us to seek and grow closer to God, by sharing in His continuing act of creation and caring for those around us. **Our first purpose is to seek God, especially in one another.** If we do that, everything else will be given to us. **Anything that interferes with that is contrary to the Word of God.** *Genesis chapter 1; Matthew chapters 6, 22 & 25*

Abortion & Euthanasia

*“You shall not kill.”
– the 5th Commandment*

The right to life from conception to natural death is **the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching**, and in particular, implies the illicitness of every form of procured abortion and of euthanasia. – 155, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

*“This is not something subject to alleged reforms or ‘modernizations.’ It is not ‘progressive’ to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life.”
– Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 214*



The Bloc states that it works exclusively for Quebec, and it is not accountable to anti-choice lobbies.

Abortion & alternatives

The Bloc states that it is pro-choice and will:

- unconditionally defend the right of women to voluntarily terminate their pregnancies, and
- oppose any bill that would have the effect of limiting the right of women to control their own bodies

The Bloc has released no official statement concerning its policies on:

- Assisted suicide or alternatives, including palliative care
- Human engineering, including either stem cell, genetic, or embryo research or gender election
- Population, birth control or family planning



Christian Heritage Party

Abortion - & Alternatives

The party states that:

- abortion is not a Charter-protected right
- many recent studies have shown a link between abortion and breast cancer
- abortion should be defunded, not defended

Socially-Assisted Death – & alternatives

The party states that killing innocent people is always wrong.

The party advocates:

- restoring protection from assisted suicide and euthanasia. The party wants to kill the pain, not the patient
- better access to palliative comfort care
- conscience protection for health care professionals; no Canadian should be forced to violate his or her conscience

Human Engineering

Stem cell, genetic, & embryo research

The party has released no official statement concerning its position on stem cell, genetic, or embryonic research.

Gender election

The party states that:

Human Engineering

Cloning and Cell Manipulation

An issue of particular social and cultural significance today, **because of its many and serious moral implications...** the simple replication of normal cells or of a portion of DNA presents no particular ethical problem. Very different, however, is cloning understood in the proper sense. Such **cloning is contrary to the dignity of human procreation** because it takes place in total absence of an act of personal love between spouses, being agamic and asexual reproduction. In the second place, this type of reproduction represents **a form of total domination over the reproduced individual** on the part of the one reproducing it...

Cloning for therapeutic use does not attenuate its moral gravity, because in order that such cells may be removed the embryo must first be created and then destroyed. 236, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Gender Election

Everyone, man and woman, should acknowledge and accept his sexual identity. **Physical, moral and spiritual difference and complementarities are oriented towards the goods of marriage and the flourishing of family life.** -224 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Men and women with homosexual tendencies must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. – 358 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Population Growth; Birth Control; Family Planning

Judgment concerning the interval of time between births, and that regarding the number of children, **belongs to the spouses alone.** This

- there are two biological genders: male and female
- biological gender is encoded in the chromosomes and cannot be changed by surgery or chemicals
- children must be protected from the LGBTQ “gender agenda” which ignores biological reality
- parents’ rights to guide their children’s social development must be protected from indoctrination in the school system
- taxpayers should not have to pay for “gender reassignment surgery”, hormone blockers or other attempts to artificially change an individual’s gender

Population, birth control & family planning

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on population birth control, or family planning.



Sanctity of Life: the meaning and purpose of life

The party states that it advocates respect for conscience rights for doctors, nurses and others to refuse to participate in or make referrals for abortion, assisted suicide, or euthanasia

Abortion – & alternatives

The party states that:

- it will not support any legislation to regulate abortion

Socially-Assisted Death – & alternatives

The party states that the federal government should have appealed the Quebec Superior Court decision on Medical Assistance in Dying, rather than passing a vague law with no safeguards that devalues human life

The party advocates:

- reinstatement of the ten-day waiting period to make sure somebody does not make this decision at their lowest point
- restoring the requirement for two fully independent witnesses to ensure that a vulnerable person is not being forced or coerced
- requiring that any discussion of Socially-Assisted Death (SAD, also called “MAiD”)
- repeal of Bill C-7 provisions allowing SAD for those with mental health challenges
- requiring that any patient receiving SAD to be informed/reminded immediately before receiving it and given the opportunity to withdraw consent
- protecting the right of patients to choose to receive care in a SAD-free environment
- require healthcare practitioners approving SAD requests (“MAiD” assessors) to examine and consult directly with the patient before approving the request (with allowances made for virtually-enabled examination where required)
- requiring SAD assessors to complete assessor training to ensure full awareness of and compliance with laws and best practices around SAD
- doubling direct federal investment in palliative care, in view of an estimate by the Canadian Hospice and Palliative Care Association that under 30 percent of Canadians who need it have access to palliative care services

The party also advocates:

- protecting the conscience rights of healthcare professionals, in order to avoid driving them out of their professions
- encouraging faith-based and other community organizations to expand their provision of palliative and long-term care

Human Engineering

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on:

- gender-elective surgery
- population, birth control or family planning; embryonic research or cloning

is one of their inalienable rights, **to be exercised before God...** The intervention of public authorities must be made in a way that **fully respects the freedom of the couple**. All programmes of economic assistance aimed at financing campaigns of sterilization and contraception are to be orally **condemned as affronts to the dignity of the person and the family**.

The answer to **questions connected with population growth** must instead be sought in simultaneous respect both of sexual morals and of social ethics, **promoting greater justice and authentic solidarity** so that dignity is given to life in all circumstances.

All reproductive techniques — such as the **donation of sperm or ova, surrogate motherhood, heterologous artificial fertilization** — that make use of the uterus of another woman or of gametes of persons **other than the married couple**, injuring the right of the child to be born of one father and one mother who are father and mother **are ethically unacceptable** both from a biological and from a legal point of view. — 234-235, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Human Trafficking

The solemn proclamation of human rights is contradicted by a **painful reality of violations, including new forms of slavery such as trafficking in human beings**, illegal drug trafficking, prostitution. “Even in countries with democratic forms of government, these rights are not always fully respected”. **Some serious problems remain unsolved: trafficking in children, the phenomenon of “street children, and the use of children for commerce in pornographic material.**

— 158, 245 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.



Abortion - & Alternatives

To ensure a life of health, safety, and dignity for all Canadians, the party advocates restoring the Canada Health Accord to prioritize access to safe abortion services

Socially-Assisted Suicide - & Alternatives

The party has released no official statement of its policies on socially-assisted suicide or alternatives, including palliative care

Human Engineering

To ensure a life of health, safety, and dignity for all Canadians, the party advocates restoring the Canada Health Accord to prioritize access to gender-affirming health services such as hormones, blockers, and surgery

Human Trafficking

The party advocates increased funding to bolster investigations and convictions in human trafficking cases



Sanctity of Life: the meaning and purpose of life

In Mandate Letters issued to government Ministers at the beginning of its current term of office, the party has instructed Government to begin considering a draft “Quality of Life Framework” in setting and implementing policy, as a provisional replacement of Gross Domestic Product as the measure of social wellbeing. The draft framework comprises factors of prosperity, health, good governance, society, and environment.

The party has asked for public input in defining the framework, including definitions of prosperity, etc.

Abortion, assisted suicide, & alternatives

The party states that:

- the overturning of Roe v. Wade in the United States served as a reminder that it must continue to do everything it can to protect Canadians’ access to the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care services, including abortion care
- with a woman’s right to choose under threat around the world, in its current term in office it has focused on ensuring that abortion services are accessible across Canada
- in particular, it is committed to ensuring that no Canadian pays out of pocket to receive an abortion
- abortion is health care, and during its term in office it will continue to withhold Canada Health Transfer payments to provinces and territories that allow any patient charges for abortion services
- sexual and reproductive rights, including the right to access safe and legal abortions, are at the core of its foreign policy

Among its key accomplishments in health care and global leadership, the party identifies:

- launching a Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund to help make sexual and reproductive health information and services—including access to abortion—more accessible for vulnerable populations.
- investing \$1.4 billion each year on global health, of which \$700 million is to be dedicated to sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls

The party proposes:

- to continue to reduce existing barriers to care and ensuring that Canadians have access to accurate, culturally safe information about sexual and reproductive health care
- budget 2023 proposes to provide \$36 million over three years, starting in 2024-25, to Health Canada to renew the Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund. This fund supports community-based organizations that help make access to abortion, as well as other sexual and reproductive health care information and services, more accessible for vulnerable populations

Human Engineering

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on:

- stem cell, genetic, & embryonic research
- gender-elective surgery
- population, birth control or family planning



Sanctity of Life: the meaning and purpose of life

The party states that every Canadian, of every age, deserves to live in dignity and be treated with respect by their government and the health care system

Abortion - & Alternatives

The party states that:

- it believes in respecting peoples' rights to make decisions about their own bodies and their own lives. Yet many individuals seeking abortion services in Canada can't access them
- only 1 hospital in 6 offers abortion, and some provinces refuse to cover the cost of surgical abortion outside hospitals. Lack of access is even worse for people in rural areas and the North. Everyone deserves safe, accessible abortion and reproductive healthcare services – no matter where they live or how much money they make. It's not enough for elected officials to say that they won't reopen the abortion debate – we need leaders to take action to improve access to services. It will enforce the Canada Health Act to make sure that the provinces make medical and surgical abortion available in all parts of the country, without barriers. We will ensure that a full range of prescription contraceptive and reproductive health care options are easily accessible at no cost through Medicare and our national pharmacare program, and work with the provinces, territories, and period poverty

Socially Assisted Death (SAD) - & Alternatives

The party advocates working with the provinces and territories to expand and improve access to palliative care across the country

Gender-Elective Surgery

The party advocates working with the provinces to ensure that there is equal access to gender confirming surgery across the country, and that such procedures and medications are covered by public health plans



Human Engineering

Transgender Surgery

The party states that:

- with the active support of the woke far left and all establishment parties, radical trans activists are trying to transform society in a way that curtails everyone's freedoms. This radical agenda, which contradicts basic biological realities, is proving particularly harmful to women and children.
- in recent years, cultural Marxists and radical activists in the media, government, and schools have made every effort to normalize toxic transgender ideology. They teach children that their gender is determined by stereotypes and if they do not fit into the traditional male or female gender roles, encourage them to think they may have been born in the wrong body.
- children are never born in the wrong body. Children should be taught to accept themselves, not seek solutions through pharmaceuticals and medical procedures.
- most boys and girls suffering from gender dysphoria simply grow out of it. Many suffer from other mental issues such as autism, or are under the temporary influence of a phenomenon of social contagion. Taking puberty blockers at a young age will transform their body and sterilize them for life, when they are too young to evaluate the impact of such a momentous decision.
- sex change surgery involves reconstructing genital organs by using skin and muscles from other parts of the body. These invasive surgeries cause many complications and require lifelong treatments. More and more trans people who underwent such surgeries regret it later in life and want to "detransition", but it's tragically too late.

- the normalization of transgender ideology, particularly amongst our youth, will have a catastrophic impact on a generation if we do not reverse course soon. While adults can make whatever choices they want regarding their sex and gender identification, Canadians who believe there are only two immutable sexes and genders must not be compelled to adapt their language and behaviour to accommodate gender ideology.
- in particular, women and children must be protected from the harmful consequences of this ideology.

The party advocates:

- modifying the Criminal Code to outlaw the use of puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and any form of bodily mutilation on minors with the goal of “transitioning” to another sex.
- holding any person encouraging minors to “transition” criminally responsible for attempting to cause harm.
- removing the ban imposed by Bill C-4, the so-called “conversion therapy bill”, on helping minors who suffer from gender dysphoria accept their body.
- ending funding groups that promote radical gender ideology

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on:

- abortion or alternatives to abortion
- socially-assisted suicide (SAD) or alternatives to assisted suicide
- stem cell, genetic, & embryo research
- population, birth control or family planning
- human trafficking or slavery

Points to Ponder: Life & Human Dignity

Consider discussing the following questions with your local candidates, elected officials, and the parties, and with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

- What limits should be placed on voluntary termination of human life, either prior to birth or at any time before death? What can or should be done at the federal level, and what should be left to the provinces, or to private, religious, or other non-profit organizations?
- What options is our society, including the church and other non-profit agencies in addition to government, able to offer to reluctant or unwilling mothers, as alternatives to abortion and to support unwanted children? What can or should be done at the local, or federal, or provincial level, or by private, religious, or other non-profit organizations?
- What options can be offered by provincial or federal governments, or by private agencies, to families of minors who being encouraged to consider medically-assisted suicide? Is it appropriate to allow minors to consider suicide without consulting their parents?
- Are federal restrictions and controls on cloning and the use of human cells, fetuses, and body parts properly crafted? What, if anything, should be done differently? Should there be more discussion of this serious moral issue in our society?
- To what extent should voluntary, elective services that are morally questionable to large numbers of individuals, such as the voluntary termination of life or the voluntary “modification” of gender, be financed publicly through mandatory taxation? If such services are to be offered, should they be financed by the individuals who elect to access them, or by sympathetic charities, or by dissenting taxpayers?

A “Quality of Life” Index to Guide Policy-Making

For years, many (probably most) of our political parties have been fond of asserting, in dozens of ways, that various groups of Canadians “deserve” or are “entitled to” a very wide variety of benefits in order to enable them (us) to live lives of dignity. They are much more reluctant, however, to offer any indication of what they mean by a “dignified” life, or any way of measuring the level of dignity of our lives other than gross domestic production levels (GDP) – the aggregate worth of the material objects our society produces. Indeed, many observers have remarked that Canada and other parts of the world appear to have lost any common conception of the proper meaning of the dignity or purpose of life, and with it all sense of community, shared culture, and the common good, falling away instead into splintered patterns of self righteousness and indulgence.

In his encyclical *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis observed that:

Today, in many countries, hyperbole, extremism and polarization have become political tools. Employing a strategy of ridicule, suspicion and relentless criticism, in a variety of ways one denies the right of others to exist or to have an opinion. Their share of the truth and their values are rejected and, as a result, the life of society is impoverished and subjected to the hubris of the powerful. Political life no longer has to do with healthy debates about long-term plans to improve people’s lives and to advance the common good, but only with slick marketing techniques primarily aimed at discrediting others. In this craven exchange of charges and counter-charges, debate degenerates into a permanent state of disagreement and confrontation.

Recently a few parties have begun to propose alternative “wellness” indices, based on factors selected to represent the health, happiness, and well-being of society and its individual members. And in 2019 the current government quietly introduced a new “Quality of Life” measure in its instructions to new cabinet ministers, and caused a “Quality of Life Hub” to be posted on the Internet at <https://www160.statcan.gc.ca/index-eng.htm>. The Hub introduces

the index, a draft method for measuring it, and solicits public feedback.



The Government's index considers 85 key indicators relating to five factors – prosperity, health, society, environment, and good governance, viewed through lenses of fairness and including and sustainability and resilience. How do the proposed factors and lenses relate to the seven themes of social justice, namely:

- Life & Human Dignity
- Stewardship of Creation
- Family, Community & the Common Good
- An Economy for All
- Individual Rights & Responsibilities
- Solidarity
- Good Governance?

- How should Catholics respond to the government's call for comment, with properly and prayerfully-formed consciences?

How do the questions asked above factor into the government's proposed framework?

- What limits should be placed on voluntary termination of human life, either prior to birth or at any time before death? What can or should be done at the federal level, and what should be left to the provinces, or to private, religious, or other non-profit organizations?
- What options is our society, including the church and other non-profit agencies in addition to government, able to offer to reluctant or unwilling mothers, as alternatives to abortion and to support unwanted children? What can or should be done at the local, or federal, or provincial level, or by private, religious, or other non-profit organizations?
- What options can be offered by provincial or federal governments, or by private agencies, to families of minors who being encouraged to consider medically-assisted suicide? Is it appropriate to allow minors to consider suicide without consulting their parents?
- Are federal restrictions and controls on cloning and the use of human cells, fetuses, and body parts properly crafted? What, if anything, should be done differently? Should there be more discussion of this serious moral issue in our society?
- To what extent should voluntary, elective services that are morally questionable to large numbers of individuals, such as the voluntary termination of life or the voluntary "modification" of gender, be financed publicly through mandatory taxation? If such services are to be offered, should they be financed by the individuals who elect to access them, or by sympathetic charities, or by dissenting taxpayers?

Stewardship of Creation

Climate Change | Species, Diversity & Wildlife | Energy & Resources | Sustainable Development

Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue: it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience. (Pope Francis, Laudato si')

Catholic Teaching

God gave humans dominion over the earth, thereby making us stewards of creation as we work with Him in His continuing act of creation.

We must constantly consider how our actions glorify or harm this wonderful gift God has entrusted to us. **This is a multi-faceted question, which must not be oversimplified.**

With a vocation to glorify all life which includes respect for the inviolability and integrity of life, humans find themselves in the presence of all God's other creatures. We can and are obliged to put them at our own service and to enjoy them, but **our dominion over the world requires the exercise of responsibility.** It is not a freedom of arbitrary and selfish exploitation. All of creation has value and is "good" in the sight of God. This is a **marvelous challenge to human intellect.** – 112, 113, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church.*

Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue: it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience.
–23, 217, *Laudato Si'*

The Book of Genesis provides us with certain foundations of Christian anthropology, including the meaning of human activity in the world, which is linked to the discovery and respect of the laws of nature that God has inscribed in the created universe, so that humanity may live in it and care for it in accordance with God's will.
– 37, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church.*



Climate change

The Bloc states that:

- after years of warning, the IPCC now confirms that certain changes caused by the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere are irreversible
- the climate emergency has become a climate crisis
- as the world's fourth-largest oil producer, Canada has a singular responsibility when it comes to climate change
- the target of carbon neutrality by 2050 is incompatible with plans to increase oil and gas production until 2045
- Canada needs to accelerate its energy transition
- historic heatwaves; forest fires; floods; unusual weather that disrupts farming; and other effects of climate change are already being heavily felt in Quebec

The party advocates:

- amending the Carbon Neutrality Act to include the Canadian government's greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2030, so that it is obliged to meet them
- a climate test for all federal policies, in order to measure their impact on the environment and climate change in all government decisions
- in connection with the climate test, imposition of environmental criteria when awarding public contract
- defense of Quebec's environmental sovereignty so that Quebec's stricter laws and municipal bylaws apply within the province
- introduction of green equalization to impose the polluter-pays principle and reward the efforts of provinces that are effectively fighting climate change
- federal funding to counter shoreline erosion, both that caused by climate change and that resulting from traffic on the river and seaway

Energy & Resources; Sustainable Development

To support transition to green energies, the Bloc advocates massive investments in ecological innovation, technological change and research and development in every region of Quebec, including:

- renewed demands for an end to fossil fuel subsidies, as Canada has repeatedly pledged since 2009
- redirection of Quebec's share of the money invested in fossil fuels to clean energy in Quebec and provincial research centers, while maintaining funding needed for the transition away from fossil fuels in Western Canada
- opposing creation of a pan-Canadian energy corridor encroaching on Quebec territory, whether it be an oil pipeline or transmission lines, bypassing or competing with Hydro-Québec
- demanding that the federal government say no to all new interprovincial oil transportation projects, whether they involve export pipelines or increased rail transport
- as a first form of compensation for the Muskrat Falls financing and Newfoundland's unfair competition with Hydro-Québec, the GST cease to be levied on household Hydro-Québec bills
- zero-emission legislation to oblige car dealers to maintain a suitable inventory of electric vehicles so that they are accessible to consumers
- an end to funding of Ontario competitors in Quebec, and instead contributions to Quebec's electrical industry and to the project to make Quebec "the battery of North America"
- requiring that the federal government's vehicle fleet be made up of 100% zero-emission vehicles
- scrapping the inefficient and polluting Canadian Hydrogen Strategy, and instead contributing financially to the development and promotion of the green hydrogen sector by Hydro-Québec
- opposing nuclear development, including small modular reactors, and any risk to Quebec of nuclear waste contamination from projects such as the Chalk River dump along the Ottawa River
- ending the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project and opposing any project to export oil from the tar sands
- to fight disposable culture, introducing a bill to prevent programmed obsolescence, including ensuring that the Patent Act cannot be invoked to prevent the repair of recoverable products

Species, Diversity & Wildlife

Compiled by Catholic Conscience from official publications of the registered parties available as of December 20, 2023. This document provides only a snapshot of party policies – please check official party websites for a complete and up-to-date picture.

Please: read, pray, and vote in accordance with your own well-formed conscience.

Climate Change

There is urgency to this issue. Every Pope since at least Paul VI has written of our need to shift to a more responsible use of the earth and its abundant resources. The Church accepts that that need is now urgent.

“A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system... **Humanity is called to recognize the need for changes of lifestyle**, production and consumption, in order to combat... at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it. It is true that there are other factors, yet a number of scientific studies indicate that most global warming in recent decades is due to the great concentration of greenhouse gases released **mainly as a result of human activity**. – Pope Francis, *Laudato si'*, –23

Energy & Resources

The good steward neither allows the resources entrusted to him to lie fallow or to fail to produce their proper fruit, nor does he waste or destroy them (*Matthew 25:14-30*). Rather, he uses them responsibly, for the Lord's purposes, to realize their increase so that he may enjoy his livelihood and provide for the good of his family, his descendants, and his neighbors.

Humanity's relationship with creation and the creatures of the earth “requires the exercise of responsibility, it is not a freedom of arbitrary and selfish exploitation.” – 115, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

One of the higher priority issues in economics is the utilization of resources, that is, of all those goods and services to which economic subjects — producers and consumers in the private and public spheres — attribute value because of their inherent usefulness in the areas of production and consumption... **Resources in**

The Bloc advocates an immediate ban on the use of pesticides that threaten biodiversity, including elimination of bee-killing pesticides such as neonicotinoids.

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The Bloc states that Quebecers deserve to have the last word when it comes to projects that affect our environment and land use planning. It undertakes to refuse to allow Ottawa to impose pipelines, airports, cell towers, or other infrastructure without Quebec's consent.

The party advocates:

- re-introduction of a bill giving the government of Quebec the power to accept or decline any projects under federal jurisdiction which concern land use planning and Environmental protection.
- increased oversight of the rail industry, particularly as it relates to the transportation of hazardous materials, in accordance with recommendations made by Transport Canada following the Lac-Mégantic tragedy.
- public inquiry into lax regulation of rail transport.
- warnings for municipalities of hazardous rail shipments through their territory.
- a ban on any increase in the transport of oil through Quebec
- tax benefits to cover both energy-efficient renovations and electrification of heating systems in commercial buildings

Forestry

The Bloc Advocates:

- a vast project to modernize the forest industry to enable us to make better use of the forest
- extending the production chain through a support program for investment in wood processing companies;
- supporting research and development in the forestry sector;
- supporting projects for the biomethanization of forest residues;
- supporting local forest development initiatives: gathering, tourism, hunting and recreational fishing;
- funding through Ottawa to support the fight against the spruce budworm, in which the federal government has reinvested \$ 75 million in the Atlantic provinces, but nothing at all for Quebec.



Christian Heritage Party

Stewardship of Creation

The party states that:

- it recognizes its responsibility to steward and care for the natural environment
- it will protect Canada's air, soil and water from destructive contamination of man-made chemicals

Climate change

The party states that

- CO2 is not pollution; it is a beneficial natural gas needed by all plants
- CO2 as the cause of climate change is an unproven theory
- carbon taxes are just a tax grab
- the federal government cannot legally force the provinces to collect taxes
- carbon tax will do nothing for the environment

The party advocates:

- rescinding any federal carbon tax
- opposing attempt to block sunlight—“global dimming”—as has been proposed by some “geo-engineering” advocates in an effort to “cool the planet”
- the party states in this context that it also cares about the MORAL environment

Energy & Resources

nature are quantitatively scarce, which means that each individual economic subject, as well as each individual society, must necessarily come up with a plan for their utilization in **the most rational way possible**, following the logic dictated by the “principle of economizing.” – 346, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Because of the powerful means of transformation offered by technological civilization, it seems that **the balance between man and the environment has reached a critical point...** A reductionistic conception quickly spread, starting from **the presupposition — which was seen to be erroneous — that an infinite quantity of energy and resources are available**, that it is possible to renew them quickly, and that the negative effects of the exploitation of the natural order can be easily absorbed... – 461, 462, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Conservation & Sustainable Development

Care for the environment represents a challenge for all of humanity. It is a matter of **a common and universal duty, that of respecting a common good**, destined for all, by preventing anyone from using “with impunity the different categories of beings, whether living or inanimate — **animals, plants, the natural elements** — simply as one wishes, according to one’s own economic needs.”

Responsibility for the environment, the common heritage of mankind, extends not only to present needs but also to those of the future... **This is a responsibility that present generations have towards those of the future...** A correct understanding of the environment... at the same time... **must not absolutize nature and place it above the dignity of the human person himself.** In this latter case, one can go so far as to divinize nature or the earth, as can readily be seen in certain ecological movements that seek to

The party states that:

- natural resources are given by God for the benefit of mankind. Human beings as stewards (caretakers) of these resources have the responsibility to manage and preserve them for the benefit of future generations
- the extraction of minerals, precious metals and energy resources is a legitimate and vital industry
- resources—whether renewable or non-renewable—must be harvested or extracted in a responsible manner, with a view to the future and to ensuring maximum lasting value for all Canadians
- care must be taken to protect the environment and to make efficient use of non-renewable resources

The party advocates re-evaluating the use of coal as an energy source, in light of new technology. With updated technologies, coal can again become a useful part of our mining and energy industries

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The party states that chemical pesticides and herbicides have an important role in agriculture and landscaping but more research should be done into effective affordable, and less invasive alternatives in pest control.

The party advocates careful assessment of studies indicating that application of certain man-made chemicals may be harmful to human, animal and soil health, rather than dismissal because the conclusions are inconvenient.

Mining

The party states that:

- the extraction of minerals, precious metals and energy resources is a legitimate and vital industry, beneficial to Canada’s economy and essential for the provision of materials for manufacturing
- of course, care must be taken to protect the environment and to make efficient use of non-renewable resources
- the use of coal as an energy source should be re-evaluated in the light of new technology. Coal can again become a useful part of our mining and energy network of industries with the use of updated technology

Species, Diversity & Wildlife

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on species, diversity, or wildlife



Stewardship of Creation

The party states that:

- protecting the environment has always been one of its core values
- it was built by farmers, hunters, and anglers – people who respect and live off the land
- it advocates immediate investment in public transit project, that will put people to work, cut commute times, and clean up the environment

Climate change

The party states that:

- Canada must not ignore the reality of climate change. It is already affecting our ecosystems, hurting our communities, and damaging national infrastructure
- mobilization to meet this challenge inevitably lead to change, presenting challenges but also opportunities if we are smart
- it is committed to meeting Paris climate commitments and reducing emissions by 2030, without the taxing working Canadians and driving jobs and investment out of the country

Personal Carbon Savings Accounts

Recognizing that the most efficient way to reduce emissions is to use pricing mechanisms and that the country’s largest trading partner does not yet have a national carbon pricing system, as well as the shortcomings of the present state of global trade, which allows some of the world’s worst polluters to become free riders to the detriment of Canadian workers, the party advocates working with the provinces to implement an innovative, national, Personal Low Carbon Savings Account, which will:

gain an internationally guaranteed institutional status for their beliefs. – 346, 461-463, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Species Diversity & Wildlife

Man and woman find themselves also in the presence of all the other creatures. They can and are obliged to put them at their own service and to enjoy them, but their dominion over the world requires the exercise of responsibility, it is not a freedom of arbitrary and selfish exploitation. **All of creation has value and is “good” in the sight of God, who is its author.** Man must discover and respect its value. This is a marvellous challenge to his intellect, which should lift him up as on wings towards the **contemplation of the truth of all God’s creatures**, that is, the contemplation of what God sees as good in them. Man must recognize all of God’s creatures for what they are and establish with each of them a relationship of responsibility. – 113, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

“**Each of the various creatures**, willed in its own being, **reflects in its own way a ray of God’s infinite wisdom and goodness.** Man must respect the particular goodness of every creature, to avoid any disordered use of things which would be in contempt of the Creator and would bring disastrous consequences for human beings and their environment.” – 339, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

It is a responsibility that must mature on the basis of the global dimension of the present ecological crisis... This perspective takes on a particular importance when one considers, in the context of the close relationships that bind the various parts of the ecosystem, the environmental **value of biodiversity, which must be handled with a sense of responsibility** and adequately protected... –466, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

- put a price on carbon for consumers with no money going to the government
- be completely transparent and engage consumers in the process of building a lower carbon future
- involve Canadians paying into Personal Low Carbon Savings Accounts each time they buy hydrocarbon-based fuel, deposited funds being available for application towards sustainable alternatives such as transit passes, bicycles, or green home improvements such as efficient heating, windows, or electric vehicles
- scrapping consumer carbon taxes. Wherever carbon taxes have been tried, governments have been unable to resist the billions of dollars they bring in
- savings levels will start at \$20/tonne and increase to \$50/tonne but no further

Zero Emission Vehicles

The party states that:

- public transit is important, but in some ways impractical for a large, northern country such as Canada
- reliance on public transit can also be difficult for parents and families
- therefore electric and hydrogen vehicles are essential to meeting national climate goals

To promote transition to zero emission vehicles, the party advocates:

- introduction of a zero emission vehicle mandate based on British Columbia’s, requiring 30% of light duty vehicles sold to be zero emissions by 2030
- working with the US administration and with the provinces to develop and implement electric vehicle emission and charging standards in North America
- investing in transmission infrastructure to cover all areas where it is needed and to ensure that the electricity grid can support the growth in electric vehicles
- investing a billion dollars to develop electric vehicle manufacturing in Canada, including investing in battery production, parts manufacturing, micro-mobility solutions and electric trucks
- investing a billion dollars in deploying hydrogen technology including hydrogen vehicles
- supporting improved electric vehicle battery repurposing and recycling in order to lower the environmental impact of these batteries and lower the cost of vehicles on the resale market

Industrial Emissions

In view of a regulatory framework already in place, largely a product of work by the provinces, and in order to avoid act effectively without unnecessary proliferation of regulation, the party advocates:

- proposing to the US administration minimum North American standards for key industrial sectors, backed up by border carbon adjustments to prevent leakage of emissions and loss of jobs to countries with lower environmental and emissions standards like China
- tying Canada’s industrial carbon price to that of our biggest trading partners - the European Union and the United States, starting with those regions that have carbon markets and expanding as the U.S. creates a national market, to ensure that Canada travels toward Paris targets together while reducing the risk that serious climate action will just shift jobs out of Canada to competitor countries
- assessing progress after two years and being prepared to set industrial carbon prices on a path to \$170/tonne by 2030, but only if the combination of adopting a price based on that of our major trading partners and working with the U.S. on North American standards has not assured us that we are on a path to our Paris commitment

Carbon Capture

The party states that Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) is a key part of efforts to make Canada’s energy sector to become even cleaner and a major building block of the energy transition. To promote CCUS efforts, the party advocates:

- introduction of a tax credit to rapidly accelerate the deployment of CCUS technology in the energy sector and in important industries that have few alternatives to burning fossil fuels, like fertilizer and chemical production. This tax credit will include an early mover bonus for facilities that have CCUS in place before 2030.
- partnering with Canadian innovators to secure Canadian leadership in the field of Direct Air Capture, a promising technology that captures carbon dioxide from the air, through a \$5 billion investment. Canada is a technology leader in this area, with possibilities for export to international partners

Natural Climate Solutions

The party advocates investing an additional \$3 billion between now and 2030 in natural climate solutions focused on management of forest, crop and grazing lands and restoration of grasslands, wetlands, and forests, in order to help sequester carbon while providing protection for communities and additional benefits for wildlife.

In addition, the party advocates:

- recognizing and encouraging emissions-reducing practices like low/no till and 4R Nutrient Stewardship
- establishing transparent and reliable standards for carbon credits associated with land management practices with the eventual goal of establishing a national carbon offset market. This market would link together existing compliance programs associated with federal and provincial regulations

- exploring incentives to preserve and enhance natural infrastructure on private lands that contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation, with a particular focus on working landscapes with downstream impacts on populated areas
- working with provinces, territories and the agriculture and forestry sectors to identify and support ways in which the sectors can contribute to enhancing carbon sequestration
- investing in forest health and wildfire prevention and early detection
- working with Indigenous communities including by expanding the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) managed and stewarded by Indigenous Guardians

Carbon Border Tariffs

The party advocates insisting that major polluters like China clean up their act, by studying imposition of a carbon border tariff which would reflect the amount of carbon emissions attributed to goods imported into Canada, exempting producers in countries with emissions reductions mechanisms that are compatible with our own

“First Five” Policy for Deploying New Emissions Reduction Technology

To help early adopters of new emissions reduction technologies, who are often subject to higher costs as they learn how to apply the technology to real-world situations, the party advocates adoption of tax relief to the first five facilities that use new technology that provides meaningful emissions reductions and has a high cost to build.

National Clean Energy Strategy

The party advocates adoption of a National Clean Energy Strategy including the following components:

- strengthening Canada’s electrical power grid, building a cleaner, more resilient grid that is adaptable to regional conditions and priorities, including strategies for developing and expanding smart grids, improving inerties, increasing the use of mass storage, and developing and deploying new clean energy technology such as nuclear, hydrogen and renewables
- utilizing a serious approach to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) in engagement and partnerships within the energy sector, with respect to emissions intensity reduction, stewardship, and Indigenous partnerships
- explore ways to make Canada a world leader in the production of blue and green hydrogen, and use of hydrogen technology to contribute to a low carbon future
- making use of Canada world-leading low-emission LNG in the world to replace coal as a source of reliable base power, and to provide responsive back-up power for inconsistent renewables in the absence of adequate grid storage

To reduce emissions the party also advocates:

- creating an accelerated Impact Assessment process for projects that will reduce GHG emissions
- investing a billion dollars in Small Modular Reactors, to get this zero emissions source of electricity and heat to the point that it starts to be deployed across the country, including in the oilsands
- studying the potential for introducing new taxes on frequent flyers, non-electric luxury vehicles and luxury second homes to deter activities that hurt the environment

Clean Buildings

In order to building emission reductions by 2030 and achieve significant, broad-scale reductions in building emissions by 2050, the party advocates:

- providing a regulatory and financial framework for Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) that involves the private sector in financing and implementing retrofits and then being paid back through savings, modeled on the SOFIAC program in Quebec
- working with provinces and territories to promote ESPC for government and publicly- funded institutional buildings, including a “2030 Bonus” that will provide an additional benefit for those buildings that complete their retrofits prior to 2030
- developing a Net Zero Foundations program to begin building foundations required to meet our net zero goals, including continuing to develop the building codes and standards necessary to support net zero goals for both new builds and retrofits; developing curriculum for trade schools and institutes that support building design and construction; improving certification standards; and developing initiatives to pilot new technologies and solutions that will lower the cost and speed up the pace of retrofits, particularly residential retrofits
- working with provinces, territories, and applicable utilities to implement a Residential Building Retrofit Initiative comprising an “efficiency concierge” service for homeowners that acts as a one-stop-shop to access programs and information; and applying lessons learned from technology pilots and from government, institutional and commercial retrofits, to a residential context

Energy & Resources

The party states that:

- it recognizes the massive contributions that the energy sector and its workers make to Canada, and supports the energy sector as a critical part of Canada’s economy. To that end, it advocates:
- in response to the loss of billions of dollars in investments over the last six years, due to competition from countries with much lower environmental, labour, and human rights standards than Canada’s, eliminate unfairness inherent in Bill C-69 by fixing its Impact Assessment process, based on bipartisan recommendations made by the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources. These include upholding best-in-class environmental standards and setting clear expectations and timelines for environmental

- reviews and removing political interference from the review process; fast-tracking review of emissions-reducing projects
- working with First Nations and other Indigenous groups to ensure they are partners in prosperity and the development of natural resources by creating a Canadian Indigenous Enterprise Corporation, based on the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation, with an initial \$5 billion of capital for investment in projects
- implementing a hydrogen energy strategy that rapidly increases the use of hydrogen - especially green hydrogen - in Canada and builds our export capacity
- ensuring adequate pipeline capacity by getting Trans Mountain built , maintaining the capacity provided by Line 3 and Line 5, and making pipelines that bring Canadian oil to export markets a priority
- implementing a federal LNG Export Strategy
- passing a Critical Infrastructure Protection Act to prevent protestors from blocking key infrastructure by amending s. 431.2 of the Criminal Code to create an offence of interference with an infrastructure facility or a public transportation system punishable by either summary conviction or indictment, depending upon the severity of the offence. Peaceful protest is a fundamental right in Canada, but respect for the rule of law means that illegal blockades that shut down critical infrastructure, threaten access to vital supplies, or endanger lives cannot be tolerated
- introducing a tax credit to rapidly accelerate the deployment of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage technology in the energy sector and in important industries that have few alternatives to burning fossil fuels, like fertilizer and chemical production
- supporting Newfoundland and Labrador's Offshore Oil Industry by investing \$1.5 billion in an offshore rebound fund to spur the continued growth of the offshore oil industry

Natural Gas

The party advocates:

- introducing a Renewable Natural Gas Mandate based on British Columbia's policy, requiring 15% of downstream consumption to be renewable by 2030, capturing methane from organic sources such as farms and landfills to reduce carbon emissions and create a renewable source of energy
- implementing a minimum requirement for 15% renewable content in natural gas by 2030

Low Carbon Fuel

To reduce emissions from gasoline and other liquid fuels, the party advocates:

- basing its Low Carbon Fuel Standard on British Columbia's policy to achieve a 20% reduction in carbon intensity for transport fuels
- increasing the ability of the agricultural and forestry sectors to create land-based offset credits by improving the carbon sequestration of agricultural lands and managed forests, and incenting environmental protection in those sectors, generating emissions reductions at lower cost and protecting Canadian jobs
- allowing clean, carbon-neutral biomass energy, including wood waste or agricultural waste, to be eligible for carbon credits where appropriate
- recognizing existing legislation for Land Use and Biodiversity (LUB) and harmonizing with provincial rules
- piloting use of Canadian renewable fuels by the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), a major user of fuel, with the goal of using CAF purchases to stimulate an increase in renewable fuel production in Canada

Mining

The party advocates:

- fixing the Impact Assessment process created by Bill C-69, basing our changes on the bipartisan recommendations made by the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources
- implementing a Critical Minerals Strategy to take advantage of Canada's abundant resources of the minerals needed to power our clean energy future, including adopting policies to facilitate the responsible exploitation and mining of lithium
- supporting new Initiatives to recover critical minerals from historical mine wastes while remediating the long-term environmental liabilities
- working to secure greater access to markets for our mining exports, including uranium exports to responsible countries for use in civilian programs to curb emissions
- adoption of a pan-Canadian low carbon aluminum purchasing policy

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The party states that it has a history of strong promotion of conservation, and a strong track record of creating parks and protecting critical habitats

- during its last term in office, the party committed to conserving 17% of terrestrial lands through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. As of January 2020, Canada had reached 12%
- it is committed to increasing this level to 25%. However, the size of conserved land is only one consideration, location also matters. In order to protect Canada's most endangered ecosystems, which predominantly lie in the southern working landscape, many challenges will be faced: much of the land is already in productive use, making it harder and more expensive to set aside, but protecting this land is essential: it can significantly benefit local communities and is important for things like flood and drought protection and carbon sequestration

To conserve lands in all parts of Canada, including the southern working landscape, the party advocates:

- reaching the existing target of protecting 17% of Canada's land and water and working towards 25% with a focus on: using remote sensing to identify conservation gaps in the southern working landscape and gather data that can be used to determine the potential for lands to provide ecosystem services
- working with Indigenous communities to expand the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) managed and stewarded by Indigenous Guardians
- restoration of funding for the National Wetland Conservation Fund and the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnership Program
- supporting the completion of the Canadian Wetland Inventory, exploring ways to protect wetlands on private lands
- creating a powerful incentive for agriculture and forestry sectors to protect the environment and sequester carbon by allowing for greater creation of land-based offset credits

Forestry

The party states that:

- the forestry industry is well-placed to be an important contributor to the fight against climate change. Land management, sequestration of carbon into long-lived wood products, and bioenergy are all pathways for this important industry to make a difference
- in order to realize these benefits, the forestry as a business must be healthy

To that end, the party advocates:

- resolution of the Softwood Lumber Dispute with the United States
- establishing a Task Force on the Woodland Caribou, working with provinces and local communities to propose solutions sensitive to local expertise and management
- increased funding to control pest species in national parks and federal lands
- in order to improve response to wildfires, investing in remote sensing and other technology
- working with Provinces, Territories, and industry stakeholders to develop plans to fight climate change and develop new wood technology and bioproducts

Water

To clean up water sources and protect water quality, the party advocates:

- ending the practice of dumping raw sewage into our lakes, rivers, and oceans, in cooperation with provinces and territories and municipalities
- tightening the rules on cruise ships in Canadian waters to align with Alaska's rules and prevent sewage & gray water dumping
- reinstatement of the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund, which funded over 200 community-based projects that restored fish and wildlife populations, planted thousands of new trees, and reduced harmful sewage and waste dumping before being cancelled in 2017

Plastic Waste

To reduce the use of single-use plastics, minimize how much plastic ends up discarded, and keep plastic out of our oceans, the party advocates focusing on reducing the use of single-use plastics, ensuring that plastic products are produced in a more environmentally responsible way, promoting a circular economy, and ensuring that plastic waste is responsibly recycled and never ends up in the ocean, including:

- banning the export of plastic waste, rather than using other countries as dumping grounds, with exemptions for exporters who show that it will be recycled
- working with international partners to combat oceans plastic, and recognizing much of the plastic that ends up in the ocean does so because developing countries cannot afford to manage plastic waste properly
- working with provinces and territories to improve value recovery from plastics through application of suitable technology, including production of chemicals and renewable fuels

Species, Diversity & Wildlife

Animal Welfare

The party states that:

- more than half of Canadian homes now have a pet, and 90% of them see the pet as a family member. Yet, demand for pets from Canadians has led to the growth of puppy mills and other unethical actors, taking advantage of the nation's love for pets
- many pets are abused, with their abusers often going on to harm spouses and children

To protect animals and the humans who care for them, the party advocates:

- banning puppy breeders and dealers from misleading the public by claiming to offer rescue animals or pets bred humanely when that isn't the case
- banning the importation of animals bred inhumanely
- strengthening CFIA's ability to enforce current regulations and seize animals when imported under poor welfare conditions
- banning cosmetic testing on animals, by amending the Food and Drug Act and its regulations to implement a ban modelled on the European Union ban
- to address links between violence against animals and violence against people, providing \$10 million per year to train judges and prosecutors on the links between violence against

animals and violence against people, increase cross-reporting between animal welfare and child welfare agencies, and adding animal cruelty as an aggravating factor in domestic violence prosecutions

- working with the sector to ensure that there are better options for women to leave abusive homes without having to abandon their pets
- working with the Council of Ministers of Education to promote humane education as part of education on the environment and sustainability
- supporting and encouraging the closure of poorly regulated wildlife markets globally that carry an elevated risk of becoming sources for future pandemics; and ending the importation of and trade in wild or exotic animals and their products that carry an elevated risk of spreading zoonotic diseases.

Fisheries

The party states that:

- Canada's fishing communities feel beset by crisis, with critical stocks being endangered and new conflicts arising.
- resource users, whether Indigenous and non-Indigenous, commercial, and recreational, want to leave well-managed, sustainable fisheries to future generations, yet they are now more divided than ever and fearful for their future
- what is needed is unity in a common purpose: restoring and maintaining healthy stocks that support commercial, recreational, and cultural fisheries

To that end, the party advocates restoring calm and confidence to Canada's fisheries sector by respecting the importance of all resource users and putting conservation first, including:

- prioritizing stock assessments, stock recovery planning and enforcement of science-based catch limits, which have been shown to be the most important predictors of well-managed fisheries, and ensuring that stock recovery plans incorporate climate change risks
- strengthen the role of advisory bodies in fisheries management to enhance cooperation between resource users to ensure that commercial, recreational, and cultural fishers can all have confidence in management decisions
- working collaboratively with Indigenous rights-holders and commercial harvesters to develop management plans which fulfill the rights recognized in the Marshall decisions, protect the sustainability of our fisheries, and ensure that coastal communities can continue to thrive
- improving Marine Protected Area (MPA) designation processes by: ensuring that MPAs are focused on contributing to the sustainability of critical stocks; restoring meaningful public consultation to the MPA process; and exploring the feasibility of new models, such as dynamic MPAs, that will improve climate change resiliency
- working with stakeholders, First Nations, and regional jurisdictions to implement ecosystem-based fisheries management, including control of abundant predator populations which impact commercial and SARA-listed species, and updating and strengthening DFO's national aquatic invasive species program to ensure that regulations are being implemented
- addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, seafood fraud and ghost gear
- restoring community-based conservation initiatives like the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program, provide more support for hatcheries, and support public conservation education initiatives
- creation of a Canadian Seafood Development Agency to develop a long-term strategy and sustainable growth plan in partnership with the provinces
- working with governments and communities in Nunatsiavut, Nunavut, Nunavik, and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region to develop community-based marine fisheries, which will help create employment and fight local and regional food insecurity

Pacific Salmon

The party states that:

- Pacific salmon are part of the fabric of life for communities throughout British Columbia and are an essential part of BC's marine and freshwater ecosystems
- some stocks are robust, while many are under threat

In addition to the fisheries commitments outlined above, the party advocates developing a Pacific Salmon Strategy focused on making measurable progress toward restoring at-risk stocks, including

- enforcing a strict timeline for the completion of stock assessments
- prioritizing funding for community-led habitat restoration, hatcheries, and other projects that support at-risk stocks
- ensuring the Salmonid Enhancement Program is sufficiently resourced to support at-risk stocks
- implementing mass-marking programs at BC fish hatcheries and allowing mark-selective harvest of salmon in BC's sport fishery, protecting sensitive fish populations while maintaining the health of BC's public fishery
- creating a pinniped management plan that will address threats to at-risk stocks in a balanced way and identify likely future threats due to climate change

Stewardship of Creation

The party states that as a core value it party believes that humans and every other species of animal and plant are integral and interdependent parts of a living planet, that when we degrade the Earth or any part of it, we undermine the integrity and viability of all life including our own. Our duty, then, is to live on Earth with the lightest touch possible.

Climate Change

The party states that:

- climate change is already impacting our communities. Nearly 600 people died a sudden death from extreme heat in B.C. in just one week in 2021, more than the number of people who died in B.C. during the deadliest month of the pandemic
- the UN Secretary General described the August 2021 report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as “Code Red for Humanity”
- human activity is the cause and the solution. The IPCC reported that human-induced climate change is the main driver behind many weather and climate extremes, including heatwaves, fire weather, heavy precipitation, droughts, and tropical cyclones, in every region across the globe
- our actions caused global warming, but the actions we choose to take now can limit it as well
- we need to limit further climate change. The difference to our planet in holding global warming to 1.5°C global average temperature as against preindustrial levels cannot be overstated. While 1.5°C global warming will cause extreme weather and climate events, at 2°C global warming and above, such events will become much more frequent and intense
- under the current government, Canada has fallen further and further behind its international partners in climate action ambition and in doing its fair share:
 - the UK has achieved 43% GHG reduction below 1990 levels and recently pledged to achieve 78% below 1990 by 2035
 - the 27 countries of the European Union recently pledged to cut GHG emissions by 55 per cent by 2030 and have set out a detailed and ambitious climate plan
 - Canadian emissions are 21% above 1990 levels, and Canada Canada has never achieved a climate target. Canadian GHG emissions have risen in every year since 2016
 - The current government bought a pipeline and have increased subsidies to fossil fuels
 - Canada is now one of the top three worst per capita GHG emitters in the G20.
- it has been calling for a non-partisan, collaborative approach to the climate emergency for years. It’s plan is and doable and will secure Canada’s sustainable prosperity

The party advocates:

- achieving net zero emissions as quickly as possible, including ensuring a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 60 per cent from 2005 levels by 2030, with clear enforceable targets and timelines starting in 2023; and achieving net zero emissions as quickly as possible, while aiming to be net negative in 2050
- ending all production of fossil fuels, including cancelling all new pipeline projects (beginning with TMX; cancelling all new oil exploration projects; ending leasing of federal lands for fossil fuel production and retiring existing licenses; banning hydraulic fracturing (fracking); ending all subsidies to the fossil fuel sector; phasing out existing oil and gas operations, so that they continue on a declining basis with bitumen production phased out between 2030 and 2035; requiring federal public investment funds (including the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board) to divest from fossil fuels; and ensuring that companies are held accountable for paying for the costs of cleaning up and restoring land, instead of passing these to the public
- supporting a just transition to a green economy for workers, families, and communities

Carbon Negative

The party advocates:

- developing plans and policies to go carbon negative, taking up the challenge of reducing the total amount of CO2 accumulated in the atmosphere and placing Canada on a new path towards addressing the climate emergency
- using skills and knowledge from the oil and gas industry to become world leaders in new technologies

Energy & Resources

The party advocates:

- developing a national renewable energy electricity grid, ensuring that 100 per cent of Canadian electricity is produced from renewable sources by 2030
- creating a national coast to coast-to-coast energy corridor for green renewable energy by building up the inter-ties needed to link existing provincial grids
- implementing a national, non-emitting electricity grid to help Canada meet its target of net-zero GHG emissions
- instituting a ban on the development of new nuclear power in Canada

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The party states that:

- Canada has a global responsibility to conserve nature due to our high standard of living as well as our abundant natural resources
- global resources are unevenly distributed - Canada stewards 20% of the earth's wild forests, 24% of its wetlands and almost one third of its stored land carbon
- Canadians overwhelmingly support protecting our abundant natural resources and a few key national policies would result in significant direct and indirect environmental, economic and social benefits in Canada and abroad

The party advocates:

- protecting and restore biodiversity and ecosystems, including support for Indigenous-led protected and conservation areas and funding stewardship of these lands and waters by Indigenous guardians
- implementing Canada's international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and follow-up protocols
- protecting a minimum of 30 per cent of freshwaters and lands in each Canadian ecosystem by 2030 and 50 per cent by 2050, prioritizing carbon-rich ecosystems
- halting habitat destruction by 2030 and restore the most negatively affected ecosystems such as wetlands by 2050, prioritizing carbon-rich ecosystems
- expediting recovery plans and implementing national and international commitments to reverse species loss
- scaled-up funding for nature-based solutions
- initiating a national urban biodiversity regeneration strategy to expand greenspace, address environmental racism and protect urban-sensitive species such as birds
- enhancing federal science capacity to inventory and prioritize ecosystems, species at risk, and invasive species
- modernizing the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, including ensuring the right to a healthy environment, enforceable in law
- preventing exposures to toxins and pollution by requiring labelling of chemicals and GMOs in consumer products, including cosmetics, cleaners and furniture
- developing and implementing a National Forest Strategy, including creation of fire breaks and fire suppression, provision of physical resources to deal with fires quickly and effectively, and including fire mitigation subsidies to owners of rural properties, allowing them to better manage the health of their forests

To protect old-growth forests, the party advocates:

- working with the provinces and First Nations to put an immediate halt to the logging of endangered old growth ecosystems. Old growth forests provide ecosystem services both measurable and beyond what can be measured, and hold spiritual and physical significance to Indigenous Peoples
- prioritizing and funding the long-term protection of endangered old growth forest ecosystems as a key component of Canada's climate action plan and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples
- working with First Nations to protect the Canadian boreal forest as part of the climate action plan
- supporting value added forestry industry initiatives in partnership with First Nations aimed at ensuring that Canada can have a sustainable and vibrant forestry industry based on the harvesting of second and third growth forests
- banning the export of raw logs and maximize the use of resources for local jobs

To protect oceans and freshwater, the party advocates:

- including Indigenous Peoples and their governance systems in all aspects of site selection, management, and decision-making around economic development within the marine and freshwater realms
- transitioning to sustainable seafood, including by working with Indigenous and provincial governments to phase out open net-pen finfish aquaculture in Pacific waters by 2025 and all Canadian waters by 2030; supporting a just transition of impacted workers, and incentivizing the move to land-based closed containment facilities
- reducing threats to ocean ecosystems, including supporting a moratorium on deep seabed mining at least until 2030
- protecting and restoring coastal and marine areas, and support marine nature-based climate solutions

Sustainable Economy

The party states that:

- the renewable energy sector holds tremendous promise in helping to facilitate a just transition for workers in the fossil-fuel sector in Canada
- it is important to protect workers in regions that are still highly dependent on the fossil fuel sector for a significant percentage of their budget. Provinces like Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland have been left dangerously exposed the volatility of global energy markets which they are unable to control, and are in desperate need of economic diversification
- with wise investment, these regions can use their energy sector expertise to capitalize on a variety of new opportunities in renewable technologies

To support a transition to a green economy, the party advocates:

- introducing a Just Transition Act that takes care of workers and communities during the transition
- planning for a fair and carefully planned transition of workers towards a decarbonized economy, that protects communities from displacement, and in which affected people

(workers in greenhouse gas-intensive industries, Indigenous Peoples, marginalized communities) are leading the preparation of their transition strategies

- replacing every high paying fossil fuel sector job with a high paying green sector job through wage insurance, retraining programs and early retirement plans
- reducing wealth inequality in Canada, and ensuring that current wealth holders, particularly those in the fossil fuel sector, pay their fair share. Closing tax havens and loopholes to redistribute wealth towards communities that have been underinvested in
- introducing laws that incentivize green investment and the creation of green jobs (such as in sustainable transport and energy efficiency), and that disincentivize unsustainable investments (such as by raising taxes on environmentally harmful goods and services)
- investing in the cleantech sector and in renewable energy, which will create more, and higher paying jobs than those lost in the fossil fuel sector
- enacting legislation on green jobs training programs, such as the creation of a youth climate corps; for example, jobs related to ecosystem restoration, particularly for people who have been displaced or severely affected by COVID-19.

Waste Treatment

To support transition to a green economy, the party advocates:

- reducing consumption, waste, and planned obsolescence
- promoting green procurement practices (procuring goods and services that have a reduced environmental impact), as recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme
- promoting sustainable waste management practices, such as waste treatment, recycling, and safe handling of healthcare and biochemical waste, by adopting legislative provisions on issues including tax rebates or waivers on recycling initiatives
- proceeding immediately with regulations to ban non-essential, single-use plastics, and expanding the list of items to be banned, including championing a legally binding global plastics agreement, ratifying the Basel Ban Amendment and strengthening Canada's rules for plastic waste trade to ensure Canadian plastic waste doesn't pollute other countries

Agriculture and climate

The party states that:

- Canada needs to recognise the importance of agriculture and food systems in meeting our climate targets, and there is still a long way to go in reducing the system's net emissions
- the agriculture sector is the third largest contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Canada (after energy and transportation), with estimates ranging between 8 and 12 % of Canada's total emissions. Nitrogen fertilizer synthesis, fossil fuel use, and livestock enteric fermentation are the main sources of these emissions
- agriculture GHG emissions have grown significantly since the nineties, driven by the growth of fertilizer use in crops and intensive livestock operations, and contributing to Canada's lack of success in achieving its emission reduction targets. These systems are supported by high levels of inputs of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, genetically engineered seeds, and large, globalized processing, marketing, and distribution
- transnational corporations have benefited directly from taxpayer-funded policies and programs and now control a large share of our food supply and how it is produced
- industrial production systems based on monocultures and intensive livestock operations are less resilient and more vulnerable to pests, diseases, and weather extremes
- with climate change and more extreme weather, we are seeing evidence of this vulnerability as drought and floods threaten farms' survival particularly in the Prairies
- corporate buyers transfer most of the business risks to the farmers, who are the first to suffer
- industrial agriculture models have contributed to land degradation, biodiversity loss, water and air pollution, plant, animal, and human health threats. Factory farms crowd animals in poor welfare conditions and create an artificial abundance of animal products that contribute to unhealthy diets
- estimates of the amount of food waste produced by the system range from 30 to 50 percent while food insecurity persists, even in wealthy countries, including Canada, where the demand for food banks continues to grow
- scientists have been warning us for decades that, as a result of climate change, extreme weather events will become more prevalent, threatening crops and livestock. In 2021, the Canadian prairies are experienced what was perhaps the worst drought in the history of the country, together with unprecedented heat waves, with potentially devastating consequences for farms in the region and the communities that depend on them
- the vulnerability of national food systems is not limited to farm losses. Canada, with its large land area and relatively small population, is the world's fifth largest agricultural exporter but, amazingly, also the sixth largest importer and the number one per-capita food importer in the world. This ranking is not because of bananas, oranges and coffee other things that cannot be produced in our climate. It is driven by our imports of massive amounts of other goods, mostly value-added, as well as ingredients for further processing which could be easily produced in Canada but we have chosen, by way of our trade and economic development policies, to source elsewhere
- labour and succession are also critical risks for this sector, which is increasingly dependent on temporary foreign workers and facing an aging workforce
- squeezed by low profit margins prevalent in the industrial model, too many farmers must rely on off-farm income to survive
- despite the current government's narrative, investments in policies, programs, R&D, and regulatory modernization to support farming based on ecological principles, localized food systems, small regional value chains, and northern agriculture continue to be very limited in comparison. This constrains the development of these areas and hinders their competitiveness as the bulk of program dollars continue to prop up the industrial model

To address these issues, the party advocates:

- restructuring the \$3 billion Next Policy Framework (NPF- 2023-2028) to shift program dollars from supporting corporate-controlled industrial agriculture to supporting agriculture

that is based on ecological and animal welfare principles, including organic and regenerative practices, permaculture, localized food systems, higher welfare farming systems and short value chains

- recognizing and acting on the enormous potential of carbon sequestration in soil and by implementing policies and programs that provide incentives for sustainably increasing organic matter (carbon capture) in the soil through regenerative practices while ensuring that these incentives are equitable, inclusive, and do not disadvantage small farmers
- restructuring business risk management programs to make them more equitable, inclusive, and responsive in helping farmers cope with climate risk
- reallocating research and development priorities, as well as investments in infrastructure to further strengthen support for local and regional value chains by the National Food Policy

Agricultural Environmental Impact

The party states that climate change mitigation and adaptation are complementary goals. The changes that contribute to reducing emissions and retaining more carbon in the system

- regenerative practices, diversified landscapes, moving away from intensive livestock operations - also improve adaptation by improving resilience in the face of drought, pests, diseases, and other climate-related threats.

Accordingly, the party advocates:

- investing in science, infrastructure, and business development that supports farming practices which both mitigate climate impacts and improve adaptation
- investing in supporting a shift to farming systems based on ecological principles, which work with nature and not against it
- working with the provinces to fund the research and development of environmental farm plans to help farmers protect wildlife habitat areas and marginal lands, maintain water quality in streams, lakes and aquifers, and retain and improve soil quality, increase carbon sequestration and decrease water requirements
- establishing climate change emission targets for all components of the food system, including nitrogen fertilizer use, livestock production and transportation, and food procurement in federal institutions
- re-establishing the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration measures to support adaptation to drought conditions
- to support humane and sustainable food systems, promoting more plant-based eating and reduced consumption of animal-source foods to levels the ecosystem can sustain, which is consistent with the dietary recommendations of the Canada Food Guide

Fisheries & Oceans

The party states that:

- the ocean plays critical role in maintaining a just, sustainable and healthy society, from providing seafood that supports livelihoods and good nutrition, to ecosystem services from flood protection, recreation
- record-breaking heatwaves and ocean acidification threaten the integrity of all ocean ecosystems, including shellfish and finfish fisheries they support
- Canada must ensure that our ocean industries and Blue Economy Strategy support the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, reducing emissions from marine vessels, and advancing nature-based solutions in the marine environment

Reconciliation and Marine Conservation

The party states that:

- for tens of thousands of years Indigenous peoples have practiced their own forms of ecosystem-based management. However, the dismantling of Indigenous traditional governance systems and imposition of strict regulations on the lives of Indigenous peoples through treaties and statutes, such as the Indian Act (1876) and the Fisheries Act (1868), gave ultimate power and authority to colonial institutions.
- several treaties have sought to recognize and support Indigenous rights and title, but unclear interpretations of those treaties, paired with systemic racism, have given rise to conflict and discrimination against Indigenous communities over their fishing rights
- in Atlantic Canada, the 2020 Mi'kmaq lobster situation revealed racism and a weak commitment to Indigenous treaty rights through unclear interpretations of laws. In 1999, the Supreme Court's Marshall ruling recognized First Nations' rights to earn a moderate living from fishing, however the definition of moderate living has yet to be defined by the government

To further Reconciliation through all marine sectors, and empower Indigenous leadership in the conservation and management of protected areas, the party advocates:

- in partnership with Indigenous governments and organizations, developing a National Framework for Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) that includes collaborative governance arrangements, co-management decision-making bodies, and supporting administrative structures
- investing in Indigenous-led sustainable ocean economies and Indigenous Guardians Programs
- including Indigenous Peoples, their worldviews, knowledge, and governance systems in all aspects of design, site selection, management, and decision making around economic development within the marine and freshwater realms of their territories

- facilitating and supporting meaningful Nation-to-Nation engagement at the local and regional levels on the management of shared marine resources to avoid future disputes over lack of clarity on fisheries law

Sustainable Seafood

The party states that:

- many of Canada's marine fisheries are at risk of over-exploitation due to suboptimal management or lack of data. Only 34% of Canada's fisheries are stable, 13% are known to be in critical condition, and there is not enough data for the remaining fisheries
- Canada's geography and federalist system of governance presents unique challenges where certain marine areas and fisheries might span municipal, provincial, and federal jurisdiction. There currently exist policy inconsistencies among Canada's different coasts; for example, while the Atlantic inshore fishery has protections against corporate control, in British Columbia fishing licences and quotas can be owned by investors and fish processing companies, which means that Canadian fish can be processed in other countries
- fair and consistent fisheries policies must be applied to all fishers, whether in the Atlantic, Arctic or the Pacific, to protect local communities whose livelihoods depend on Canadian fisheries. Canadian fishers must be protected from predatory systems that privilege large corporate interests allowed to hold licences
- aquaculture may be sustainable in several contexts, however certain types of seafood farming can be environmentally harmful. In the case of open net-pen farmed salmon on the coast of British Columbia, the extremely high densities of fish have caused disease outbreaks among the farmed fish which gets transmitted to important wild salmon populations migrating near the farm sites

The party advocates:

- allocating funding to fill knowledge gaps for stocks whose sustainability status is uncertain, and where stock assessments have not been completed within a five-year period, including funding for field surveys, assessments, mortality estimates and monitoring and evaluation of rebuilding plans and management measures
- completion of rebuilding plans by 2024 for the 26 stocks currently in the critical zone by including measures and objectives that are science and ecosystem based
- working with Indigenous and provincial governments to phase out open net-pen finfish aquaculture in Pacific waters by 2025 and all Canadian waters by 2030
- supporting a just transition of impacted workers and incentivizing the move to land-based closed containment facilities
- supporting sustainable shellfish and seaweed aquaculture and community-owned operations and ensure meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities and other stakeholders when making aquaculture siting decisions
- protecting independent harvesters and coastal communities by entrenching owner-operator and fleet separation policies in the Fisheries Act
- committing to timely and transparent access to fisheries management plans and data as well as records of fisheries management advisory committee processes in order to more effectively involve Indigenous peoples, civil society and communities in the process of managing our fisheries as public resources
- implementing the 20 recommendations of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans report, West Coast Fisheries: Sharing Risks and Benefits

Reducing threats to ocean ecosystems

The party states that: resource extraction such as deep-sea mining, and pollution from sewage and plastics are examples of the many threats to marine ecosystems. Noise pollution from deep sea drilling and shipping traffic threaten endangered marine species such as Southern Resident Killer whales, and plastics from household items and fishing gear alike entangle marine life and impact human health from the accumulation of microplastics in human tissues

The party advocates:

- finalizing a ban on single-use plastics by the end of 2021, and expanding the list of banned plastics to include other harmful long-lived plastics such as polystyrene
- requiring that all plastic packaging contain at least 50% recycled content by 2030 and supporting a shift to reusable products and packaging by (A) adjusting federal procurement practices and supporting municipalities that adopt equivalent or better reuse standards; and (B) introducing targets for refillable beverage containers
- implementing an Extended Producer Responsibility program for all companies making or selling synthetic fishing gear which would fund the retrieval of lost or abandoned fishing gear, commonly known as ghost nets, and the collection and recycling of old, damaged, and recovered fishing gear
- supporting a moratorium on deep seabed mining until at least 2030, in tandem with increased investment in deep sea science
- legislating cruise ship waste discharge standards that meet or exceed those of our coastal neighbours

Coastal and marine areas

To reverse environmental degradation and ensure the long-term integrity of marine ecosystems, the party advocates:

- accelerating Canada's commitment to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity of 30% protected marine areas by 2030
- delivering a new comprehensive ten-year biodiversity strategy and action plan, with goals, measurable targets, and resources to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the ocean by 2030 and fulfill Canada's commitment to the G7 Nature Compact and UN CBD by the end of 2023
- committing permanent A-base funding for marine conservation, including the management of MPAs and stewardship of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas by Indigenous partners

- presenting a clear action plan to achieve this target that includes the implementation of minimum protection standards; completion of Marine Protected Area networks and new MPAs in five priority bioregions; and completion of all current proposed MPAs and National Marine Conservation Areas; and identify new Areas of Interest in the remaining marine ecoregions and bioregions.
- developing a Species At Risk Act (SARA) compliance plan with specific actions for all critical habitat protected under Section 58, including targeting all users of the critical habitat of each specific Species At Risk
- by 2025, completing independent scientific reviews of the effectiveness of recovery measures for all threatened and endangered species listed under SARA
- aligning measures under the Fisheries Act with potential measures under SARA for all COSEWIC-assessed species as part of species-at-risk transformation within DFO

The ocean-climate nexus

The party states that:

- rising sea temperatures and acidification threaten ocean ecosystems and the species they support
- rising sea levels will require proactive planning to mitigate loss and damage to coastal communities
- conversely, investing in the restoration and protection of marine carbon sinks such as marine sediments, kelp forests, seagrasses, and salt marshes and reducing emissions from marine industries such as shipping will have co-benefits for the oceans and human coastal communities

The party advocates:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions (CO2 emissions, black carbon, Nitrous Oxide, Sulfur Oxide (NOx and SOx)), and methane from the marine transport sector, including shipping, ferries and fishing vessels
- setting the achievable target of 100% zero-emission vessels in Canadian inland waters by 2030 and marine vessels by 2040. All federally-owned ferries should be net-zero by 2035
- committing to zero-emission ports by 2030 through the development of port hydrogen hubs and developing ties to international ports to support the development of green shipping corridors and hydrogen export markets. This should include a zero-emission port infrastructure fund and a commitment to have all marine vessels at berth connected to shore power by 2030 to dramatically lower port emissions while reducing harmful air pollution for communities living near ports
- committing to no further expansion of offshore oil and gas activity while implementing a just transition for offshore oil and gas workers by 2030
- developing a marine-focused Nature Based Climate Solutions strategy that integrates ocean-based carbon sinks (blue carbon) into Canada's Climate Plan and emissions counting system. The strategy would include objectives, timelines and funding to prioritize protection and restoration of existing blue carbon sinks, supporting research to map and quantify blue carbon, and providing guidelines for evaluation of blue carbon in environmental assessments for proposed projects
- amending the Oceans Act and Fisheries Act to consider climate impacts on the marine environment and marine species and include climate change in spatial and fisheries management objectives. Conduct climate vulnerability assessments for marine species and habitats



Climate change

The party states that:

- as a major energy producer, the global shift to net-zero presents both a challenge and a great opportunity for Canada
- analysis conducted by the Bank of Canada and the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions suggests that decisive action is required to ensure Canada remains competitive during the global shift to net-zero
- inaction could, in some scenarios, leave Canada's GDP approximately 10 per cent lower than it otherwise would be by 2050. Canada's future economic prosperity depends on the speed and scale of our response
- without the right policy framework, Canada could see underinvestment in critical areas and a slow pace of innovation in new clean technology

The party proposes:

- substantial measures as the next steps in the government's plan to "crowd-in" new private investment by leveraging public investment and government policy. The goal of this approach is not to substitute government for the private sector, nor supplant market-based decision making. It is to leverage the tools of government to mobilize the private sector, without picking individual corporate winners in an effort to engineer a preferred vision of the economy in 2050.
- tax incentives and investment supports proposed in Budget 2023 were designed to set a framework for boosting overall investment, while leaving the private sector to determine how to invest based on market signals
- in order to ensure that investment happens where it will have the greatest long-term impact for Canadians' standard of living and the reduction of our emissions, the government

has focused on areas where Canada has a comparative advantage, and making investments that will have the greatest impact on Canada's productive capacity and ability to create good middle class jobs

As examples of actions taken during its current term in office to build a clean economy and good middle class jobs, the party cites:

- implementing a market-driven approach to emissions reduction, including a carbon pollution pricing system that only puts money back in the pockets of Canadians, but is also efficient and highly effective because it provides a clear economic signal to businesses and allows them the flexibility to find the most cost-effective way to lower their emissions. It also increases demand for the development and adoption of clean technologies
- investing \$15 billion in the Canada Growth Fund to incentivize private sector investment into projects and companies that will grow Canada's clean economy at speed and scale
- investing \$8 billion for the Net Zero Accelerator to make large-scale investments in clean technologies
- investing \$4.2 billion for the Low Carbon Economy Fund to support the installation of emission-reducing technologies for provinces and territories, businesses, Indigenous communities, and other organizations
- investing \$3.8 billion for Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy, which will help make Canada a global supplier of choice for the critical minerals that are the bedrock of clean and digital technologies
- investing \$3.9 billion to make zero-emission vehicles more affordable for Canadians and Canadian businesses, and to build new charging stations across Canada
- investing \$1.5 billion for the Clean Fuels Fund to encourage investment in the production of clean fuels, including clean hydrogen and biofuels
- investing \$4.7 billion for the National Trade Corridors Fund for investments in our ports, roads, railways, and airports
- investing \$33.5 billion for the Canada Infrastructure Program to support new investments in public transit; green infrastructure; community, culture and recreation infrastructure; and rural and northern communities
- investing \$35 billion for the Canada Infrastructure Bank to attract private capital to major infrastructure projects and help build more infrastructure across the country
- investing \$2.6 billion for the new Canada Innovation Corporation, to support Canadian businesses in investing in research and development.

The party proposes to build on this foundation by:

- building a national electrical grid that connects Canadians from coast-to-coast-to-coast, and delivers cleaner, more affordable electricity to Canadians and Canadian businesses
- putting Canadian workers and Canadian businesses at the heart of essential global supply chains, and becoming a reliable supplier of the goods and resources that a net-zero world will need
- centering these efforts on (i) an anchor regime of clear and predictable investment tax credits, which will be broadly accessible to eligible organizations and will ensure that workers see the benefits of a clean economy; (ii) low-cost strategic financing; and, (iii) targeted investments and programming, where necessary, to respond to the unique needs of sectors or projects of national economic significance
- underpinning these efforts through pollution pricing systems and large-emitter credit markets

Carbon Capture, Use, and Storage

The party states that:

- carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) is a suite of technologies that capture carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to either store the CO₂ or to use in other industrial processes, such as permanent mineralization in concrete
- during its current term in office it has announced design details of an Investment Tax Credit for Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage

The party proposes implementation of an Investment Tax Credit that includes:

- dual use heat and/or power equipment and water use equipment, with tax support prorated in proportion to the use of energy or material in the carbon capture, utilization, and storage process
- require projects storing CO₂ in concrete to have their concrete storage process validated by a third-party based on an ISO standard prior to claiming the investment tax credit
- a recovery calculation for the investment tax credit in respect of refurbishment property
- these changes are expected to cost about \$520 million over five years, beginning in 2023-24
- requires compliance with labour requirements

Energy & Resources

By Mandate Letter addressed to the Minister of Natural Resources at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry was to prioritize moving forward with legislation and comprehensive action to achieve a Just Transition [not defined], ensuring support for communities to create more economic opportunities for workers and families into the future and in all regions of the country
- the Ministry was to work with partners to develop and implement strategies to decarbonize regional electricity systems, grow the market for clean fuels and transform Canada's

building stock for the climate era

- the Ministry was also to move early to launch a Critical Minerals Strategy, ensuring that Canada's natural resources would be developed sustainably, competitively and inclusively

Electricity

The party states that:

- growing a clean economy—nationally and abroad – will depend almost entirely on clean electricity
- Canada already has one of the cleanest electricity grids in the world, with roughly 83 per cent of its electricity coming from non-emitting sources such as hydroelectricity, wind, solar, and nuclear
- to preserve this advantage and position Canada to compete in the next generation of electricity-intensive sectors, such as clean hydrogen and green steel and aluminum, significant investments must be made today, to satisfy both industry and individuals.
- as electricity becomes the main source of energy, daily and seasonal demand peaks will become more pronounced. Canada will need to invest heavily in renewable generation, to meet this demand. At the same time, some renewable energy generation, such as solar and wind, can vary with the weather and season
- national electricity demand is expected to double by 2050, and to meet that increased demand with a sustainable, secure, and affordable grid, generation capacity must increase by 2.2 to 3.4 times compared to current levels

To support and accelerate clean electricity investment in Canada, the party proposes to introduce a 15 per cent refundable tax credit for eligible investments in:

- non-emitting electricity generation systems: wind, concentrated solar, solar photovoltaic, hydro (including large-scale), wave, tidal, nuclear (including large-scale and small modular reactors);
- abated natural gas-fired electricity generation (which would be subject to an emissions intensity threshold compatible with a net-zero grid by 2035);
- stationary electricity storage systems that do not use fossil fuels in operation, such as batteries, pumped hydroelectric storage, and compressed air storage; and,
- equipment for the transmission of electricity between provinces and territories

Mining & Critical Minerals

The party states that:

- as a global leader in mining, Canada is in a prime position to provide a stable resource base for critical minerals that are central to major global industries such as clean technology, auto manufacturing, health care, aerospace, and the digital economy
- for nickel and copper alone, the known reserves in Canada are more than 10 million tonnes, with many other potential sources at the exploration stage
- US legislation pertaining to critical minerals and electric vehicles in create opportunities for Canada, including in particular, requirements for robust supply chains of critical minerals that Canada has in abundance, to support acceleration of clean technology & manufacturing in the US
- to fully unleash Canada's potential in critical minerals, a framework to accelerate private investment is required
- during its current term in office, previous budgets committed \$3.8 billion for Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy to provide foundational support to Canada's mining sector to take advantage of these opportunities. The Strategy was published in December 2022
- in March 2023, it launched the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund to allocate \$1.5 billion towards energy and transportation projects needed to unlock priority mineral deposits. The new fund will complement other clean energy and transportation supports, such as the Canada Infrastructure Bank and the National Trade Corridors Fund

It proposes:

- a new Investment Tax Credit for Clean Technology Manufacturing to boost private investment in Canadian critical minerals projects and create new opportunities and middle class jobs in communities across the country

Clean Electricity Generation

To support and accelerate clean electricity investment in Canada, the party proposes to introduce a 15 per cent refundable tax credit for eligible investments in:

- non-emitting electricity generation systems: wind, concentrated solar, solar photovoltaic, hydro (including large-scale), wave, tidal, nuclear (including large-scale and small modular reactors)
- abated natural gas-fired electricity generation (which would be subject to an emissions intensity threshold compatible with a net-zero grid by 2035)
- stationary electricity storage systems that do not use fossil fuels in operation, such as batteries, pumped hydroelectric storage, and compressed air storage
- equipment for the transmission of electricity between provinces and territories
- in each of the above cases, labour requirements, including ensuring that wages paid are at the prevailing level, and that apprenticeship training opportunities are being created, will need to be met to receive the full 15-per-cent tax credit. If labour requirements are not met, the credit rate will be reduced

Clean Fuels

The party states that:

- while electricity is expected to be the dominant source of energy in the years to come, clean fuels— namely hydrogen, biofuels, and biomass—will be critical sources of energy where electricity would be inefficient or impractical. They will also provide middle-class jobs
- clean hydrogen is rapidly becoming a leading candidate to fuel long-haul road, marine, and aviation transport, as well as for heavy industries, such as iron and steel production; and Canada can help supply the need
- globally, the pace of development in the production and use of hydrogen is accelerating. However, it will require considerable investment before hydrogen can scale to the point of becoming a critical source of energy.
- biofuels, such as renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel, generate fewer emissions on a lifecycle basis compared to fossil fuels, and will also be critical to the growth of Canada's clean economy. With abundant feedstocks, Canada is well positioned to grow its biofuels industry
- biomass, which is renewable organic material that comes from plants, includes wood and wood processing waste, such as wood chips, lumber mill sawdust and waste, and liquor from pulp and paper mills, is used for heating and for industrial applications, notably in the pulp and paper industry. It also presents an opportunity for rural and remote Indigenous communities in Canada to reduce their reliance on diesel fuel

The party proposes:

- a Clean Hydrogen Investment Tax Credit featuring levels of support varying between 15 and 40 per cent of eligible project costs, with the projects that produce the cleanest hydrogen receiving the highest levels of support. A further 15 per cent tax credit to equipment needed to convert hydrogen into ammonia, in order to transport the hydrogen. Labour requirements will need to be met to receive the maximum tax credit rates. If labour requirements are not met, credit rates will be reduced by ten percentage points

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The party cites, among key conservation actions taken during its current term in office protect the environment, conserve nature and biodiversity, and respond to the threat of climate change:

- establishing a federal pollution pricing system that puts money back in the pockets of Canadians
- implementing programs to conserve 25 per cent of Canada's lands and waters by 2025, and to conserve 30 per cent by 2030
- design of an Emissions Reduction Plan directed to a 40 per cent reduction in emissions by 2030
- providing more than \$3.6 billion to protect nature and species at risk, and more than \$1 billion to protect marine and coastal areas, including planting of two billion trees
- committing 3.5 billion to an Oceans Protection Plan for coasts and waterways
- helping Canadians purchase or lease close to 200,000 zero-emission vehicles since 2019 through purchase incentives of up to \$5,000
- providing more than \$1.6 billion to support Canada's National Adaptation Strategy to help with disaster management
- to lower energy bills and make homes more energy efficient, providing grants of up to \$5,000 for home retrofits and up to \$40,000 for deep retrofits
- committing more than \$600 million to preserve wild Pacific salmon
- supporting recovery of the Southern Resident Killer Whale, the North Atlantic Right Whale, and the St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga
- banning manufacturing of harmful single-use plastics, and working with provinces and territories towards a goal of zero plastic waste by 2030

Fresh Water

The party states that in view of the threat to freshwater caused by climate change and pollution, it is moving to establish a new Canada Water Agency and make major investments in a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan. To that end it proposes:

- provision of \$650 million over ten years to support monitoring, assessment, and restoration work in the Great Lakes, Lake Winnipeg, Lake of the Woods, St. Lawrence River, Fraser River, Saint John River, Mackenzie River, and Lake Simcoe, in addition to \$22.6 million over three years to support better coordination of efforts to protect freshwater across Canada
- providing \$85.1 million over five years to support the creation of a Canada Water Agency, headquartered in Winnipeg, and introduction of corresponding legislation

Species, Diversity & Wildlife

The party states that:

- during the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, which led to a new Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, it announced new funding for biodiversity and conservation measures at home and abroad that will support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework, including \$800 million to support Indigenous-led conservation within Canada through the innovative Project Finance for Permanence model
- it proposes to provide \$151.9 million over three years to Fisheries and Oceans Canada in order to protect whales, including the North Atlantic Right Whale, the St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga, and British Columbia's Southern Resident Killer Whale, and their habitats
- it continues to work with provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders, to protect species at risk, including a proposal to provide \$184

million over three years, starting in 2023-24, to Environment and Climate Change Canada, Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Natural Resources Canada to continue monitoring, protecting, and promoting the recovery of species at risk to help restore their populations



Climate Change

The party states that:

- the climate crisis is here, and its effects are catastrophically impacting lives and livelihoods. Temperature records are being smashed, uncontrolled wildfires are endangering lives and communities, and smoke from fires is blanketing major cities throughout the country. Excessive heat has taken hundreds of lives
- The climate emergency is a threat to the environment, but also a clear and present danger to the health and wellbeing of Canadians across the country
- the effects of climate change are being borne disproportionately by the most vulnerable people and communities
- the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has outlined the urgent need to limit global temperature increases to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and the House of Commons has declared climate change an emergency
- combatting this existential threat will take more than talk
- previous governments have missed every single climate target that has been set, and have presided over the worst GHG reduction effort in the G7
- European countries like Germany and France are releasing bold plans to kickstart sustainable economies, while Canadian governments in Canada have spent public dollars to purchase a bitumen pipeline and continue to subsidize profitable oil and gas companies
- with its leadership, Canada now has a Net Zero law in place. But that is only the first step

The party advocates:

- taking climate leadership, building on Canada's new net-zero law, by setting an ambitious target of reducing our emissions by at least 50% from 2005 levels by 2030
- eliminating fossil fuel subsidies, implementing carbon budgets and changing the mandate of the Bank of Canada to focus on contributing to net zero
- creating jobs in all regions through green infrastructure investments directed toward a zero-carbon economy
- retrofitting all buildings in Canada by 2050
- creating a National Crisis Strategy to help communities reduce and respond to climate risks, complimented by a new Climate Corps of young workers to respond to climate impacts and build an equitable clean-energy economy
- improving transit and transportation infrastructure in ways to create jobs, strengthen communities, and reduce carbon emissions, including doubling the Canada Community-Building Fund and developing a public inter-city bus program
- committing to carbon-free power generation, with a target of net carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 100% non-emitting electricity by 2040
- enshrining in law an Environmental Bill of Rights and protecting 30% of our land, freshwater and oceans by 2030
- putting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – which is now law – into action in the collective fight against the climate crisis, and creating an Office of Environmental Justice to address the disproportionate impacts of pollution and loss of biodiversity on low-income, racialized and other marginalized communities

Energy & Resources

The party states that:

- it is committed to carbon-free power generation, with a target of net carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 100% non-emitting electricity by 2040
- at the current pace, it will take 142 years to retrofit all low-rise residential buildings in Canada. It proposes undertaking a mission-based approach to upgrade all buildings in Canada where people live or work, including large-scale retrofits in all sectors, by 2050, starting with upgrades to all buildings built before 2020 in the next 20 years

The party further advocates:

- improving the National Building Code to ensure that by 2025 every new building built in Canada is net-zero

Carbon-Free Energy

The party states that the International Energy Agency has called on governments throughout the world to dramatically speed up efforts to build renewable energy

The party advocates:

- setting a target to power Canada with net-zero electricity by 2030, and 100% non-emitting electricity by 2040

- to boost investment in renewable energy, establishing a new Canadian Climate Bank, including a mandate to support interested provinces in inter-connecting power grids and introduce smart grid technology, bolster national energy security, and distribute clean power across the country, and to support made-in-Canada manufacturing of renewable energy components and technologies, and help scale up Canada's clean energy industry
- working to meet carbon-free electricity goals in ways that respect local communities and create good jobs, including support for investments in innovative community-owned and operated clean energy projects, and working in partnership with Indigenous and northern communities to move off diesel, improving energy security and cutting emissions and air pollution

Conservation & Sustainable Development

The party states that:

- it is committed to expanding protections for our natural environment, beginning with enshrining the right to a healthy environment in a Canadian Environmental Bill of Rights, to ensure all communities can enjoy a guarantee to clean water, land and air
- it will strengthen the Canadian Environmental Protection Act – building and improving on the recent Bill C-28 – to better protect Canadians from toxic substances in everyday products like cosmetics
- it will strengthen the federal environmental impact assessment process for new coal mines and mine expansion projects
- recent projections show that the impacts of climate change could cost the nation's healthcare system billions of dollars over the coming decades

The party advocates:

- to reduce waste in landfills and communities, an immediate ban on single-use plastics, while protecting workers in this sector by supporting the transition of these production facilities to new products, and holding companies responsible for the entire lifecycle of their plastic products and packaging
- helping municipalities improve their waste management and recycling systems, and supporting improved standards for what products can be labelled as recyclable
- enacting new legislation to ban the export of plastic waste and helping reduce electronic waste by removing unnecessary restrictions preventing owners from repairing devices
- supporting Indigenous-led nature conservation and land-use and climate planning, including by growing the Indigenous Guardians Program and working hand-in-hand to advance the protection and restoration of wild Pacific salmon populations on the west coast
- focusing investments in forest management to help reduce forest fire risk, and encouraging innovation in forestry, including valued wood production and re-forestation
- taking enforcement action to support environmental remediation and job creation requiring big oil companies and other polluters to clean up messes like inactive wells
- because Indigenous peoples are best placed to protect cultural and biological diversity through control over their territory, working with indigenous governments, respecting Indigenous knowledge, and upholding Indigenous rights to protect lands, waterways and biodiversity, including making First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples full and equal partners in efforts to build a low-carbon future, including encouraging energy sustainability in remote communities and equity opportunities for renewable energy projects
- ensuring Indigenous people - as the original peoples and stewards of their territories. – a seat at high-level decision-making tables to help direct Canada's efforts to confront the climate crisis
- because the effects of climate change and of pollution are disproportionately borne in marginalized communities, ensuring that climate investments are directed towards reducing inequality, honoring Indigenous rights and supporting communities, and creating an Office of Environmental Justice to address disproportionate impacts of pollution and loss of biodiversity on low-income, racialized and other marginalized communities.

Forestry

To support the forestry and wood products industries, the party advocates investing in forestry innovation and support for value-added Canadian wood products, and the good jobs that go with them

Oceans and Fisheries:

To support fisheries and coastal communities, the party:

- supports a vision of strong coastal communities, sustainable fisheries and thriving marine and freshwater ecosystems, to make Canada a global leader in ocean and freshwater sustainability
- to protect wild salmon on the Pacific coast, focusing on conservation, protection, and restoration of critical habitat, including full implementation of the recommendations of the Cohen Commission and working with the province of British Columbia and First Nations to support the transition to land-based closed-containment systems
- on the Atlantic coast, ensuring that resource allocations in the fishery are guided by the principles of adjacency, historic dependence and sustainability, while also respecting Indigenous rights
- investment in habitat restoration and the rebuilding of fish stocks, as well as response to oil spills and derelict vessels to better protect our coasts
- reducing emissions from shipping and fishing, expanding marine protected areas, reducing key threats to ocean ecosystems and implementing a national freshwater strategy

Sustainable Transportation and Infrastructure

The party states that municipalities are already making investments in public transit in their communities, but need a federal partner to champion public transit throughout the country.

The party advocates:

- modernizing and expanding public transit within and between communities across Canada, and ensure that federal transit funding flows with an emphasis on scaling up low carbon transit projects like zero-emissions buses and electric trains with the goal of electrifying transit and other municipal fleets by 2030
- helping provinces and municipalities that identify it as a priority to build towards fare-free transit to ease commutes, help people make ends meet and lower emissions
- developing a public inter-city bus system, along with high-frequency rail along the Quebec-Windsor corridor, expanded rail service options in other regions, and working to restore the Ontario Northlander to support the crucial transportation link for communities and businesses alike in Northern Ontario
- promoting use of zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs). As Canada moves towards 100% of all new car sales being zero-emissions by 2035, it proposes to extend federal incentives for ZEVs and provide a break for working families by waiving the federal sales tax on ZEV purchases, and to grow these incentives up to \$15,000 per family for made-in-Canada vehicles
- expanding use of ZEVs in the public sector – including Crown Corporations – and by freight vehicles
- to make ZEV use easier for Canadians in all regions, building out Canada’s charging infrastructure and help people purchasing new or used ZEVs cover the cost of installing a plug-in charger
- creating a centre of excellence for research and development of ZEVs to move forward related technologies such as hydrogen, batteries, and energy storage solutions
- investigating opportunities related to green hydrogen fuel cell technology which could help reduce emissions for heavy trucks, freight, marine and aviation sectors
- strengthening the low-carbon fuel standard.
- promoting smart community planning and active transportation like walking and cycling, as healthier and more affordable options for everyone
- working other levels of government to encourage the use of electric bikes and their safe integration into our active transportation network

Agriculture

The party states that:

- the manner in which crops are grown, livestock is raised, and food is used also have an impact on the climate, and on nutrition
- it will work to connect communities to farmers through local food hubs, and develop a national food waste strategy to reduce the huge amounts of food that currently go to waste in Canada
- it will partner with farmers and communities to support biodiversity and to monitor and protect pollinator health

Species, Diversity & Wildlife

The party advocates:

- to protect ecosystems and biodiversity, protecting 30% of our land, freshwater and oceans by 2030
- expanding urban national parks and restoring urban biodiversity, and ensuring that the Species at Risk Act is enforced
- launching a 10-year nature plan to reverse species loss and curbing the import and domestic trade of wild animals



Climate Change

The party states that:

- it is an undisputed fact that the world’s climate has always changed and will continue to change. Until twelve thousand years ago, much of Canada was under ice, and it is thanks to natural climate change that we can live here today
- there is no scientific consensus on the theory that CO2 produced by human activity is causing dangerous global warming today or will in the future, and that the world is facing environmental catastrophes unless these emissions are drastically reduced. Many renowned scientists continue to challenge this theory
- the policy debate about global warming has been hijacked by proponents of big government who are using crude propaganda techniques to impose their views, and publicly ridicule and harass anyone who expresses doubt
- CO2 is beneficial for agriculture and there has recently been a measurable “greening” of the world in part thanks to higher levels. CO2 is not a pollutant. It is an essential ingredient for life on Earth and needed for plant growth
- given the uncertainties over the scientific basis of global warming, and the certainties about the huge costs of measures designed to fight it, there is no compelling reason to jeopardize our prosperity with more government interventions

The party advocates:

- withdrawal from the Paris Accord and abandonment of unrealistic greenhouse gas emission reduction targets
- stopping the transfer of billions of dollars to developing countries to help them reduce their emissions
- abolishing the carbon tax and leaving it to provincial governments to adopt programs to reduce emissions if they want to
- abolishing subsidies for green technology and let private players develop profitable and efficient alternatives
- investment in adaptation strategies if problems arise as a result of any natural climate change
- prioritizing implementation of practical solutions to make Canada's air, water and soil cleaner, including bringing clean drinking water to remote First Nations communities

Energy & Resources

The party states that:

- radical environmental activists, funded in part by American foundations, have influenced the government to stifle the growth of Canada's oil industry by preventing it from transporting and selling its products, for example by banning oil tanker traffic on the north coast of British Columbia, which brought the cancellation of the Northern Gateway and Eagle Spirit pipeline projects, and causing investors to pull out of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project and sell it to the federal government for \$4.5 billion
- capital investments in the oil and gas industry have collapsed from \$81 billion in 2014 to \$37 billion in 2019
- despite the emergence of alternative sources of energy, global demand for oil is expected to keep rising for several decades
- Canada has the third-largest oil reserves in the world and is well placed to answer this anticipated demand

The party advocates:

- because the oil and gas industry has been for decades a major source of employment, government revenues, and economic well-being for all of Canada, allowing it to grow, export its products, and bring prosperity to our country
- countering anti-oil and anti-pipeline propaganda from radical environmentalists and foreign foundations
- repealing Bills C-48 and C-69
- approving pipelines projects using a streamlined process
- finding a private buyer for Trans Mountain
- reasserting federal jurisdiction over pipelines construction by invoking section 92(10) of our Constitution, whereby Parliament can declare any project to be for the general advantage of Canada
- working with industry and American partners to revive cancelled projects and keep Line 5 in operation

The party has published no stated position on:

- species diversity & wildlife
- sustainable development

Points to Ponder: Stewardship of Creation

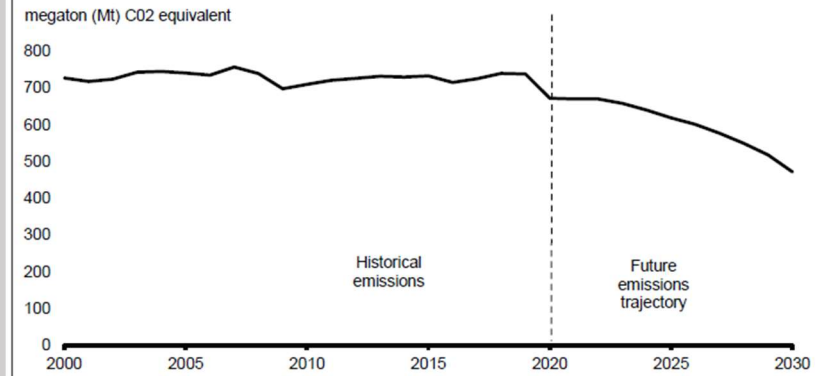
Consider discussing the following questions with your local candidates, elected officials, and the parties, and with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

Many voices, including scientists, the Vatican, and the United Nations, agree that in order to avoid catastrophic global heating, with resulting unpredictable increases in the number and severity of extreme weather events, loss of agricultural land, particularly in the poorest countries, and collapse of ecosystems, global average temperature increase must be limited to 1.5 degrees Centigrade; and that to achieve such a limit, emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide must be cut in half by 2030 and brought to zero net increase by 2050. Canada is currently committed to a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, relative to 2005 levels, by 2030, but according to the auditor general may not meet that goal.

- What can or should federal, provincial, and municipal governments, non-governmental organizations, families, and individuals do, if anything, to help prevent irreversible and possibly catastrophic damage to the earth's atmosphere?
- How can or should the federal government help guide Canada toward a sustainable, adaptable, and resilient economy and life style, in order to protect future generations and those who live in other parts of the world, while enabling Canadians to work at materially-sustaining and spiritually fulfilling jobs?
- Should the elimination of single-use plastics, packaging, and implements be made a social priority? If so, what can or should the federal or provincial governments do, or local or charitable organizations? What other issues should be at the top of our climate agenda?

Chart: Trends as of 2020, from Canada Federal Budget 2023, pg 16

Chart 20
Aggregate Historical and Future Trajectory of GHG Emissions, 2000-2030



Note: Historical data excludes effects from land use, land use change and forestry sector (LULUCF) while future emissions include these effects.
Source: Environment and Climate Change Canada (2022), National Inventory Report 1990-2020 and 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan.

Family, Community & the Common Good

Role of the Family | Health Care & Elder Care | Education & Young Workers | Culture, Arts & Tourism

. The priority of the family over society and the State must be affirmed. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Catholic Teaching

The demands of the common good... are strictly connected to respect for and the integral promotion of the person and his fundamental rights. These demands concern above all the commitment to peace, the organization of the State's powers, a sound juridical system, the protection of the environment, and the provision of essential services to all, some of which are at the same time human rights: **food, housing, work, education and access to culture, transportation...** -166, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

The Role & Development of the Family

"Honour your father and mother."
– the 4th Commandment

The family is the primary unit in society. It is where education begins and the Word of God is first nurtured. **The priority of the family over society and the State must be affirmed.** – 209-214, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

The Church teaches that the proper role of government and other human institutions is to **foster human life and dignity by maintaining social conditions that enable and encourage us to grow authentically and to serve God in one another**, and thereby to promote that which is truly in the common interest. This begins with nurturing and enabling families, as well as supporting the elderly and other marginalized members of society.

Health Care

Among the causes that greatly contribute to underdevelopment and poverty, mention



The Role and Development of the Family

The Bloc has released no official statement on its policies concerning the role of the family in society.

The Bloc advocates:

- a reform of employment insurance so that women who lose their jobs towards the end or upon returning from their maternity and parental leave can be protected by benefits

Health Care

The Bloc states that health is a priority for Quebecers, and that:

- decreases and even breaks in services during the summer following the pandemic have confirmed that Quebec's healthcare problems won't be solved in one fell swoop, due in particular to the ongoing under-funding of healthcare by the federal government
- Ottawa must do its fair share to ensure that those who suffer have access to quality care, and that Quebec's nursing staff are given reinforcements and working conditions worthy of their dedication
- the federal government will have to increase health transfers, unconditionally, to cover 35% of health care costs, as Quebec and the provinces are unanimously demanding
- it intends to support home care through tax credits
- it will make an increase in health transfers its main battle-horse following the election

Nutrition

The Bloc states that:

- Quebecers want the food they serve their families to be the freshest and healthiest
- Health Canada's decision, reversed following political pressure from the Bloc, to increase the amount of pesticides, notably glyphosate, in certain types of food has angered Quebecers
- it strongly condemns the federal government's dealings for the multinational pesticide companies, and is suspicious of the decision to postpone the increase in pesticide residues until 2022 as an attempt to hush up the issue before the election

Accordingly, the Bloc advocates:

- an investigation into the links and potential cronyism between Health Canada and pesticide multinationals such as Bayer and Syngenta, reiterating the importance of eliminating pesticides from the neonicotinoid family rather than increasing their use
- investment of \$300 million to find an alternative solution and support agricultural producers during the transition
- requirements for GMO labelling, especially in light of the appearance in Quebec grocery stores of transgenic salmon
- implementation of a traceability plan for seafood products from ship to plate, in order to properly inform consumers, encourage local fishing, and combat illegal fishing

Pandemic Response

The Bloc states that:

- the pandemic revealed the shortcomings of the pharmaceutical industry in Canada and Quebec, where we are 100% dependent on foreign countries for our vaccine supplies
- Canada requires a thoughtful, detailed, and workable plan to deal with future pandemics.

To that end, the Bloc advocates:

- that Canada take a leadership role with the World Health Organization (WHO), to establish a concerted strategy for the recognition of vaccines, mixed vaccination and quarantine management, taking into account the development of the pandemic in different countries and the appearance of variants
- establishment of a mechanism for verifying global vaccine evidence, enabling international travel to be managed according to the vaccines recognized by public health authorities
- an active campaign by Canada for the lifting of patents on vaccines, so that all the countries of the world can finally be equipped to fight the pandemic

must be made of illiteracy, lack of food security, the absence of structures and services, inadequate measures for guaranteeing basic healthcare, and the lack of safe drinking water and sanitation. -166, 447 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Support for the Elderly

If the elderly are in situations where they experience suffering and dependence, not only do they need health care services and appropriate assistance, but and **above all they need to be treated with love.** - 222 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Education

“May Nazareth remind us what the family is, what the communion of love is, its stark and simple beauty, its sacred and inviolable character; may it help us to see how sweet and irreplaceable education in the family is; may it teach us its natural function in the social order. May we finally learn the lesson of work.” – 210 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, citing St Paul VI, Address at Nazareth (5 January 1964)*

Maintaining employment depends more and more on one’s professional capabilities.

Instructional and educational systems must not neglect human or technological formation, which are necessary for gainfully fulfilling one’s responsibilities.

Young people should be taught to act upon their own initiative, to accept the responsibility of facing with adequate competencies the risks connected with a fluid economic context that is often unpredictable in the way it evolves. – 289, 290 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Culture, Arts & Tourism

Faced with rapid technological and economic

- development of a strategy for self-sufficient vaccine production, including the creation of the conditions necessary for the development of a world-class industry
- to benefit from recent scientific advances that have led to the emergence of expensive drugs capable of thwarting many rare diseases, requiring the federal government to revise its strategy to lower the cost of such drugs, without compromising patients' rapid access to them, or the development of vaccine autonomy
- ensuring the federal government's drug strategy is aligned with Quebec's strategy for rare diseases

Serious and Long-Term Illnesses

The Bloc states that:

- the Quebec nation protects the vulnerable and spares no effort to help those suffering from serious illnesses such as cancer. These people and their families often need much more than 15 or even 26 weeks of financial support to regain their health and return to work. at work
- it advocates increases in special health insurance benefits to the 50 weeks needed

Care & Support for the Elderly

The Bloc states that seniors have been the most affected by the pandemic, and the least adequately supported by the federal government

- increasing the monthly pension for all seniors, starting at age 65, remains unavoidable. It rejects any attempt to create two classes of seniors by discriminating against them on the basis of age
- archaic and discriminatory provisions in federal pension law must be abolished. Surviving spouses of pensioners whose marriage or de facto union had a after the age of 60, or after retirement, should not be deprived of the deceased's pension. The Bloc Québécois will demand the repeal of these discriminatory provisions, which undermine the dignity of women and of seniors who have worked for the federal public service or the armed forces, among others
- it wants seniors to enjoy a retirement worthy of the efforts they have devoted all their lives to the development of their families, their communities and their nation

Education & Young Workers

The Bloc has provided no statement of its policies relating to education and young workers.

Culture, Arts & Tourism

Culture

The Bloc states that:

- Quebec is a proud nation, proud of: (i) its common and official language, French; (ii) its history of resilience, creativity and solidarity, and (iii) its fundamental values of hospitality, sharing and equality, values that make Quebec a land of opportunity for those who live here, those who come here and those who will come here
- it has imposed Quebec on Ottawa, such that the Canadian Parliament has been seized by the priorities and needs of Quebecers as never before
- during its brief mandate, it pushed the House of Commons to make unprecedented advances for Quebec's identity, including (i) obtaining official recognition by the House that Quebec is a nation, and that its only official and common language is French (ii) obtaining a vote in favor of applying the Charter of the French Language, Bill 101, to companies under federal jurisdiction, and (iii) defeating opponents of Bill 21 on the secular nature of the State who were planning to use federal public funds to take Quebec to court (iv) defeating a pan-Canadian securities commission and centralization of financial market authorities in Toronto

The Bloc advocates:

- to protect seasonal workers and business such as sugar shacks and festivals that have lost two entire seasons due to the health crisis, changes in federal business assistance programs to ensure that the vitality of all our SME models
- using all its resources to ensure that the federal Official Languages Act no longer applies to private companies in Quebec. Quebec's Charter of the French Language must apply everywhere on our territory.
- tabling a bill to make sufficient knowledge of French a condition for obtaining citizenship from Quebec
- fighting with the Acadians and Franco-Canadians to ensure that the reform of the Official Languages Act gives top priority to the ability of these communities to live and work in French
- to protect Québec's reputation from tarnishment by slanderous attacks when the it asserts Quebecer's rights, language or societal choices, opposing "Québec bashing" at every opportunity, and refutation of accusations of racism frequently and unfairly levelled at an entire people, based on false premises
- a campaign to promote Quebec's image in the world. and a diplomatic effort to ensure our nation's international presence, including assertion of the inalienable right to self-determination of Quebecers, and the positive role Quebec plays in the world

progress, and with the equally rapid transformation of the processes of production and consumption, **a great deal of educational and cultural work is urgently needed.**

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 376, 401

Certain economically prosperous countries tend to be proposed as cultural models for less developed countries; instead, each of those countries should be helped to grow in its own distinct way and to develop its capacity for innovation while respecting the values of its proper culture. **A shallow and pathetic desire to imitate others leads to copying and consuming in place of creating, and fosters low national self-esteem.**

We forget that “there is no worse form of alienation than to feel uprooted, belonging to no one. **A land will be fruitful, and its people bear fruit and give birth to the future, only to the extent that it can foster a sense of belonging among its members, create bonds of integration between generations and different communities,** and avoid all that makes us insensitive to others and leads to further alienation.” – *Fratelli tutti*, –51-53

Arts

The Bloc advocates:

- repatriation of all cultural powers and creation of a Quebec agency to replace the CRTC, as Canadians are not much inclined to promote or protect culture, as evidenced by scuttling of Bill C-10, which was designed to provide a better framework for culture in the digital age, and to force the Web giants to do their bit for the development of Quebec art and media
- improving and re-tabling Bill C-10, in particular the Bloc's essential amendments ensuring the protection of Canadian and Quebec content, the "discoverability" and promotion of Quebec arts and the production of French-language content
- continued efforts to establish taxation of digital giants' revenues at a rate of 3%, as France already does
- requiring Web multinationals to negotiate with Quebec and Canadian content creators to establish equitable revenue sharing
- ensuring the continuity and predictability of cultural and tourism programs and subsidies, while the sector, its creators, presenters and events, large and small, continue to suffer the consequences of the pandemic-related economic crisis over the next few years
- directing taxes collected from the digital giants to a fund dedicated to the Quebec media, arts and culture



Christian Heritage Party



Role and development of the family

The party states that:

- it believes that the family unit is essential to the well-being of individuals and society, because that is where a child learns values and develops a sense of responsibility
- its goal is nothing less than to make Canada the most family-friendly country in the world

To support families, the party advocates:

- increased funding for child care, to help women enter the workforce by converting the Child Care Expense Deduction into a refundable tax credit covering up to 75% of the cost of child care for lower income families
- paying out the deduction over the course of the year so that families do not have to pay the cost of child care and then get the money back later
- improving Maternity and Parental Leave programs by allowing participating parents to earn up to \$1,000 per month to enable them to stay connected to the workforce and ease their return to work
- to help expectant parents with the myriad of first-time costs for cribs, clothes, car seats and a range of other items needed for a family, expanding the Canada Child Benefit by allowing benefits to begin at the 7th month of pregnancy rather than at childbirth
- to support parents traumatized by miscarriage, allowing them to receive three days of paid bereavement leave
- reforming EI parental benefits to ensure that parents who lose a child are not abruptly cut off from their benefits and ensuring that EI parental is extended for at least eight weeks following the death of an infant
- creation of a National Adoption Strategy, including an awareness campaign to promote adoption, and working with the provinces to ensure equal access to adoption for all children, including support for international adoption by working with other countries to align processes; creating an EI benefit for adoptive parents, modelled on EI maternity benefits; and increasing the maximum a parent can claim under the Adoption Expense Tax Credit from \$15,000 to \$20,000 and making the credit refundable

Child Care

The party states that:

- Canada's productivity consistently lags our G20 counterparts
- according to the IMF, increasing women's labour participation in the workforce could increase Canada's productivity by 4% in the medium term
- experience in Quebec has shown that increasing child care affordability increases the number of women who choose to work outside the home

- to enable women to enter the workforce and increase national productivity, it advocates converting the Child Care Expense deduction into a refundable tax credit covering up to 75% of the cost of child care for lower income families

Health Care

The party states that:

- all Canadians should have reasonable access to timely, quality health care services, regardless of ability to pay
- provinces and territories should be able to include balanced public and private health care options
- the party promotes wellness and disease-prevention programs as a part of health care
- the 20-year patent term achieves a workable balance between encouraging development of new drugs and assuring they are available at affordable prices

The party advocates:

- working with provinces to boost the annual growth rate of the Canada Health Transfer to at least 6%, thereby injecting nearly \$60 billion into the healthcare system over ten years

Health Security and Independence; Pandemic Response

In view of government's responsibility to protect the health of citizens, and to reduce Canada's health security and reduce reliance on foreign countries like China, the party advocates:

- partnering with pharmaceutical companies to increase production of critical medicines and build domestic vaccine production capacity
- using procurements by government and those receiving government funding to strengthen domestic production of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- overhauling and rebuilding Canada's National Emergency Stockpile System to ensure the country has the supplies needed to be prepared at all times for future threats

To ensure that Canada is ready to face future pandemics, including the bioterrorism threats, the party advocates rapid action to protect health while avoiding long-term impacts mental health and the economy, including:

- an immediate public inquiry to examine every aspect of the national pandemic response, ensuring that all lessons learned from the crisis are publicly aired, and that learnings can be immediately adopted
- working with allied nations to investigate the origins of COVID-19

To increase national resiliency to pandemics and other threats, the party advocates implementation and annual review and updating of an Emergency Preparedness Plan, comprising:

- ramping up Canadian research and production capacity by making Canada one of the best jurisdictions globally for pharmaceutical research and development and the production of vaccines and medicines
- reviewing regulation to avoid driving pharmaceutical companies away from Canada
- following the UK's example, implementing a strategy for sector growth a well-thought-out way rather than just handing out money
- negotiating constructively with the pharmaceutical industry to reduce drug prices while providing long-term regulatory certainty
- working with universities, the private sector, provinces, territories, and partner countries to review response plans, including domestic vaccine research, trials development and manufacturing capacity and readiness, with a focus on novel vaccine platforms
- reviewing Health Canada's regulatory processes and the balance between Canada's industrial, health, and economic relationships with the global biomanufacturing sector in light of Canada's poor performance in accessing vaccines during COVID-19
- working with pharmaceutical companies and others to increase domestic stocks and production of critical medicines, ingredients, and PPE in Canada
- reinstating the tariff on imported PPE
- working with infectious disease experts, provinces, and territories to develop evidence-based contact tracing systems for our borders
- developing a national system for sharing data across jurisdictions on pathogen transmission, immunity levels, and vaccination rates with transparent reporting requirements and coordination among jurisdictions
- strengthening Health Canada, by partnering with the private sector and working with provinces to harmonize ICU training to ensure that ICU credentials are transferable among jurisdictions so that that capacity can be bolstered in emergencies

Support for the Elderly

To help the many Canadians who care for parents and to help seniors avoid having to live in Long-Term Care homes, the party advocates:

- a Canada Seniors Care benefit, paying \$200 per month per household to any Canadian who is living with and taking care of a parent over the age of 70
- amending the Home Accessibility Tax Credit by increasing the limit from \$10,000 per dwelling to \$10,000 per person

- action to fix Long-Term Care and help seniors stay in their own homes
- to prevent recurrence of neglect or abandonment such as that seen in Long-Term Care homes during the COVID pandemic, the party advocates amending the Criminal Code provisions on failing to provide the necessities of life to make clear that the operator of a licensed care facility shall be presumed to have a legal duty to the residents of that facility.

Long-Term Care

The party advocates:

- working with the provinces to develop a set of best practices for Long-Term Care homes which, like the National Building Code, would provide guidance for provinces without intruding on their jurisdiction
- working with all those provincial governments who want to commit to long-term care projects and encourage all provinces to incorporate the results into provincial law
- in the meantime, devoting \$3 billion of infrastructure funding over the next three years to renovate Long-Term Care Homes in all provinces and territories across Canada, to improve the care that residents receive, and encouraging partnerships with private non-profits that have historically provided a significant amount of Long-Term Care
- helping meet the need for Personal Support Workers by providing priority in immigration programs to those who can work in Long-Term Care, and promoting such careers through immigration and refugee settlement programs

Employment for Working Elders

The party advocates:

- doubling the Canada Workers Benefit up to a maximum of \$2,800 for individuals or \$5,000 for families and pay it as a quarterly direct deposit rather than a tax refund at year-end, to help seniors who choose to continue working past retirement to give themselves a bit more income

Pensions

To protect elders from cuts to their pensions when the company they work for goes bankrupt, the party advocates:

- changing legislation to ensure that pensioners have priority over corporate elites in bankruptcy or restructuring
- preventing executives from paying themselves bonuses while managing a company going through restructuring if the pension plan is not fully funded
- ending requirements for underfunded pension plans to be converted to annuities, which can lock in losses and reduce worker payouts
- requiring companies to report the funding status of their pension plans more clearly.

Education & Young Workers

The party states that it believes in greater accessibility to education by eliminating as many barriers to post-secondary education as possible.

The party advocates:

- educational transfer payments to provinces based on numbers of enrolled students
- increasing the government's contribution for the Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) from 20 to 30 percent, up to \$2500 per year
- providing tax incentives and relief for student loans

Culture, Arts & Tourism

The party believes that:

- our culture is what binds Canadians together; that our shared identity stems from the stories we tell through music, television, art, and other media
- cultural industries are a huge economic driver, creating over 765,000 jobs in our economy
- Canada's multicultural society is a valued reality, while all Canadians should adopt common Canadian values such as equality, democracy, and the rule of law

To help build jobs and infrastructure while connecting Canadians to nature, to each other, and to globally recognized tourism destinations and promoting fitness and mental wellness, the party advocates:

- continued construction of the Trans-Canada Trail, providing \$12.5 million per year in funding

Online Media

To support Canadian culture and create a level playing field between Canadian businesses and foreign web giants, the party advocates:

- repealing Lill C-10, which gives too much power to regulators while failing to provide businesses with the clear guidelines they need to operate, and replacing it with legislation that updates the Broadcasting Act to deal with the realities of an increasingly online market and the need to provide businesses with certainty and consumers with choice

- requiring large digital streaming services like Netflix, Disney+ and Amazon Prime Video to reinvest a significant portion of their Canadian gross revenue into producing original Canadian programming, of which a mandated proportion must be French language programming, and if they fail to comply within a given year, requiring them to pay the difference into the Canadian Media Fund
- exempting content uploaded by Canadians onto social media sites like Facebook, YouTube and Tik Tok from regulation in order to protect free speech
- streamlining and reduce the regulatory burden placed on conventional Canadian broadcasters and cable companies, including CRTC license fees and Canadian Media Fund contribution requirements, with the loss in revenue to be compensated by a portion of the revenue from the new digital services tax
- conducting a full review of the mandate of the CRTC to ensure that it better reflects the needs of Canadians and doesn't prevent Canadian broadcasters from innovating and adapting to changes in the market
- protecting CBC Radio and CBC North
- reviewing the mandate of CBC English Television, CBC News Network and CBC English online news to assess the viability of refocusing the service on a public interest model like that of PBS in the United States, ensuring that it no longer competes with private Canadian broadcasters and digital providers

Independence of Canadian Media

The party states that loss of digital advertising revenue to American tech giants like Google and Facebook is putting local newspapers out of business, costing Canadian jobs, and undermining the ability to tell local, Canadian stories

To secure a level playing field for Canadian media, ensuring that Canadians are paid fairly for the content they create while encouraging the creation of more Canadian media and culture, the party advocates:

- introducing a digital media royalty framework to ensure that Canadian media outlets are fairly compensated for the sharing of their content by platforms like Google and Facebook, including adapting a made in Canada approach that incorporates the best practices of jurisdictions like Australia and France; providing a robust arbitration process and the creating an intellectual property right for article extracts shared on a social media platform; and ensuring that smaller media outlets are included, and that the government won't be able to pick and choose who has access to the royalty framework
- introducing a Digital Services Tax representing 3% of gross revenue in Canada to make web giants pay their fair share
- significantly reducing the amount of money spent by the government on advertising with big foreign tech companies like Twitter and instead direct federal ad dollars to Canadian media, including community weeklies, regional media, and ethnic media
- recognizing and correcting the adverse economic impact for creators and publishers from the uncompensated use of their works in a manner consistent with the unanimous recommendations of the Heritage Committee of the House of Commons Report in 2019
- ending the current government's \$600 million media bailout, as media outlets should be supported in ways other than directly receiving tax dollars. Government funding of "approved" media undermines press freedom, a vital part of a free society
- conducting a review of federal book publishing policy to enhance the commercial viability of Canada's independent publishing sector.

Canadian Heritage

The party states that Canada has a rich heritage as one of the world's oldest constitutional democracies. That heritage should be more effectively highlighted and taught to future generations. Unfortunately, many of nation's public monuments and heritage buildings are in a state of disrepair

To address this issue, the party advocates:

- creation of a new Canadian Heritage Preservation Fund to provide a total of \$75 million in grants to municipal governments over the next five years for the repair and restoration of historical monuments, statues, and heritage buildings
- continuing to support efforts to maintain Canada's national monuments
- ensuring the prompt completion of the Canadian Monument to the Victims of Communism

Official Languages

The party advocates:

- working with the Government of Québec to apply the French Language Charter to federally regulated businesses operating in Québec
- tabling, as a priority, legislation modernizing the Official Languages Act providing increased powers for the Official Languages Commissioner; giving the Treasury Board the authority and responsibility for ensuring the application of the Act across federal departments; creating an Official Languages administrative tribunal to deal with citizen complaints; stronger positive obligations in Part VII of the Act; and creating more robust mechanisms for the consultation of Official Language minorities
- creating a new \$30 million per year budgetary envelope to provide federal funding to minority francophone post-secondary institutions such as Université de Moncton, the University of Alberta's Campus Saint-Jean, and the Ontario French University and participating significantly in their future financing, in collaboration with the provinces
- increased support for francophone primary and elementary education via the Official Languages in Education Program to reflect demographic growth in the minority francophone

student population

- increased francophone immigration outside Québec to ensure that the demographic weight of francophone minorities will be maintained
- adopting an official French version of the 1867 British North America Act, for which only the English version currently has official status



Role of the family

The party has published no official statement concerning the role of the family in society.

Child & Family Care

The party advocates:

- dedicating additional resources to making a universal, affordable, early learning and child-care (ELCC) system a reality, including collaborating with provinces/territories, local communities, Indigenous communities and the child-care sector to ensure that a comprehensive short-, medium- and long-term policy road map – based on the principles of universality, affordability, quality, inclusivity, accessibility, and equity – finally becomes a reality, thereby ensuring a right of access for all children regardless of their parents' work status or income levels, while at the same time allowing for regional and local adaptation
- improving and strengthening family leave by extending it to leave to care for elderly family members, leave following miscarriages and more, and more flexible and better paid
- to support increased child care, immediately beginning to ramp up federal child care funding to achieve the international benchmark of at least one per cent of GDP annually. Long-term, stable, national funding must be made available and be sufficient to meet the standards of the guiding principles. It must also be secure and predictable enough to permit the long-term planning and sustainability of the programs, and ensuring the training, recruitment and retention of well-paid and professional staff
- eliminating GST on all construction costs related to child care spaces
- ensuring equitable access to high-quality, culturally appropriate ELCC programmes for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, including building on the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care and the accompanying bilateral agreements that have been negotiated with every province and territory, as well as with the First Nation, Inuit and Métis Peoples to ensure solutions are meeting their needs

Health Care

Pharmacare

The party states that Canada is the only country to have universal healthcare, without also offering universal pharmacare.

The party advocates:

- expanding the Canada Health Act by fully funding a universal pharmacare program, including ensuring quality prescription drug coverage for everyone in Canada, so that no Canadian skips, stretches or simply does not take their medication because they cannot afford it
- creating a bulk drug purchasing agency and reducing drug patent protection to ensure quality prescription drug coverage for everyone
- establishing a clear timeline for the implementation of universal pharmacare, including fully establishing a Canadian Drug Agency to assess prescription drugs and negotiate prices for a national formulary, instruction of legislation on pharmacare based on negotiations with provincial and territorial governments, and launch of national pharmacare by providing universal coverage for a list of essential medicines

Dental Care

The party advocates expansion of Medicare to include free dental care for low-income Canadians, and working to develop a universal dental care programme in Canada, so that every person has access to high-quality basic dental care, regardless of their insurance status

Long-Term Care

The party states that:

- during the COVID-19 pandemic, Canada had the worst record COVID deaths in long-term care homes among rich countries. Over 15,000 LTC residents died from COVID-19, and many more from a lack of care, during the pandemic
- in Canada, 69% of known COVID-19 deaths happened among long-term care residents
- Canada's existing patchwork of long-term care (LTC) has fatal structural flaws. Many long-term care residents in Canada still live in inadequate or inhumane conditions

To implement excellent long-term care, regardless of financial situation, and provide the necessary conditions for a high-quality and dignified life, the party advocates:

- bringing Long-Term Care under the Canada Health Act
- creating enforceable National Standards for LTC
- providing transformative investment for Seniors' Care including infrastructure and staffing funding
- requiring Emergency and Pandemic Preparedness for LTC, including providing proper and adequate supplies of personal protective equipment and testing for COVID-19 for staff, family caregivers, and residents
- setting a national standard of four hours of regulated care per day for each LTC resident
- enforcing National Standards of Care through accountability and penalties, including criminal prosecution
- ensuring safe family access to LTC facilities
- providing all needed vaccinations to all residents, staff and caregivers for LTC (not only COVID-19, but also influenza, pneumonia, diphtheria, whooping cough, etc.)
- providing a dedicated Seniors' Care Transfer to provinces and territories for specific improvements to home, community and LTC separate from the federal health transfers
- shifting LTC policy towards aging in place by having the Seniors' Care Transfer include transformative investment in home and community care (such as naturally occurring retirement communities, co-housing models, and enhanced home support programs)
- increasing the proportion of LTC investment in community and home-based care from 13% to 35% in order to match the OECD average
- ending for-profit LTC facilities and reorienting LTC towards community-based models
- making the Caregiver Tax Credit a refundable tax credit so that family caregivers have more flexibility (from its current earned tax credit status)
- changing the Home Renovation Tax Credit from \$10,000 per household to \$10,000 per person for more people to age in place

To improve the quality of life of workers in LTC, the party advocates:

- increasing and stabilizing staffing in LTC homes and improved training, fair pay for workers, benefits, and paid sick leave
- investing in training and education to support ongoing professional development and specialization for LTC workers
- prioritizing senior care and long-term care skills for immigration status

Pandemic Response

The party states that:

- one of the federal government's primary responsibilities is the safety and security of those who live within its borders. When the pandemic hit, Canada was not prepared. Our over-reliance on global supply chains and our incapacity to manufacture pharmaceuticals domestically are but two of the ways in which Canada's national security was compromised. The crisis laid bare important gaps in our social safety system, with all levels of government scrambling to plug the holes in order to avert the most catastrophic outcomes for people in Canada
- Canada faces a critical opportunity to lay the foundations for better future policy and social care.

The party advocates:

- a public inquiry that evaluates the joint response between all levels of government with the purpose of examining what went well and what could have been done better
- creating an intergovernmental rapid response task force, which can be activated immediately when facing an emergency
- ensuring that Canada has a robust capacity for pharmaceutical manufacturing
- ensuring that Canada has a sufficient PPE stockpile by increasing domestic production
- dedicating specific funding to strengthening the integration of public health with community-based primary care as the first access point of the health care system

Health Care Services

The party states that:

- while provinces have jurisdiction over health care delivery, the Canada Health Act sets the terms under which this happens. It provides universal primary health care to all Canadians, and ensures that this care is comparable across the country
- the ability of provinces to deliver on this mandate depends on health funding transfers from Ottawa
- health transfers have not kept pace with rapidly changing demographics and the emerging crises of mental illness and addiction
- at the same time, private health clinics, including blood services, represent a creeping two-tiered system, eroding the universal primary health care model
- it is committed to the principles and requirements of the Canada Health Act and to extending its model to other aspects of health care in collaboration with provinces and territories, to ensure that every Canadian has a family doctor and that primary care is centred on the patient and is sensitive to issues of social justice, equity and cultural appropriateness
- as we move into the "era of consequences" of climate change, new health imperatives are emerging. The World Health Organization has stated that "Climate

change is the greatest challenge of the 21st century, threatening all aspects of the society in which we live.” Public health associations have raised the alarm that climate-related illnesses are growing and need urgent attention. According to a report by the Canadian Paediatric Society and the Ontario Public Health Association, climate change is exacerbating a number of child health issues including “heat sickness, poor air quality, water contamination, and the mental health impacts of natural hazards, extreme weather, and displacement.”

- it is important to recognize the interconnectedness between the natural world and ourselves, and thus the increasing impact of climate change on our health
- in addition to climate change, Canada continues to suffer from the effects of an opioid crisis that has caused thousands of overdoses and deaths in recent years. The opioid crisis is a health care issue, not a criminal issue, and by addressing it as such we can begin to address the underlying causes and stop this national tragedy from getting even worse. This is why we have called for the decriminalization of small amounts of illicit drugs and the creation of a national safe supply program

To ensure a life of health, safety, and dignity for all Canadians, the party advocates:

- expanding the single-payer Medicare model to include Pharmacare for everyone, including creation of a bulk drug purchasing agency and reducing drug patent protection periods
- expanding the single-payer Medicare model to include long-term care and enhanced mental health services
- expanding the single-payer Medicare model to include free basic dental care for all Canadians
- restoring the Canada Health Accord, including increasing health transfers by basing them on demographics and real health care needs in each province, replacing the current formula based on GDP growth introduced by previous governments; prioritizing mental health and rehabilitation services, access to safe abortion services and access to gender-affirming health services such as hormones, blockers, and surgery
- reducing wait times, which are a foundational issue of accessibility in the health care system, particularly in the case of primary care
- addressing the impact of climate change on health and wellbeing by reorienting Health Canada’s mandate towards mental health and addictions, health promotion and disease prevention, and the risks of climate change, and encouraging medical associations to train health-care professionals to understand and engage with climate change related health threats
- legislating the right of Canadians to a healthy environment, promoting greater transparency in decision-making, public participation rights and access to judicial review mechanisms

Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals

To reduce technological and health risks, including those associated with hundreds of thousands of chemicals now in commercial use, the party advocates:

- setting targets for reducing the use of pesticides in agriculture through programs to assist farmers in moving to organic and regenerative farming
- strengthening the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) to limit the approval and use of toxic chemicals that affect our health and environment
- regulating microfibres as a toxic substance under CEPA
- invoking the precautionary principle in making decisions about approvals of products, substances, projects and processes where there is the potential for irreversible harm. If there is no scientific proof of safety, then approval will be withheld
- reviving and expanding the National Pesticides Monitoring and Surveillance Network, and creating an adverse effects reporting database for doctors and emergency rooms to keep track of health impacts of pesticides and other chemicals
- banning neonicotinoid pesticides, which kill bees and other pollinators, and supporting farmers in shifting to alternatives
- banning all forestry and cosmetic uses of glyphosate-based herbicides as well as their use as pre-harvest desiccants
- banning all toxic ingredients in personal care products
- in collaboration with provinces, territories, municipal/local governments and Indigenous Peoples, developing a national water strategy to ensure safe drinking water for all Canadians

Telemedicine

The party states that:

- many adaptations to medical practices initiated during the COVID-19 pandemic are certain to remain in place and will an important part of the response to future crises and to ensuring better, permanent health care access by various vulnerable groups
- such innovations should help enhance access without detracting from continuity of care or patient confidence
- telemedicine, or virtual care, holds great promise for service delivery in rural areas where access to care is a significant challenge. Virtual care services help meet the needs of rural residents through remote consultations, in-home monitoring, outsourced diagnostic analysis, remote specialist consultations, and virtual consultations for urgent care needs
- telemedicine can benefit several specific populations, including residents with disabilities, substance use disorders and/or mental health conditions, and those with limited English proficiency. It also helps seniors and Indigenous communities

The party advocates:

- setting and maintaining national standards on safety and quality for virtual care
- providing dedicated investment for publicly funded virtual care
- ensuring data interoperability and accessibility to patients
- supporting equitable access through infrastructure investments

Diet & Nutrition

The party states that for the first time in history, Canadian children will likely be less healthy than their parents

On the recommendation of Diabetes Canada, the Canadian Medical Association, Dieticians of Canada, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Green Party of Canada advocates:

- addressing this systemic issue by adding a special tax of 10 per cent on sugary drinks, one of the leading causes of obesity and certain types of diabetes, and banning the advertising of sugary drinks to minors

Support for the Elderly

The party states that there are serious gaps in federal policies, systems, and services designed to protect seniors. Canada's most vulnerable senior citizens have endured governmental mismanagement of long-term care facilities, they have experienced neglect in our public healthcare system, and they face growing threats to their economic security and well being

- the gaps in senior care have cost lives during the COVID-19 pandemic: more than 15,000 have died in long-term care
- an essential duty of the social contract between government and citizens is to make sure people can live fulfilling and dignified lives in their senior years
- with Canada's population of senior citizens expected to increase significantly over the next decade, the federal government must implement policies to ensure that seniors can live their lives to the fullest potential
- Green Party pledges such as the Guaranteed Livable Income, Pharmacare, public transportation, home retrofits, and the construction of affordable housing will contribute to a better quality of life for older adults

The party advocates:

- a fully funded National Dementia Strategy, developed in collaboration with health professionals and provincial/territorial governments, the strategy including research, improved quality of life for patients and caregivers, and education of the public to increase awareness and reduce stigma
- continuing ongoing funding for frailty research to improve care for vulnerable older adults while investing in new R&D in the ageing and age-tech sector
- increasing overall Canadian investment from \$50 million to \$150 million over five years in the field of dementia research

To prevent violence against and abuse of seniors, the party advocates:

- establishing a Federal Office of the Seniors' Advocate to provide systemic oversight and leadership on issues related to the current needs of Canadian seniors, as well as providing insight, analysis, and direction to the government on the future needs of our ageing population
- developing a National Elder Abuse and Neglect Strategy to raise awareness and provide funding for instances of elder abuse and neglect across the Country

To protect pensions, the party advocates:

- amending pension benefit legislation for federally-regulated pensions to maintain the solvency target at 100% and require annual Actuarial Valuations
- requiring pension sponsors, in the event that an Actuarial Valuation solvency ratio falls below a prescribed threshold to obtain a letter of credit to return to 100% solvency, or abide by restrictions on corporate cash management similar to Ontario's recent 520/20, until the solvency of the plan is restored, or obtain informed consent of a significant portion of plan members (perhaps >75%) to implement a different solution, other than a. or b
- as a short-term measure, introducing a refundable tax credit equal to the amount of pension loss an individual incurs when a pension fails
- to better protect the pensions of all Canadians whose companies file for bankruptcy, amending the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) to extend super-priority to the unfunded pension liability
- amending insolvency legislation to enable the creation of a Distressed Pension Facility in the event of a corporate insolvency
- ensuring that the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) remains robust and adaptive to changing needs and circumstances by increasing over time the target income replacement rate for income received during working years, as needed
- regulating the CPP Investment Board to require divestment of coal, oil and gas shares and ensuring that all investments are ethical and promote environmental sustainability
- protecting private pensions by amending the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act to establish the super-priority of pensioners and the pension plan in the creditor hierarchy during company insolvency proceedings

Education, Youth & Young Workers

The party states that young people are the future of Canada. Too often, our youth are overlooked and underrepresented when it comes to politics and policy changes. When youth are empowered, our communities emerge stronger

The party advocates:

- to address problems ranging from the unaffordable cost of post-secondary education to the crisis of youth homelessness, creating a political culture that gives young people the tools in which they need to succeed
- instituting a Guaranteed Liveable Income
- boosting apprentice program opportunities, specifically in sustainable fields
- establishing a federal student minimum wage of \$15 to provide parity with the general minimum wage
- establishing federal youth employment programs that would be active year-round

Housing & Youth Homelessness

The party states that:

- youth homelessness is a real problem that requires sustainable and compassionate solutions. Children and youth require stability and safety, yet in any given year, there are between 35,000 - 40,000 youth experiencing homelessness in Canada
- across the country, 20% of the homeless population are young people

In conjunction with other aspects of its platform, the party advocates:

- supporting existing youth shelters and other infrastructure through federal grants
- investing in the creation of new youth shelters in urban and small urban centers across the country which would work on a needs-driven and community-centric approach
- removing shelter maximum stays for youth
- providing on-site and remote access guidance counselling and therapy for youth suffering from homelessness
- providing optional relocation services for rural youth suffering from homelessness to ensure that they have access to youth shelters and other infrastructure
- supporting and investing in the co-operative model for youth housing.

Post-Secondary Education

The party states that:

- before the pandemic, the average student graduated with \$28,000 of debt. The pandemic had a severe financial impact on post-secondary students.
- education is a fundamental human right, and universal access to quality post-secondary education and skills training is a right, not a privilege.

The party advocates abolishing post-secondary education tuition, including:

- funding of \$10.2 billion, which is not a far financial reach from the existing student aid and can sustain a system of universally accessible, post-secondary education
- partially financing free post-secondary education by redirecting existing spending on tuition tax credits, saved costs of administering the student loan system, and the hundreds of millions of dollars of student loan defaults written off every year
- cancelling all federally held student loan debt, thereby helping half of students who earn a bachelor's degree in with more than \$28,000 in debt
- reintroducing a retroactive Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB), including ensuring that all those eligible for the CESB receive \$2,000 per month – the same amount as the Canada Recovery Benefit for the period beginning May 1, and until the pandemic is over
- ensuring that international and recently graduated students are eligible to receive this benefit
- removing the two per cent cap on increases in education funding for Indigenous students
- improving funding in federal-provincial transfers to universities and colleges, thereby providing more funding to universities and colleges with a measurable focus on student-professor contact, mentorship, policies of inclusion and tenure track hires
- reinvesting in the system, including allocation of \$10 billion to post-secondary and trade school supports
- building a more flexible and accessible education, thereby expanding opportunities for reskilling and retraining, by increasing the Canada Training Benefit to support continuous learning, and support for post-secondary institutions to provide new, innovative academic offerings
- enhancing access to graduate education, by tripling the number of Canada Graduate Scholarships available for master's students and doubling the number available for PhD students
- positioning Canada as a destination of choice for international talent and supporting post-secondary institutions in welcoming international students safely

Youth and Rural Areas

The party states that increasing dependency of the national economy on large urban centres over the last 50 years has resulted in a concentration of services and opportunities, having negative impacts on surrounding regions. Young people have been forced to leave their communities in pursuit of higher education and job opportunities. The nation needs to support regions outside of large urban centres to allow youth to remain in their communities with equal access to opportunities as youth in urban centres and to be able to actively participate in their communities' growth

To retain youth in rural areas, the party advocates:

- ensuring access to strong internet connection by investing in broadband connectivity
- investing in inter-municipal and rural public transit infrastructure such as buses and railway systems
- working with provinces to offer preferential tariffs for youth using public transit systems
- supporting development of educational programs targeting sustainable degrees for rural/small-urban developments
- opening paths for more apprentice programs and local post-secondary branches with online training for the time being and support towards the co-op model
- developing a new working model that will allow for more young people to work remotely from home if it is their preference
- helping youth looking to move into rural areas have access to land, property for sustainable farming

Culture, Arts & Tourism

The party states that:

- artists have more influence on public policy than an army of politicians, and that we need to support them to fully engage with the climate emergency
- the arts are frequently a creative outlet for the soul, and many who feel strongly about climate and social justice use the arts to express important messages in the most impactful way possible
- federal support for our cultural infrastructure must be increased, including support for the existing programs of Heritage Canada and its agencies
- it seeks to protect and promote creativity on both an individual and global level, including those negatively impacted by the COVID pandemic and those working to bring arts to rural and distant communities, and to promote young artists from those same regions
- our collective future requires us all to fully embrace Indigenous cultural values with regard to nature. The Canada Council must continue to support Indigenous creation through direct grants to artists and support for agencies and Arts Services Organizations to be full partners in this effort. The full reflection of our diverse society must be built on our relationship with nature

The party advocates:

- \$25 million in additional funding to aid museums and cultural organizations
- encouraging artistic engagement with the climate crisis to mobilise the public, including direct funding opportunities for creators and producers to engage with the climate crisis in order to increase public support for meaningful government action, adjusted to give our artists a clear incentive to address the priority issue facing all of humanity: the climate emergency
- ensuring the viability of our cultural infrastructure in consultation with Arts Service Organizations, professional associations, trade associations and unions across the creative sector

To promote Canadian cultural identity and social justice, the party advocates:

- increasing funding to \$1 billion over 3 years to all of Canada's arts and culture organizations including the Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm Canada, orchestras, theatres, galleries and publishers
- increasing support for community arts programs and facilities across Canada by establishing stable base funding at a set percentage of the federal budget
- protecting Canada's cultural identity during trade negotiations and ensuring arts and cultural representation on international trade missions
- copyright reform as envisaged by the current Heritage Committee report
- reforming the Canada Revenue Act to allow arts and culture workers to benefit from a tax averaging plan that will take into account the fact that lean years often precede and follow a good year when a show is produced, a book is published, or a grant or a prize is won
- permanent funding for festivals and events that celebrate Canadian Heritage
- providing incentives to all provinces and territories to restore and improve arts and culture components in schools and extracurricular activities, not only in urban but also in rural communities, with particular focus on encouraging new and emerging artists
- establishing a universal broadband strategy to provide reliable internet access across the country and in remote areas

Indigenous Cultures and Heritage

The party advocates:

- protection for Indigenous intellectual and artistic property rights

- supporting creation of historical information that sheds light on our colonial past wherever related statuary or plaques are currently in place
- ensuring that every First Nations, Métis, and Inuit child has access to quality educational opportunities based on the expressed language, cultural, political, and social priorities of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit governments, following meaningful consultation
- \$100 million in funding and incentives over three years for the creation and conservation of Indigenous art forms, particularly creative knowledge that is passed through the generations
- funding and incentives for artists to travel to Indigenous communities to stimulate young artists, as per one of the original aims of the PNIAI
- support for the Canadian Museums Association in ensuring, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples and in accordance with the 94 Calls to Action, continued compliance of museum policies and best practices with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- establishment of a dedicated national funding program, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples and the Canadian Museums Association, for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation

CRTC, Media and CanCon

The party advocates:

- regulating powerful platforms and streaming services through the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) as envisioned in Bill C-10
- ensuring that the CRTC reserves more bandwidth for independent and non-profit stations, and maintains and updates their Canadian Content (CanCon) regulations and definitions
- stable base funding for the CBC so it can continue to provide quality Canadian content television and radio programming in both official languages, as well as programming both in and to encourage the learning of Indigenous languages
- calling for an Independent Commission and comprehensive study of the concentration of media ownership in Canada in comparison to other western countries and recommending how to diversify media ownership and strengthen the depth and breadth of news reporting, especially local news, in Canada

Minority Language Rights

The party states that:

- the principles laid out in the Official Languages Act were the basis for Section 16 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, recognize the equality of status, rights and privileges for Canada's French and English linguistic communities. Respect for and protection of the Charter and all its values are non-negotiable
- it is committed to defending Canada's two official languages and protecting Indigenous languages in our communities and across our country

The party advocates:

- promoting and implementing a modernized Official Languages Act to protect both national languages, in consultation with minority language communities
- guaranteed access to federal services in both official languages in every province, thereby supporting immigration of French-speaking communities all across the country
- ensured funding for the protection of Indigenous languages at risk of disappearing, across Canada
- increased funding for French immersion and French second-language programs across the country, to ensure that children are able to pursue education in their official language of choice
- permanent, stable funding for post-secondary educational institutions in minority language communities across Canada, to provide urgently needed support to institutions such as Campus Saint-Jean at the University of Alberta, the Université de l'Ontario français and other institutions across the country



Role and development of the family

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's immediate priority is to build a Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care system that reduces parent fees, creates more high-quality spaces, recruits and retains skilled educators, and ensures all kids get off to the best possible start
- at the same time, the Ministry was to work with Indigenous partners to implement a culturally appropriate Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care system
- the Ministry was also to focus on implementing the Community Services Recovery Fund to help charities and non-profits adapt and modernize as well as ensure Service Canada provides reliable and accessible services to Canadians, regardless of where they live.

Parental Leave

The party states that:

- 15 to 25 per cent of pregnancies end in miscarriage, and one per cent end in stillbirth. Without time to rest and recover, those who lose a child are at higher risk of developing physical and mental health challenge
- the death or disappearance of a child is a tragic and devastating moment and can leave parents unable to work. Ensuring parents have the support they need to navigate a devastating period in their lives is critical to their emotional, mental, and physical well-being

The party proposes to amend the Canada Labour Code:

- to create a new stand-alone leave for workers in federally regulated sectors who experience a pregnancy loss, and for parents planning to have a child through adoption or surrogacy
- to improve eligibility for leave related to the death or disappearance of a child for workers in federally regulated sectors

Child Care & Family Leave

The party advocates:

- \$10 a day child care to make life affordable for families
- laying the foundation for a Canada-wide early learning and childcare system, in order to correct economic losses to women caused by the COVID recession
- allocating \$625 million to ensure that a safe and sufficient level of child care is available to support the gradual return to work of parents
- allocating a further \$20 million to establish a Federal Secretariat on Early Learning and Child Care
- allocating a further \$70 million to sustain the existing federal Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Secretariat, to support Indigenous participation in development of a Canada-wide child care system
- providing a further \$870 million per year for enhance fee subsidies for child care
- providing a further \$420 billion in one year to train early childhood educators
- investing a further \$75 million to improve quality of Indigenous child care programs through delivery of quality, culturally-relevant care
- providing \$1200 per year for each child under the age of six for families with incomes under \$120000 per year families receiving Canada Child Benefits an additional \$300 per child

Health Care

The party states that:

- while it is a good system, the public health care system is not delivering the high-quality care that Canadians deserve. Patients seeking emergency care have found their emergency rooms overwhelmed. Surgeries have been postponed or cancelled. Both the system and the workers who uphold it are under enormous strain, especially following the pandemic

To help strengthen the health care system, the party states that:

- its 2023 budget delivers an urgent investment of \$198.3 billion over the next ten years to strengthen the system
- the 2023 budget also implements steps in its plan to ensure Canadians have access to dental care
- the budget also includes measures to address the shortage of health care professionals in rural and remote communities, to combat the opioid crisis, and to ensure that Canadians can receive sexual and reproductive health care and critical mental health support

The party identifies the following among key accomplishments in health care:

- since 2015, providing \$10 billion to provinces and territories to strengthen home care, community care, and long-term care for seniors
- improving access to mental health services, including through \$5 billion to provinces and territories to increase community-based mental health and addictions services
- delivering \$6.5 billion through Canada Health Transfer top-ups to provinces and territories to address immediate pressures in our public health care system, in addition to annual Canada Health Transfer payments, which amount to \$49.4 billion in 2023-24
- launching the Canada Dental Benefit for children under 12, which has already helped more than 240,000
- providing \$5.5 billion for primary care and public health on reserve, distinctions-based mental health support, and non-insured health benefits for First Nations and Inuit
- \$1.2 billion to support 248 health-related infrastructure projects in First Nation communities
- investing more than \$800 million since 2017 through the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy to support a compassionate and evidence-based response to the overdose crisis
- launching a Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund to help make sexual and reproductive health information and services—including access to abortion—more accessible for vulnerable populations

The party plans to:

- provide an additional \$141.8 billion for healthcare over the over the next ten years, over and above the \$45.2 billion provided in 2022-23, in accordance with the Canada Health

Transfers escalator which is based on GDP growth

- provide \$2 billion in 2022-23 to address urgent pressures in emergency rooms, operating rooms, and pediatric hospitals, building on \$6.5 billion in top-ups provided throughout the pandemic
- in accordance with a Canada Health Transfer Five Per Cent Guarantee, provide top-up payments to achieve Health Transfer increases of at least five per cent per year for the next five years. This represents an estimated \$17.1 billion over ten years in additional funding through the Canada Health Transfer
- in accordance with Tailored Bilateral Agreements, provide \$25 billion over ten years through a new set of bilateral agreements to address individual provincial and territorial health system needs, such as expanding access to family health services, supporting health workers and reducing backlogs, increasing mental health and substance use support, and modernizing health systems
- provide \$1.7 billion over five years to support hourly wage increases for personal support workers and related professions
- provide \$350 million over ten years in recognition of medical travel and the higher cost of delivering health care in the territories
- \$505 million over five years, starting in 2023-24, to the Canadian Institute for Health Information, Canada Health Infoway, and other federal data partners, to work with provinces and territories to develop new health data indicators, support creation of a Centre of Excellence on health worker data, advance digital health tools and an interoperability roadmap, and support provincial and territorial efforts to use data to improve the safety and quality of health care
- to encourage more doctors and nurses to practice in rural and remote communities, allocate \$45.9 million over four years, starting in 2024-25, with \$11.7 million ongoing, to Employment and Social Development Canada to expand the reach of the Canada Student Loan Forgiveness program to more rural communities, including all communities with populations of 30,000 or fewer. Currently eligible communities with a population over 30,000 will remain eligible until the 2026 Census
- in order to complement investments made previously in the working conditions and wages of personal support workers, allocating up to \$50 million over 5 years to develop and test means for strengthening the retirement savings of personal support workers

Dental Care

The party states that:

- dental care is an important component of health, but seeing a dentist can be expensive. A third of Canadians currently do not have dental insurance, and in 2018, more than one in five Canadians reported avoiding dental care because of the cost
- delaying preventative care can have wide-reaching impacts, including costlier treatments, worsening health outcomes, and time away from school and work
- during its current term in office it committed to providing dental care for uninsured Canadians with family income of less than \$90,000 annually, starting with children under 12-years-old, and implemented the Canada Dental Benefit, which is now providing eligible parents or guardians with direct, up-front, tax-free payments of up to \$1,300 over two years, per child, to cover the cost of dental care for their children, and to date has helped more than 240,000 children receive the dental care they need.

The party proposes to expand coverage to all Canadians who need it, including:

- providing \$13.0 billion over five years, starting in 2023-24, and \$4.4 billion ongoing to Health Canada to implement the Canadian Dental Care Plan, to provide dental coverage for uninsured Canadians with annual family income of less than \$90,000, with no co-pays for those with family incomes under \$70,000
- to help those hindered by other factors, such as living in a remote community, or requiring specialized care due to a disability, providing \$250 million over three years, and \$75 million ongoing to Health Canada to establish an Oral Health Access Fund, to reduce barriers to accessing care, including in rural and remote communities
- providing \$23.1 million over two years to Statistics Canada to collect data on oral health and access to dental care in Canada, which will inform the rollout of the Canadian Dental Care Plan

Health Care

Pharmacare

The party advocates:

- investing at least \$170 million in governmental capacity to manufacture vaccines, by establishing a new bio-manufacturing facility at the National Research Council Therapeutics Centre in Montreal
- investing up to \$792 million in private bio-manufacturing capacity through the Strategic Innovation Fund
- exploring ways to promote long-term sustainable growth in the bio-manufacturing sector, through the National Research Council and Strategic Innovation fund
- establishing new Canadian Drug Agency to negotiate drug prices on behalf of all Canadians
- developing a national strategy for high-cost drugs for rare diseases, with funding of \$500 million per year, beginning in 2022-23

Support for Seniors

In its Mandate Letter to the Minister of Seniors at the beginning of its present term in government, the party instructed the Minister to:

- support and help advance the party's commitment to increase Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement

- support the Minister of Health in improving the quality and availability of long-term care and to take concrete actions to support seniors who want to age at home
- continue to create opportunities for seniors to be more connected, supported, and active members of their communities through implementing the New Horizons for Seniors Program

The party reports that:

- from April to July 2020 it deployed members of the Canadian Armed Forces to support 54 long-term care facilities affected by the pandemic in Ontario and Quebec
- has committed to providing more than \$50 million for support of long-term care facilities, including pay raises for home workers and training for additional workers
- it provided Old Age Security top-ups of \$300 to seniors, as support during the pandemic
- it provided top-ups of \$200 to recipients of Old Age Security payments, to defray costs of staying home and staying safe

The party advocates:

- working with provinces and territories to establish national long-term care standards, including improved conditions for support workers and improve retention

Students & Young Workers

Student Assistance

The party states that:

- more than 750,000 post-secondary students rely on federal assistance each year to help them afford the cost of tuition, housing, and everyday essentials
- to ease the transition from school to working life, it eliminated interest on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans, and made changes to loan repayment assistance so that payments need not be paid by those earning less than \$40,000 per year
- to assist during the pandemic, it doubled Canada Student Grants, enabling students to receive up to \$6,000 in up-front, non-repayable aid each school year, for three years

To support students beyond the pandemic, the party plans:

- to provide \$813.6 million in 2023-24 to enhance student financial assistance for the school year starting August 1, 2023, including increasing Canada Student Grants by 40 per cent—providing up to \$4,200 for full-time students; raising the interest-free Canada Student Loan limit from \$210 to \$300 per week of study; waiving the requirement for mature students, aged 22 years or older, to undergo credit screening in order to qualify for federal student grants and loans for the first time, thereby allowing up to 1,000 additional students to benefit from federal aid in the coming year

Registered Education Savings Plans

To address the rising cost of post-secondary education, the party plans:

- to increase limits on certain RESP withdrawals from \$5,000 to \$8,000 for full-time students, and from \$2,500 to \$4,000 for part-time students
- to allow divorced or separated parents to open a joint RESP for their children, which will make it easier and more affordable for parents to save for their children's education

The party reports that:

- under its leadership the federal government has provided as much as \$2 billion to provinces and territories to support a safe return to class and to protect students and staff
- younger workers were the hardest-hit age group as a result of the pandemic, with a drop to historic lows in youth employment
- to support post-secondary students who were unable to obtain summer employment during the summer of 2020, the government provided \$2.94 billion in income support
- in addition, the government provided \$228 million to graduate and post-doctoral students to support extended research scholarships

Culture, Arts & Tourism

Official Languages

The party states that:

- Canada's two official languages unite the country, and that English and French are at the heart of Canadian history and identity
- however, the relative size of Francophone minority communities has been declining, even in Quebec, and Canada's rate of official language bilingualism is static
- during its term in office it has:
 - * provided \$2.7 billion over five years to fund its Action Plan for Official Languages, which includes funding for the training and recruiting of teachers to meet the growing needs of Francophone minority schools and immersion classes
 - * provided \$450 million over five years, starting in 2019-20, to support minority-language education, including at the post-secondary level; second-language learning; and minority-language community and educational spaces

* provided, \$21.6 million over five years, starting in 2020-21, to support legislative amendments for increased access to family justice, including divorce, in the official language of one's choice

To continue its efforts to support both official languages, the party proposes investments of more than \$3.8 billion over five years to implement its Action Plan for Official Languages, with 2023-28 to over \$3.8 billion over five years in accordance with the four pillars of its Action Plan for Official Languages:

- providing \$123.2 million to boost Francophone immigration in Canada, including support for Canadian employers to recruit French-speaking foreign workers, and increased support for these immigrants once they arrive in Canada
- providing \$117 million to ensure the prosperity of official language minority communities, including increased support for the non-profit organizations that serve these communities, for the training of bilingual nurses and personal support care workers, and for the promotion of French-language research
- providing \$111.4 million to bolster the heart of Canadian identity, including bilingualism in our justice system, for example through the translation of judgments of national interest and support for cultural and educational activities, including the training of early childhood educators in minority-language communities outside Quebec
- providing \$22.1 million for a centre of expertise to ensure federal institutions fulfill their duty of leadership, under the Official Languages Act, by enhancing the vitality of official language minority communities, and to support data and research on the number of children who have a right to be educated in the minority language

Minority Language Employment Assistance

To support workers in Official Language Minority Communities, the party proposes to provide \$208 million over five years, and \$54 million ongoing to Employment and Social Development Canada to expand delivery of employment assistance services such as employment counselling, resume writing, interview techniques, job search skills, and job placement services

Film & Media

The party states that in recent years changing viewing habits have resulted in declining revenues for the Canada Media Fund (a non-profit organization that supports artists, storytellers, and producers in bringing Canadian content to audiences at home and around the world), making it harder for them to support homegrown talent.

The party proposes to provide \$40 million over two years to the Department of Canadian Heritage for the Canada Media Fund to make funding more open to traditionally underrepresented voices, and to increase funding for French-language screen content. This approach ensures support for the production of Canadian content while the government continues to review and modernize its support for the Canadian screen sector

Arts and Heritage

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Canadian Heritage at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister:

- that an immediate focus should be to ensure artists and cultural industries have the supports they need to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
- to ensure Canada's laws reflect the evolving digital world, and to introduce legislation to reform the Broadcasting Act to ask web giants to pay their fair share and combat serious forms of harmful online content
- to work with Indigenous partners to create a national monument to honour residential school Survivors
- in order to draw Canadians together and help tell us who we are, to prioritize efforts to promote cultural and creative industries in both official languages, increase funding to empower Indigenous, Black and racialized artists and journalists to tell their own stories and work with Indigenous partners to preserve, promote and revitalize Indigenous languages in Canada

The party proposes to continue to support opportunities for local artists, artisans, and heritage performers through festivals, events, and projects, including Indigenous cultural celebrations and the celebration of 2SLGBTQI+ communities, including providing \$14.0 million over two years for the Department of Canadian Heritage for support of the Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage program.

Tourism

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Tourism at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister:

- that the Ministry's top priority should be to ensure that Canada remains a tourist destination of choice, supported by Destination Canada and working in partnership with the tourism and hospitality sectors
- to that end, its immediate priority would be to advance recovery measures for the tourism sector, one of the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to develop a national trails tourism strategy

The party further states in its current budget that:

- with travel resuming in the wake of the COVID pandemic and the tourism industry beginning to recover, there is an opportunity to invest in Canada's tourism sector and ensure it

can continue to be a driver of good jobs and vibrant communities across Canada

- visitors to Canada generate billions of dollars in revenue for the Canadian economy, strengthen our commercial and social ties with other countries, and support Canadian businesses. As air travel continues to recover from the pandemic, it is committed to simplifying and expediting the application process for those seeking to visit Canada, while prioritizing national security
- to promote international tourism, it proposes to expand eligibility for the Electronic Travel Authorization Program to low-risk, trusted travellers from additional visa-required countries—a service which is currently available only in Brazil. This will help make Canada a more attractive destination for trusted travellers, while allowing the government to focus resources where it matters most, such as on screening higher-risk travellers. The cost of this measure is \$50.8 million over four years in forgone revenue

It proposes, following consultations with the tourism industry, provincial and territorial counterparts, and Indigenous tourism operators, a new Federal Tourism Growth Strategy to chart a course for growth, investment, and stability in Canada's tourism sector, including the following key components:

- \$108 million over 3 years, on a cash basis, to the Regional Development Agencies to support communities, small businesses, and non-profit organizations in developing local projects and events
- \$50 million over 3 years, on a cash basis, to Destination Canada to attract major international conventions, conferences, and events to Canada

Sports and Activities

The party proposes:

- in order to ensure that Canadian sporting institutions are accountable for the treatment of their athletes, to provide \$13.8 million over three years to the Department of Canadian Heritage to enhance accountability and support efforts to build a safe and accountable sport system
- to promote physical activity, which can have significant benefits for both physical and mental health, as well as for communities, the environment, and the economy, providing \$10 million over two years to the ParticipACTION Let's Get Moving Initiative. The party states that less than half of adults, children, and youth met minimum national physical activity guidelines



Role and development of the family

The party states that it hopes to build a future where families feel more secure and more hopeful in their lives.

Child Care

The party believes that every parent should be able to access quality child care when needed, with a licensed provider who earns a fair wage.

The party advocates:

- working with other levels of government, Indigenous communities, families, and child care workers to ensure that care is inclusive and responsive to the needs of all Canada's children
- investing \$1 billion dollars in the first year, and more than that annually, along with provinces and territories

Diet & Nutrition

The party states that:

- every child in Canada should have access to nutritious food, and that no one should have to try to learn on an empty stomach
- a recent UNICEF report ranked Canada 37 out of 41 countries in terms of access to nutritious food for children

The party advocates working with provinces, territories, municipalities and Indigenous communities to work towards a national school nutrition program that will give every child access to healthy food and to food literacy skills to make healthy choices for life, including making culturally appropriate food available

Health Care

Pharmacare

The party states that:

- it led the fight to establish universal public health care in Canada. Medicare changed the lives of millions of people – and it is one of our party's proudest achievements

- still, today millions of families cannot afford to take the medications they need because they have no employer-provided drug coverage. The number of uninsured people forced to skip their medications is growing as more people work on contract, are self-employed, or have jobs that just don't come with health benefits
- many seniors are putting their health at risk because they don't have drug coverage and can't afford to pay out-of-pocket
- Canada is the only wealthy country in the world with a universal health care system that lacks universal prescription insurance coverage. We pay the third highest prices for prescription drugs in the world, straining our health care systems across the country, and have to deal with a patchwork of programs and coverage

The party advocates:

- immediately beginning to work with the provinces right away to target an annual federal investment of \$10 billion
- developing a national strategy to cover drugs for rare diseases, so that coverage is no longer determined by where you live or what private insurance your family has
- ensuring that pharmaceuticals are financed by a public insurance system that covers everyone, putting an end to costly copayments, deductibles and premiums, and includes negotiating prices with pharmaceutical companies to bring down prices for everyone

Public Care

The party states that:

- universal access to public health care is one of the party's proudest achievements
- quality medical services are under threat from privatization and cuts
- too often, Canadians are getting different care depending on their province of residence

The party advocates:

- immediate action to prevent the sale of blood products, and to make sure that people can access safe abortion services in all regions
- working with the provinces and territories to tackle wait times and improve access to primary care across the country, including development of secure, accessible virtual healthcare
- identifying coming gaps in health human resources and making a plan to recruit and retain the doctors, nurses and other health professionals Canadians need
- working with the provinces and territories to expand and improve access to palliative care across the country

Modernizing Care

The party states that:

- the Canada Health Act is supposed to fund all medically necessary services that Canadians might need. Many kinds of needed services are covered, however.
- as jobs with extended health benefits become harder to find, fewer people will have access to extended healthcare services
- over the next decade, Canadians need a historic expansion of the services covered under the national health care system.

With respect to dental care, the party:

- states that one in three Canadians has no dental insurance – and almost seven million people don't visit the dentist every year because they can't afford to, so that many people go without needed care, until the pain is so severe that they are forced to seek relief in hospital emergency rooms. Good oral health is a critical component of overall good health, and should be covered by the health care system.
- advocates working together with provincial partners, health professionals and dentists to develop a roadmap to incorporate universal dental care into the public health care system, and immediately deliver dental care coverage for people who don't have any private insurance

In addition, the party states that:

- more than one in five Canadians struggling with mental health challenges who have expressed a need for counselling weren't able to get it
- eye check-ups are important for preventing vision loss and identifying other health issues, yet many, particularly children and seniors, don't get regular eye care, or struggle to pay for glasses
- mental health care should be available at no cost for people who need it. As a first step, it advocates implementing mental health care for uninsured Canadians, and ensuring that pharmacare covers prescription medication
- mental health coverage should include a national perinatal mental health strategy to support growing families before and after birth
- Canadians struggling with infertility should also have access to the procedures and care they need, no matter which province or territory they live in
- the long-term path to providing public coverage for these services will require strong federal re-investment in our health system, with the knowledge that investing in preventative health services will ultimately save money and give Canadians the care they need to live healthy, full lives

Pandemic Response

The party states that the COVID-19 pandemic exposed serious weaknesses in Canada's pandemic preparedness and response capacities.

To strengthen the preparedness and response systems so that Canada is never again unprepared and left behind in a global pandemic, the party advocates:

- taking an immediate leadership role in a federal vaccination strategy to ensure all Canadians can be vaccinated
- providing stable, long-term funding for the Public Health Agency of Canada to prepare to provide surge capacity in the event of a crisis
- ensuring that Canada has the manufacturing capacity for vaccines for public health emergencies, including establishment of crown corporation charged with domestic vaccine production
- ensuring that Canada maintains an adequate and responsibly managed stockpile of personal protective equipment, with an emphasis on supporting domestic production
- ensuring that the ability of the Chief Public Health Officer to speak freely about public health issues without the fear of political retribution, including protection by law, and requiring the Chief Public Health Officer to report to parliament annually about recommendations to improve public health emergency preparedness
- working with universities and health professionals to ensure that public research on critical health issues continues to flourish
- working to strengthen the Global Public Health Intelligence Network, which provides surveillance and early warnings that are critical for managing international public health emergencies
- taking action to regulate natural health products

Opioid Crisis

The party states that:

- seventeen Canadians die every day from opioid-related causes. Tens of thousands of families have lost parents, partners, siblings, and children
- every part of the country has been impacted by these highly addictive and dangerous drugs, from the busiest downtown neighbourhoods to the most remote communities
- too often, impacts are even worse for the most vulnerable and marginalized people
- the federal government is lagging behind the urgent action being taken by provinces like British Columbia

The party advocates:

- declaring a public health emergency and working with all levels of government, health experts and Canadians to end the criminalization and stigma of drug addiction, so that people struggling with addiction can get help without fear of arrest, while getting tough on those who traffic in and profit from illegal drugs
- creating a safe supply of medically regulated alternatives to toxic street drugs, supporting overdose prevention sites and expand access to treatment on demand for people struggling with addiction
- an investigation into the role drug companies may have played in fueling the opioid crisis, and seeking meaningful financial for the public costs of this crisis

Support for the Elderly

The party states that:

- the elderly deserve to live in comfort and safety
- seniors and those suffering disability should be able to remain in their homes with the care they need
- family caregivers deserve more support – and should never have to worry about whether their loved ones are getting good care
- every Canadian, of every age, deserves to live in dignity and be treated with respect by their government and the health care system
- all provinces and territories fund home care services as part of publicly insured healthcare, but there are inconsistent standards between provinces; and with respect to long-term care, understaffing at residential homes is an ongoing and critical problem across the country. Staffing shortages make for poor quality care, hamper infection control and also leave health care workers at risk of experiencing workplace violence

To provide access to quality home care and long-term care no matter those in need live, the party advocates:

- ending private, for-profit long-term care and bringing long-term care homes under the public umbrella, beginning with the federally-owned long term care company Revera
- working collaboratively with patients, caregivers, and provincial and territorial governments to develop national care standards for home care and long-term care, regulated by the same principles as the Canada Health Act, including providing legally protected access to home care and long-term care services with ensured consistent quality of care across the country
- ensuring that funding is tied to maintenance of desired standards, including a core basket of home care services covered by provincial insurance plans, and setting minimum national care standards
- working with the provinces to develop and support workforce strategies and violence prevention, including making sure that care workers have better wages, stable jobs and health and safety protections

To provide financial security for seniors, the party advocates:

- development of a National Seniors Strategy that will work with the provinces, territories and Indigenous governments to make seniors health care a priority, reduce isolation and tackle seniors' poverty, including a funded national dementia strategy and an elder abuse prevention plan developed with seniors to put an end to abuse and neglect in our communities
- through a national pharmacare program, providing prescription medicine to all seniors, saving seniors hundreds of dollars every year
- a national dental care plan
- a one-year delay to help seniors at risk of having their GIS benefits suspended for being unable to make the required income statement
- to assist caregivers, making the Canada Caregiver Tax Credit refundable
- creating half a million affordable housing units in the next decade, including accessible housing choices for seniors
- to address isolation, improving seniors' access to technology and support
- additional funding for community programs that do outreach to seniors to combat isolation
- working with cities to make transit more affordable and convenient, create more community recreation spaces
- supporting innovative housing solutions like intergenerational co-housing

Education & Young Workers

Education

The party states that:

- accessible and publicly-funded education is a great source of opportunity for everyone in society. It can transform lives, opening new horizons and new opportunities for people from every background; is the greatest gift citizens can give one another
- students who have the grades and the drive to study hard should be able to get the education they want – at any age, and in every community, from affordable child care and early years education through to university and college, apprenticeship training, skills development, and retraining programs
- sky-rocketing and student debt are barriers to many students. Today the average student with debt owes \$28,000 at the end of an undergraduate degree, and will end up paying over \$10,000 more than a student who is able to graduate without taking on debt

To ensure that every Canadian has access to quality post-secondary education, regardless of their income, the party advocates:

- working with the provinces and territories to cap and reduce tuition fees, and building towards making post-secondary education part of our public education system so kids can go from kindergarten to a career without the barrier of cost
- to make education more affordable immediately, following the lead of provinces that have eliminated interest rates on student loans
- implementing a targeted debt forgiveness program for graduates that will forgive up to \$20,000 in student debt
- moving away from loans and permanently doubling non-repayable Canada Student Grants

Civilian Climate Corps

The party proposes creation of a new Civilian Climate Corps to mobilize young people and create new jobs supporting conservation efforts and addressing the threat of climate change by undertaking activities such as helping restore wetlands, and planting the billions of trees that need to be planted in the years ahead

Culture & Arts

Arts

The party believes that arts and culture are at the heart of the Canadian identity, and important in our understanding of one another.

The party advocates support for a strong, independent Canadian arts and culture industry, including:

- a dedicated re-building package for the performing arts, theatre, festivals and other arts that have been impacted by the pandemic
- ensuring that talent can thrive on both digital and traditional platforms
- the ability of artists to earn a decent living from their art
- ensuring that government has an important role in ensuring that a diversity of Canadian voices tell our stories
- ensuring that Facebook, Netflix, Google, and other web giants pay their share of taxes and contribute to funding Canadian content in both official languages, just as traditional media do
- modernizing the Broadcasting Act fairly in order to create a level playing field between Canadian broadcasters and foreign streaming services, to rebalance negotiating power for Canadian independent producers and the Canadian cultural sector, and to ensure Canadian programming is owned by Canadians

- prioritizing partnerships with Canadian independent producers, including increased funding for Telefilm and enhanced financial support for the Canada Media Fund
- increased funding for CBC and Radio-Canada to help reverse funding cuts under previous governments, as public broadcasting has a remarkable legacy of connecting all points of the nation, and needs to have an even stronger future to ensure that Canadians have access to accurate, relevant information no matter where they live
- in view of special challenges faced by people who make a living in the arts and culture industry, implementing income tax averaging for artists and cultural workers

Official Languages

The party advocates:

- enhancement of the Action Plan for Official Languages to improve access to services in the language of choice, including working with the provinces and territories to improve minority language education, and attract more French-speaking immigrants to communities all across the country
- modernization of the Official Languages Act to strengthen oversight and accountability, expand the scope of language rights and ensure that minority language communities are consulted on decisions that impact them
- ensuring that Canadians can access justice in their language of choice, and that judges on the Supreme Court are bilingual
- adoption of the principle of asymmetry, which recognizes that as a minority official language, French requires particular protection and promotion
- ensuring promotion and revitalization of Indigenous languages, recognizing that honouring Canada's linguistic heritage must include reconciliation



The party has published no statement regarding its policies on:

- The Role of the Family
- Education & Young Workers

Health Care

The party states that:

- Canada's public health care system has the worst wait times of any developed country
- Health care costs have been increasing at an unsustainable rate, increasing financial pressures on the budgets of provincial governments
- the situation is likely to get worse with Canada's aging population
- as seen during the COVID pandemic, the Canadian health care system is too rigid and bureaucratized to quickly adapt to a crisis situation
- although health care is an exclusive provincial jurisdiction, the federal government has insisted that the provinces satisfy a series of conditions set in the Canada Health Act in exchange for transfer payments, which are not tied to health care expenses but simply added to the provinces' general funds
- these conditions discourage innovation and cause bickering between the federal and provincial governments
- federal health care transfers to the provinces have more than doubled since 2006, from \$20 billion to \$43 billion in 2021-22
- Canada is the only developed country where the government has a monopoly on medically required care. All other OECD countries have mixed private-public systems and (with the exception of the United States) universal systems that guarantee citizens equal access to treatment
- wait times are shorter in mixed-care systems, and nobody is denied care because of low income

The party advocates:

- repealing the Canada Health Act, and creating the conditions for provincial and territorial governments to set up mixed private-public universal systems like other developed countries, making them fully responsible for health care funding and management, and fully accountable to their citizens for the results
- replacing the Canada Health Transfer cash payments with a permanent transfer of tax points of equivalent value to the provinces and territories, to give them a stable source of revenue; e.g. causing the federal government to give up its GST and let provincial and territorial governments tax that space
- establishing a temporary program to compensate poorer provinces whose revenues from the tax will be lower than the transfer payments they used to receive
- creating conditions for provincial and territorial governments to innovate, and making them fully responsible for health care funding and management

Culture, Arts, & Tourism

The party states that:

- a nation must be based on a sense of belonging, of participating in a common national project, and sharing the same values, and that only when such sentiments are widely shared can the trust and common understanding necessary for a society and institutions to function

- in the past, in which immigrants who came to Canada were gradually integrated into society, keeping some aspects of the culture of their country of origin – becoming Canadian, but with a distinct flavour. This type of multiculturalism enriches our society
- the current stated policy of official multiculturalism encourages immigrants to keep the values and culture they left behind instead of integrating into Canadian society and adopting Canadian values and culture
- the current prime minister has described Canada as the first post-national state, with no core identity
- in a free society, immigrants have the right to cherish and maintain their cultural heritage; however, that does not impose an obligation on the new country to help them preserve it, with government programs and taxpayers' money
- with two official languages, a multiethnic population including many Indigenous peoples and very different regional cultures, Canada is already diverse
- distinct Canadian values are those of a contemporary Western civilization, including democracy; individual rights and freedoms, including freedom of religious belief and freedom to criticize religion; equality between men and women; the equal treatment of all citizens regardless of ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation; the rule of law; separation of state and religion; tolerance and pluralism; and loyalty to the wider society instead of to one's clan or tribe

The party advocates:

- in order to keep our country united and ensure social cohesion, focusing on what unites us as Canadians, not what divides us
- repealing the Multiculturalism Act and eliminating all funding to promote multiculturalism, emphasizing instead the integration of immigrants into Canadian society
- substantially lowering the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accepts every year, from 500,000 to about 100,000
- ensuring that every candidate for immigration undergoes a face-to-face interview and answers a series of specific questions to assess the extent to which they align with Canadian values and societal norms (see Immigration policy)

Points to Ponder: Family, Community & the Common Good

Consider discussing the following questions with your local candidates, elected officials, and the parties, and with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

Families & Child Well-Being

- In what circumstances, if any, is it appropriate for governments to place limits on the right of parents to make decisions pertaining to the care or education of their children?
- To what extent is child poverty a problem in Canada? To the extent it is a problem, what, should be done about it, and by whom? By federal or provincial governments, by individuals, or by private, non-profit, or community organizations, including the Church and lay Catholic organizations?
- Some political parties have suggested that full participation by all eligible work force members, including both parents of two-parent couples and all single parents, is critical in order to maximize return from the national economy, so that economic well-being can be optimized; and that in order to maximize those returns and ensure full economic participation, it is critical to ensure that affordable child care is accessible by all families
- Which is more important for children, a stable and dignified home with two loving parents, or maximized national economic returns?

Health Care

- What can or should be done, by federal or provincial governments or by private, non-profit, or community organizations, including the Church and lay Catholic organizations, to ensure that quality health care is available to all who need it, without undue delays or waiting times?
- While birth control pills are covered by provincial health care, the costs of counselling for natural family planning are not, and can be a challenge for young families. Is it reasonable to provide free drugs to young couples while requiring those who seek natural, non-chemical methods, to pay, or should the federal government consider requiring coverage for proven natural family planning methods?
- In a publicly-funded healthcare system, does there exist any obligation for an individual to take reasonable measures to avoid health issues (e.g., wearing a mask in a pandemic, when recommended by public health authorities), so as to avoid becoming a publicly-funded health care burden when preventable illness or injury occurs? If so, what can or should be done to encourage such measures?
- It is it wise for a country to ensure that it is self-dependent for important health care products, such as vaccines? If so, what can or should the federal government do to encourage and support self-dependence?

Care for the Elderly

- Some parties are calling for increased space in publicly-funded facilities for the elderly and long-term care patients. Should any other solutions, such as nurturing a culture of life-long intergenerational family cohesiveness and support, including home caregivers, be considered also, in addition to or as alternatives to long-term residential care?
- Who should be responsible for long-term support for the elderly? Themselves? Their families? The federal or provincial governments? Charitable institutions? Some combination of these? To what extent?

Education

- It has been suggested that too many Canadians fail to understand democratic principles, such as the responsibilities of federal, provincial, and local governments, and the proper roles of non-governmental institutions such as charities, schools, businesses, news media, and moral and religious organizations. What, if anything, can or should the federal government do in order to promote a more comprehensive understanding of civics in Canada?

An Economy to Serve People

The Dignity of Work | Housing & Poverty Reduction | Labour Unions, Employment | Industries & Corporations

Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. (Matthew 6:33)

Catholic Teaching

Jesus said to the crowds, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span? ...seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides."

Matthew 6:25-33

Some people are born into economically stable families, receive a fine education, grow up well nourished, or naturally possess great talent. They will certainly not need a proactive state; they need only claim their freedom. Yet the same rule clearly does not apply to a disabled person, to someone born in dire poverty, to those lacking a good education and with little access to adequate health care. **If a society is governed primarily by the criteria of market freedom and efficiency, there is no place for such persons, and fraternity will remain just another vague ideal.** Pope Francis – *Fratelli tutti*, 109

The Dignity & Importance of Work

The use of one's gifts to seek and serve God necessarily includes work, by which humans cooperate with God in God's continuing act of creation. **Work has a place of honour because it is a source of the conditions for a decent life**, and is, in principle, an effective instrument against poverty. **But one must not succumb to**



An Economy to Serve People

The Bloc:

- celebrates the diversity of Quebec's economy, including restaurateurs, hoteliers and innkeepers; farmers, fishermen and other artisans; technology, including research, clean energy and renewable resources, aerospace, artificial intelligence; ecological technologies and sustainable exploitation, and other resources
- and notes possible relationships between ecological transition, national and regional economic development

Housing & Poverty Reduction

The Bloc has released no official statement concerning its policies on the reduction of poverty.

Jobs & dignity in employment

The Bloc states that:

- the labor shortage reported by Quebec entrepreneurs is certainly amplified by the pandemic, but it already existed and will not end with the withdrawal of sanitary measures
- it will be proposing a series of measures to combat the labor shortage, including suspension of the PCRE, while ensuring that it can be reactivated according to the intensity of future waves, and that it remains in force for carefully targeted sectors and job categories for which recovery remains slow, such as the cultural or aeronautical sectors
- it will also propose measures to encourage seniors to put their invaluable expertise to work, allowing low-income seniors to work more without penalty and involving Aboriginal nations, as well as encouraging newcomers and graduates to settle in the regions

Employment Insurance

The Bloc states that:

- Quebec workers pay their fair share of premiums in the hope of being supported should misfortune strike, however, the pandemic revealed the weakness of Canada's social safety net
- it proposes comprehensive reform of employment insurance that will protect all workers and take into account the increasingly inescapable realities of self-employed or special-status workers, as well as seasonal work
- it supports continued efforts to make pension funds priority creditors in the event of company bankruptcy

Industries

To support transition to green energies, the Bloc advocates massive investments in ecological innovation, technological change and research and development in every region of Quebec, including:

- renewed demands for an end to fossil fuel subsidies, as Canada has repeatedly pledged since 2009
- an end to funding of Ontario competitors in Quebec, and instead contributions to Quebec's electrical industry and to the project to make Quebec "the battery of North America"
- scrapping the inefficient and polluting Canadian Hydrogen Strategy, and instead contributing financially to the development and promotion of the green hydrogen sector by Hydro-Québec

Small & Local Businesses

The Bloc states that even while the pandemic was forcing small businesses to close, and later to re-open at reduced capacity due, foreign multinationals were raking in record profits

the temptation of making an idol of work, for the ultimate and definitive meaning of life is not to be found in work. Work is essential, but it is God — and not work — who is the origin of life and the final goal of man.

The underlying principle of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. The demand of justice, which stems from it, precedes concerns for profit: **“Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it”** (Pr 15:16). **“Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice”** (Pr 16:8). – 257, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Work is not only an essential part of life, but **when we work in accordance with our inner passions – our individual vocations – it is a joy. And it is also an obligation to one’s family, neighbors, and nation.** Man must work, both because the Creator has commanded it and in order to respond to the need to maintain and develop his own humanity. We are heirs of the work of generations and at the same time shapers of the future of all who will live after us. – 274, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

But work, and particularly dignified work, **is not readily available** for all who seek it. **Those who are unemployed or underemployed suffer the profound negative consequences** that such a situation creates in a personality and they run the risk of being marginalized within society, of becoming victims of social exclusion... –289, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Poverty Reduction

The poor, the marginalized and in all cases those whose living conditions interfere with their proper growth should be **the focus of particular concern.** To this end, the preferential option for the poor should be reaffirmed in all its force... Today, this **love of preference for the poor, and the decisions which it inspires in us,** cannot but embrace the immense multitudes of the hungry, the needy,

The Bloc advocates development and implementation of a strategy to support local purchasing and local businesses, including particularly support for the digital transition of businesses, the costs of lower credit card fees for online transactions, and extra time to repay loans taken out during the pandemic without penalty

Agriculture

The Bloc states that Quebec’s model of agriculture on a human scale stands out in a North American industrial world where productive, yet peaceful, occupation of the land is no longer part of the thinking

The Bloc advocates:

- re-introducing the ability to fully protect supply management in future free trade agreements
- looking into increased slaughter capacity, as market concentration and shortcomings in the dairy industry continue to undermine the industry's competitiveness. Current policies result in endless animal journeys, sometimes even euthanasia, and food waste
- pushing the federal government to recognize farmers' multifunctionality in its financial support, so as to recognize the contribution of small-scale producers
- ensuring that farmers and processors are fully compensated for the supply management loopholes in free trade agreements with Europe, the Pacific Rim and North America
- encouraging
- encouraging small Quebec distillers in all regions and their unique products, by reducing the excise tax on alcohol according to production volume, inspired by what Quebec offers microbreweries

Transportation & infrastructure

In view of the conflict which often surrounds federal investment in infrastructure, delaying the start of municipal projects, the Bloc Québécois advocates:

- the unconditional transfer to Quebec of all federal funds earmarked for infrastructure, so that Quebec can prioritize its own projects according to its own priorities
- development of the long-discussed high-frequency Toronto-Québec City train via Trois- Rivières

St Lawrence River & Seaway

To end neglect of riverine and maritime Quebec, the Bloc advocates:

- immediate federal restoration of port facilities
- broadening the scope of the Fisheries Fund so that it can be used for a wider range of projects, such as the wintering park of Grande-Rivière
- development of a strategy for the development and diversification of trade in Quebec fish products.

Aerospace

The Bloc states that:

- Canada is the only country with an aerospace industry that lacks a national policy to ensure its development
- the Greater Montreal region is one of only three in the world with the ability to develop and build an aircraft from A to Z
- on the eve of the last election, the the federal government made an impromptu announcement to released funds, but has yet to take action

The Bloc advocates

- development of spinoffs from military procurement; predictable and sustainable support for research and development, enabling Quebec to design and build tomorrow's fuel-efficient aircraft; and development of the aircraft recycling sector
- support to help the 200 or so small and medium-sized Quebec aerospace businesses in their efforts to weather crises in the aviation sector, and take part in the development projects that will ensure the sector's long-term future

Aluminum

The Bloc advocates development of Quebec's aluminum industry, which it states to be the greenest in the world, including federal financing of a fund to support the processing of Quebec aluminum in Quebec, in particular by reinvesting all the sums collected in counter-tariffs in the 2018-2019 free-trade disputes with the United State

Forestry

The Bloc states that forest covers more than half of Quebec's territory, and that nearly 60,000 Quebecers owe their jobs to the forest.

The Bloc advocates:

- a plan to maximize the potential of Quebec's forests, with the goals and effects of local processing, the development of technological innovations and increased productivity in a

the homeless, those without health care and, above all, those without hope of a better future.” – 182, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Catholics are called to remember Jesus’ own words: **What we do to the least among us, we do to Him.** – *Matthew 25:31-46*

“Helping the poor financially must always be a provisional solution in the face of pressing needs. **The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work**”. – Pope Francis, *Laudato si’, 128*

An Economy to Serve People

I encourage financial experts and political leaders to ponder the words of one of the sages of antiquity: ‘Not to share one’s wealth with the poor is to steal from them and to take away their livelihood. It is not our own goods which we hold, but theirs...’ Money must serve, not rule! –Pope Francis, *Joy of the Gospel, 57-58*

The development of economic activity and growth in production are **meant to provide for the needs of human beings. Economic life is not meant solely to multiply goods produced and increase profit or power;** it is ordered first of all to the service of persons, of the whole man, and of the entire human community. For many people, a living wage and dignified housing are beyond reach. – 2426, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The planning capacity of a society oriented towards the common good and looking to the future **is measured... above all on the basis of the employment prospects that it is able to offer. Maintaining employment depends more and more on one’s professional capabilities.** Instructional and educational systems must not neglect human or technological formation, which are necessary for gainfully fulfilling one’s responsibilities. **Young people should be taught to act upon their own initiative,** to accept the responsibility of facing with adequate

context of labor shortages. Labor

- reducing Quebec’s vulnerability to trade treaties and ease thing pressure on the raw resource by increasing the diversity of jobs, in particular through processing and the creation of exportable green technologies

Shipbuilding

The Bloc states that

- although Quebec boasts the largest shipbuilding yard in Canada, and the best in North America according to Lloyd’s List, the lion’s share of Canada’s shipbuilding contracts are awarded to shipyards in British Columbia and Nova Scotia, which are struggling to meet deadlines
- of a total of over \$100 billion in federal contracts, the Chantier Davie shipyard in Levis has yet to receive a tenth, even though it represents 50% of Canada’s shipbuilding capacity
- it proposes a complete overhaul of the naval strategy in order to arrive at a new plan that will include Davie as a partner commensurate with its production capacity



The Dignity of Work

The party states that work is a good thing; people are happiest when they are working and contributing to society.

The party advocates:

- equal pay for equal work
- no mandated affirmative action; i.e. no hiring quotas
- protecting essential services from risk due to strikes or lockouts

Housing & Poverty Reduction

The party states:

- Canadians must always be ready to care for the “deserving poor”—those in poverty through no fault of their own.
- all those capable of working should be encouraged to do so; taxpayers ought not to be forced to carry the unnecessary burden of supporting those unwilling to work
- it also strongly opposes corporate welfare: the granting of federal funds to corporations, financial institutions and global cabals

To make housing more affordable, the party advocates:

- reducing foreign purchases of homes, businesses and farmland
- strengthening the family unit, reducing divorce and the necessity of one couple maintaining two homes
- making stay-at-home parenting more affordable

Industries, innovation & agriculture

The party states that a nation that cannot feed itself cannot survive

The party advocates:

- development of a national food strategy
- making food production a high national priority
- support of and encouragement for the institution of the Family Farm

Supply Management

The party states that:

- the Supply Management system for Canadian dairy, egg and poultry producers and the marketing boards which regulate the system were designed to protect essential agricultural producers from crippling market fluctuations and unfair “dumping” of lower-cost foreign products
- Supply Management is not perfect but is essential in order to ensure Canadian producers of these products are able to continue to exist and to provide Canadians with a consistent supply of high-quality food products

competencies the risks connected with a fluid economic context that is often unpredictable in the way it evolves. –271-290, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Small businesses, trades, and crafts

The **decentralization of production**, which assigns to smaller companies several tasks previously undertaken by larger production interests, **gives vitality and new energy** to the area of small and medium-sized businesses. In this way, alongside traditional artisans there emerge new businesses characterized by small production interests at work in modern production sectors or in decentralized activities of larger companies.

Work in small and medium-sized businesses, the work of artisans and independent work can represent an occasion to make the actual work experience more human, both in terms of the possibility of establishing positive personal relationships in smaller-sized communities and in terms of the opportunities for greater initiative and industriousness. In these sectors, however, there are more than just a few cases of unjust treatment, of poorly paid and, above all, uncertain work. – 315, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Industries, Innovation, & Agriculture

Thanks to technological innovations, the world is being enriched with new professions while others are disappearing. In the present phase of transition there is a continuous movement of workers from the industrial sector to that of services... In particular, there is an increase in...part-time, temporary and “non-traditional” employment... – 313, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Unions & Workers’ Rights

The demands of competition, technological innovation and the complexities of financial

The party advocates:

- review of agricultural marketing boards on a case-by-case basis to ensure they are still meeting the needs of the producers they represent as well as Canadian consumers
- where possible, provision for small, independent producers to serve niche markets without undermining the quota system.

Unions and workers’ rights

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on unions and worker’s rights.

Corporations, Competition & Consumerism

The party strongly opposes corporate welfare: the granting of federal funds to corporations, financial institutions and global cabals.



An Economy to Serve People

The party states that every Canadian deserves the security and dignity that comes with a secure, stable, well-paid job.

The party advocates:

- enacting a comprehensive jobs plan to get Canadians back to work across the country.
- taking immediate action to help the hardest hit sectors, helping those – including women and young Canadians – who have suffered most.
- Rebuilding “Main Street” by assisting small businesses and providing incentives to invest in, rebuild, and start new businesses
- creating opportunity in all sectors of the economy and all parts of the country.

Poverty Reduction

Homelessness

To address homelessness, the party advocates:

- re-implement the Housing First approach to aid in the fight against Canada’s addictions crisis
- revising the federal government’s substance abuse policy framework to make recovery its overarching goal
- investing \$325 million over the next three years to create 1,000 residential drug treatment beds and build 50 recovery community centres across the country
- support for innovative approaches to address the crises of mental health challenges and addiction, such as land-based treatment programs developed and managed by Indigenous communities as part of a plan to enhance the delivery of culturally appropriate addictions treatment and prevention services in First Nations communities with high needs

Living Wage & Wealth Inequality

The party states that it’s time to make work pay and help those most in need. To that end, it advocates:

- doubling the Canada Workers Benefit up to a maximum of \$2,800 for individuals or \$5,000 for families and pay it as a quarterly direct deposit rather than a tax refund at year-end. This amounts, on average, to an extra thousand dollars into the pockets of the most vulnerable workers, helping three and a half million families put food on the table.
- doubling the disability supplement from \$713 to \$1,500, to help almost 90,000 disabled workers
- to help protect workers during recessions without breaking the budget or hitting workers with soaring EI premiums, launching a Super EI that temporarily provides more generous benefits (75% of salary instead of 55%) when a province goes into recession (a 0.5% increase in the unemployment rate, as defined by the “Sahm Rule”), with EI will returning to normal levels once the recession is over, as evidenced by three months of job gains
- to support workers suffering from serious illness, the party advocates increasing EI sickness benefits to 52 weeks, from the current EI sickness benefit limit of 15 weeks
- to support workers who are required to temporarily locate in order to work, for example on Northern infrastructure projects, the party advocates introduction of a Construction Mobility Tax Credit of up to \$4,000 per year toward temporary relocation expenses (moving, temporary lodging) from taxable income
- to help families and help *retail stores recover from the pandemic and increased levels of inflation, implementation of a month-long GST holiday*

Gig Economy

The party states that millions of Canadians don’t qualify for Employment Insurance because they are gig workers, independent contractors, online platform workers, contract, on-call, and temporary workers, or are otherwise engaged in independent, temporary work that does not provide the insurable hours and contributions of a typical employee

fluxes **must be brought into harmony** with the defense of workers and their rights. – 313, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Any form of materialism or economic tenet that tries to reduce the worker to a mere instrument of production, a simple labour force with an exclusively material value, would hopelessly distort the essence of work and strip it of its most noble and basic human quality. 270-271, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Among the rights of workers, the Church recognizes:

- the right to a just wage;
 - the right to rest;
 - the right “to a working environment and to manufacturing processes which are not harmful to the workers’ physical health or to their moral integrity”;
 - the right that one’s personality in the workplace should be safeguarded “without suffering any affront to one’s conscience or personal dignity;
 - the right to appropriate subsidies that are necessary for the subsistence of unemployed workers and their families;
 - the right to a pension and to insurance for old age, sickness, and in case of work-related accidents;
 - the right to social security connected with maternity;
 - the right to assemble and form associations.
- 301, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

The Church recognizes the fundamental role played by labour unions... Such organizations, while pursuing their specific purpose with regard to the common good, are a **positive influence for social order and solidarity**, and are therefore an indispensable element of social life. Work, because of its subjective or personal character, is superior to every other factor connected with productivity; this principle applies, in particular, with regard to capital.

To support temporary workers and make contract employers pay their fair share for worker protection, the party advocates requiring gig economy companies to make contributions equivalent to CPP and EI premiums into new, portable Employee Savings Accounts every time they pay their workers, so that the money will grow tax-free and can be withdrawn by the worker when needed

Labour & Employment

The party states that:

- the number of Canadians who have been unemployed for more than six months is stuck near its highest level ever
- when people can find jobs, most are part-time
- it is concerned that millions of Canadian workers and small businesses are being left behind
- its top priority is getting as many people back to work in good jobs, in every part of Canada, in every sector, as quickly as possible.
- it will do whatever it takes to get people working and get the economy back on track

To get Canadians back to work, the party advocates:

- a Canada Job Surge Plan: paying up to 50% of the salary of new hires for six months following the end of Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy
- Canada Investment Accelerator, providing a 5% investment tax credit for any capital investment made in 2022 and 2023, with the first \$25,000 to be refundable for small business
- a rebuilding Main Street Tax Credit, providing a 25% tax credit on amounts of up to \$100,000 that Canadians personally invest in a small business over the next two years
- a Main Street Business Loan: providing loans of up to \$200,000 to help small and medium businesses in hospitality, retail, and tourism get back on their feet, with up to 25% forgiven

Job Training

The party states that:

- skilled trades in construction, energy and other industries face chronic employee shortages
- the construction industry alone may have as many as 100,000 unfilled jobs in five years as current employees retire

To enable women and others to find work in skilled trades, the party advocates:

- supporting union and similar training programs and encouraging employers to invest in their workers
- doubling the Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit for the next three years to help create more places for apprentices
- investing \$250 million over two years to create the Canada Job Training Fund, to provide grants to organizations including employers, apprenticeship training delivery agents, unions, post-secondary institutions, and community organizations for projects that (i) give laid-off workers immediate access to training (ii) reach out to traditionally underrepresented groups (iii) support the talent needs of small businesses
- creating a Working Canadian Training Loan to provide low interest loans of up to \$10,000 to people who want to upgrade their skills

Pensions

To protect workers from employer bankruptcies and other pension failures, the party advocates:

- changing legislation to ensure that pensioners have priority over corporate elites in bankruptcy or restructuring
- preventing executives from paying themselves bonuses while managing a company going through restructuring if the pension plan is not fully funded
- no longer forcing underfunded pension plans from being converted to annuities, something that currently locks in losses and results in workers getting less money
- requiring companies to report the funding status of their pension plans more clearly

Unions and workers’ rights

To support workers employed by major multinational corporations, the party advocates:

- requiring federally regulated employers with over 1,000 employees or \$100 million in annual revenue to include worker representation on their boards of directors
- consulting with union leaders and then implementing changes to the Canada Labour Code to remove barriers that prevent unions from organizing large employers with a history of anti-labour activity
- working with unions to modernize the Canada Labour Code to provide more flexibility in working hours and working from home
- giving unions standing at the Canada International Trade Tribunal to allow them to bring actions on issues like dumping

Industries & innovation

Innovation

The Church's social doctrine teaches that **relations within the world of work must be marked by cooperation**: hatred and attempts to eliminate the other are completely unacceptable. This is also the case because in every social system **both "labour" and "capital" represent indispensable components of the process of production.**

No Christian, in light of the fact that he belongs to a united and fraternal community, should feel that he has the right not to work and to live at the expense of others (cf. 2 Thes 3:6-12). Rather, all are charged... to make it a point of honour to work with their own hands, so as to be dependent on nobody (1 Thes 4:12), and to practise a solidarity which is also material by sharing the fruits of their labour with "those in need" (Eph 4:28). – 264, 305-307, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church.*

Corporations & Competition, and Consumers

You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.
– the 10th Commandment

The individual profit of an economic enterprise, although legitimate, must never become the sole objective. **Social utility is an objective of even higher order.** When the free market carries out the important functions mentioned above it becomes a service to the common good and to integral human development. When focused on profit alone, however, the market can degenerate into an inhuman and alienating institution, with uncontrollable repercussions.

Freedom in the economic sector... must be regulated by appropriate legal norms so that it will be placed at the service of integral human freedom... A great deal of educational and cultural work is urgently needed, **including the education of consumers in the responsible use of their power of choice, the formation of a strong sense of responsibility among producers and among people in the mass media in particular,** as well as necessary intervention by public authorities. In order to

To promote innovation, the party advocates investing \$5 billion over five years, through a new Canada Advanced Research Agency headquartered in Calgary, to take advantage of Alberta's highly educated workforce and help diversify the Alberta economy, to fund programs aimed at:

- making major advances in use of hydrogen and Small Modular Reactors
- private sector innovation in the space sector
- Electric vehicle development and manufacturing, including electric trucks, micro-mobility, batteries, and parts manufacturers
- pharmaceutical research and production

The party also advocates:

- cutting taxes on innovation and making Canada a leader in patents by cutting the tax rate in half on income earned from patents on innovative products developed in Canada, and covering up to \$10,000 of the administrative and legal costs of each of the first five patents filed by any Canadian small or medium-sized business
- streamlining and accelerating the SR&ED program, among other things to reduce the percentage of SR&ED funding that goes to consultants rather than innovators and make it easier for software development to qualify for SR&ED
- launching a review of all innovation programs at ISED and across the government to ensure they are as simple as possible, to remove duplication, and to ensure that all innovation spending benefits Canada, including a requirement that recipients demonstrate that intellectual property, production, ownership, and profits are likely to stay in Canada
- prohibit foreign state-owned entities or those with ties to foreign militaries from receiving SRED funding
- creating improved share and tax structures to benefit startups

Manufacturing

The party states that scrambles during the pandemic were a stark reminder of the importance of domestic manufacturing capacity, particularly in national emergencies. It therefore advocates:

- pursuing free trade agreements only with free countries that respect workers' rights and maintain high environmental standards
- bringing manufacturing of critical equipment like PPE and pharmaceuticals back to Canada by ensuring that government and government-funded procurement of these essential products favours Canadian producers
- rebuilding domestic vaccine manufacturing capacity.

Agriculture

The party states that as global population grows and living standards rise, the need for trusted food sources will grow. In that light, the party advocates:

- respecting and defending supply management for our dairy and poultry farms, and ensuring that farming families are engaged in any trade negotiations or programs impacting the sector, and that the Minister of Agriculture is also involved in negotiations
- including new markets for our livestock, grain, and oilseed producers in free trade negotiations
- as a priority, finalizing compensation program for supply managed processors under CPTPP and CETA and negotiate a compensation package for farmers and processors impacted by CUSMA
- working with the US Administration to remove the CUSMA limits on Canadian exports of powdered milk to third-party countries and establish reciprocal norms to ensure that our quality standards are respected
- working with the provinces to adopt a grocery supply code to deal with retailers' abusive pricing and contracting practices against farmers, producers, and processors, including development of a code of conduct to guarantee Canadian consumers a reliable, affordable supply of food
- ending unfair tax treatment of family farms by advancing implementation of Bill C-208 and ensuring that the sale of a family farm to a family member is not taxed at a higher rate than a sale to a stranger
- improving payment security for farmers and food processors by creating a statutory deemed trust for suppliers of perishable produce in bankruptcy and harmonizing our regime with that of the US to regain reciprocal protection under the U.S. Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA); and working towards greater harmonization of farm product regulations with our trading partners, especially the United States
- ensuring that farm safety net programs are predictable, bankable, and manageable, implementing a plan to address rural crime
- amending existing laws to allow livestock owners to use local abattoirs, reducing both stress to the animals and the production of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from transportation to distant facilities, and making permanent the temporary measures to enable collaboration across provinces for use of provincial abattoirs
- implementing a food security strategy, including development of methods to grow more crops in Canada year-round in greenhouses
- bringing agricultural stakeholders together for a summit-like meeting with the Minister of Agriculture to develop a way forward on insurance programs like AgriStability
- modernizing the Canada Grain Act and Canadian Grain Commission
- implementing an Agriculture and Agri-Food Labour Strategy, including recognition of the need for international farm workers and facilitating their timely entrance into Canada to work on Canadian farms, and developing a long-term strategy to attract skilled workers to the meat processing sector, which is currently facing a 30,000 worker deficit
- extending "right to repair" to farm vehicles to provide farmers with choice on where to repair their vehicles

balance the principle of solidarity with the rights and obligations of the individual, **the State's intervention in the economic environment must be neither invasive nor absent, but commensurate with society's real needs.** "The State has a duty to sustain business activities by **creating conditions which will ensure job opportunities**, by stimulating those activities where they are lacking or by supporting them in moments of crisis. The State has the further right to intervene when particular monopolies create delays or obstacles to development. -305-307, 351, 376 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

There is a growing loss of the sense of history, which leads to even further breakup. A kind of "deconstructionism", whereby human freedom claims to create everything starting from zero, is making headway in today's culture. The one thing it leaves in its wake is **the drive to limitless consumption and expressions of empty individualism** -12, *Fratelli Tutti*
Transportation & Infrastructure

The demands of the common good... are strictly connected to respect for and the integral promotion of the person and his fundamental rights. Among other things, these demands concern commitment to **the provision of essential services to all, some of which are at the same time human rights: food, housing, work, education and access to culture, transportation...** -166, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Aquaculture

The party states that:

- it supports sustainable development of Canada's aquaculture sector due to its ability to provide a solid economic base in coastal communities, create stable, long-term employment, and contribute to Canadian food security
- many shellfish and finfish species are grown throughout Canada, and many First Nations have pursued aquaculture as a business that can support their communities and provide meaningful work for their members
- salmon farming on Canada's West Coast has been controversial, with local communities being confused and torn by conflicting studies and claims
- it will not take an ideological position on this issue. It wants the aquaculture industry to succeed, but only as long as Canadians have confidence in our ability to protect wild salmon. Therefore, any decisions related to salmon aquaculture must be based on robust science, guided by conservation, and be respectful of the communities and families that rely on these jobs

To that end, the party advocates:

- maintaining the decision to remove salmon farms from the Discovery Islands, modelling the transition on the Broughton Archipelago project, to be more respectful of local First Nations, communities, and workers
- assigning responsibility for the management and sustainable growth of the sector to a department other than DFO so that DFO can be solely focused on enforcement
- creating a modern Aquaculture Act that can help restore public confidence
- developing a tax incentive program for the development and adoption of technologies that reduce contact between wild and farmed salmon

Transportation & Infrastructure

To create jobs in construction, project finance and manufacturing, and to create more jobs by helping Canadian businesses get their products to market and helping Canadians get to work, the party advocates:

- immediate investment in critical projects that will put Canadians to work, cut commute time, and clean up the environment
- providing more flexibility to municipalities and First Nations to receive funding by removing requirements for tying projects to "green infrastructure"
- scrapping the Canada Infrastructure Bank and committing unspent money to projects that can strengthen our economy
- reprioritizing the Investing in Canada Plan towards infrastructure projects that would have the maximum benefit for economic recovery
- build digital infrastructure to connect all of Canada to High-Speed Internet

Small businesses, trades & crafts

The party advocates:

- a comprehensive review of the tax system, including SRED and other programs intended to encourage innovation, to ensure that the system promotes healthy and competitive industry within Canada
- repealing recent tax increases applicable to small businesses
- repeal new rules imposing significant tax burdens no dividends for partners of business owners, since contributions of spouses cannot be measured in terms of time and money
- create an information package for business owners on the CRA website
- reducing regulatory burden for businesses by 25 percent over four years, with targets for each minister and department, using a rule that for each new regulation two previous ones must be rescinded
- to enable women-led small businesses thrive, providing funding and support, cutting red tape to make it easier to get a business off the ground, simplifying the business-use-of-home deduction to provide more significant tax advantages for people starting businesses from their homes and allow new parents to start home-based businesses without facing any loss of parental leave income

Medical Research & Development

To protect Canada's historical leadership in the production of radioisotopes used in nuclear medicine and in the sterilization of medical devices, the party advocates:

- development and implementation of a National Isotope Strategy to establish a framework for cooperation in which governments, nuclear reactor and accelerator owners and operators, and other stakeholders can work together to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disruptions of critical infrastructure and continue moving forward with research and development of critical isotopes

Pharmaceuticals

To avoid being caught unprepared by another pandemic, the party advocates:

- reducing reliance on foreign countries, and improving Canada's ability to protect the health of its citizens

- partnering with pharmaceutical companies to increase production of critical medicines and build domestic vaccine production capacity
- strengthening domestic production of PPE through government procurement
- overhauling Canada’s National Emergency Stockpile System to ensure that supplies are ready to face future threats

Airlines

The party states that the airline industry is essential for a united Canada, tying our massive country together and connecting us to the world

The party advocates legislation implementing strong protection of passengers’ rights based on the EU system, including provisions stating clearly that passengers are entitled to full refunds - not vouchers - when an airline cancels a flight and doesn’t offer an alternative

Corporations, Competition & Consumerism

Competition Bureau & Consumer Protection

To ensure a level playing field for new businesses and encourage real competition, the party advocates

- making foreign tech companies pay their fair share of taxes, including sales tax and a digital services tax representing 3% of the gross revenue in Canada if they don’t pay corporate income tax here
- giving Canada’s competition laws real teeth, including: prosecution of executives of companies that fix prices or abuse their dominant positions, breaking up companies that abuse their power, and ending the rubber-stamping of mergers that enrich executives while hurting workers and consumers
- rejecting mergers that substantially reduce competition or lead to layoffs and higher prices
- to reduce red tape in building and growing businesses, implementing regular review of regulations to eliminate any that are not serving the public interest, including appointment of a Minister Responsible for Red Tape Reduction tasked with introducing and passing at least one red tape reduction bill per year; creating an Office of Regulatory Best Practice with business members who evaluate the costs of new regulation;
- fixing the Impact Assessment process that is making it impossible to build major projects in Canada, based on the bipartisan Senate recommendations
- creating a Fast Track Certification Process that provides a faster path to approval for products that have already been approved in comparable jurisdictions
- overhauling the tax system, including appointment of an expert panel tasked with reviewing the tax system and making recommendations to make it simpler and fairer while improving Canada’s competitiveness to spur job creation.
- to help break down interprovincial trade barriers, convening a First Ministers Meeting on interprovincial trade and providing federal leadership to help move negotiations forward; working with the provinces to increase standardization and mutual recognition of credentials to increase labour mobility within Canada and smooth the trade in services between provinces; and introducing an Admitted Free Act clarifying federal intention with respect to interprovincial trade and s.121 of the Constitution to provide modern context for the Supreme Court to consider.
- to reduce abuse in communications, holding big telecom service providers accountable for anti-competitive behaviour and practices that hurt consumers; allowing foreign telecommunications companies to provide services to Canadian customers, provided that the same treatment is reciprocated for Canadian companies in that company’s country
- to support lower food prices, increasing the maximum fine for price-fixing from \$24 million to \$100 million and introducing criminal penalties for executives for price-fixing
- creating a technology task force within the Competition Bureau to examine whether dominance and anti-competitive behaviour of big tech is damaging to Canadian industry, and to examine ways in which algorithms and data give big tech an advantage over Canadian business, as well as how fintech and new technologies could foster improved competition

Consumer Banking

To protect personal banking customers, the party advocates:

- enacting legislation on open banking so that Canadians can connect with fintech companies that can give provide a better offer for banking services such as a mortgage, line of credit or credit card
- ordering the Competition Bureau to investigate bank fees
- requiring more transparency for investment management fees so that seniors and savers don’t get ripped off, including requiring the banks to show investment returns net of fees

Credit Card Protection

To protect consumers from fraud, unwarranted and potentially devastating chargebacks, etc., the party advocates:

- updating the Code of Conduct for the Credit and Debit Card Industry to protect consumers and small businesses in view of newly developed technology and new issues it has brought forth.

CRA Protections for Small Businesses and the Middle Class

In response to reports of overly-aggressive and unaccountable behavior by the Canada Revenue Agency, the party advocates:

- making the Taxpayer Ombudsman an officer of Parliament with order-making authority
- measuring and reporting on the tax gap, in detail, by type of taxation and reason for the shortfall (similar to the UK model) so that CRA resources can be allocated where the problems exist
- imposing a duty of care (a legal obligation to a reasonable standard) on CRA
- launching a comprehensive review of Canada's tax system to improve competitiveness, bring down rates and simplify the rules
- revising CRA's penalties so that first-time problems or errors receive only minor fines, with increasing severity for repeat offenders
- creation of a "welcome to CRA" program and materials for new small businesses; and
- allowing businesses with less than \$60,000 in revenues to use simple cash accounting



The Dignity of Work

The party has published no official statement concerning its understanding of the dignity of work.

Housing & Poverty Reduction

Housing

The party states that:

- there is an affordable housing and homelessness crisis in Canada
- adequate housing is a fundamental human right, as recognized by the National Housing Strategy Act, yet more and more Canadians are struggling to afford housing
- even before the pandemic, 1.6 million Canadians lived in unsuitable, inadequate, or unaffordable housing and an estimated 2.4 million households experienced core housing need in 2020
- on any given night, over 35,000 Canadians may be experiencing homelessness
- women, low-income workers, and Black and Indigenous Peoples, and people of colour have been hardest hit by income and job loss during the pandemic and continue to fall further and further behind
- while short-term pandemic benefits offered adequate income replacement for some low-income tenants, others had their income dramatically reduced, and are unable to pay their full rent, are falling into arrears and facing the threat of eviction

To make the right to adequate housing a reality, the party advocates:

- declaring housing affordability and homelessness a national emergency
- redefining affordable housing using a better, updated formula, that accounts for regional variations across the country
- immediately appoint a Federal Housing Advocate, as established in the National Housing Strategy Act

To support renters, the party advocates:

- establishing a national moratorium on evictions
- maintaining a moratorium on evictions until the pandemic is over and for a reasonable time thereafter, in cooperation with provincial governments
- creating national standards to establish rent and vacancy controls
- establishing a retroactive residential arrears assistance program to protect renters at risk of eviction or of being driven into homelessness due to accumulated rent arrears, as recommended by the National Right to Housing Network (NRHN) and the Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA)
- strengthening regulation to limit foreign investment and end predatory practices by raising the "empty home" tax for foreign and corporate residential property owners who leave buildings and units vacant
- assessing the role of real estate investment trusts (REITs) in Canada's housing market
- closing tax haven loopholes that allow foreign investors to hide the names of beneficial owners of properties in Canada
- cracking down on money laundering in Canadian real estate

Affordable, Non-Profit, Co-Operative, and Supportive Housing

To support affordable, non-profit, co-operative, and supportive housing projects, the party advocates:

- protecting the existing stock of affordable housing by funding the purchase of buildings by non-profit and cooperative affordable housing organizations
- expanding the Rapid Housing Initiative to bring new affordable and supportive housing onstream without delay

- investing in construction and operation of 50,000 supportive housing units over 10 years
- building and acquiring a minimum of 300,000 units of deeply affordable non-market, co-op and non-profit housing over a decade
- creating a Canada Co-op Housing Strategy and updating the mechanisms for financing co-op housing, in partnership with CMHC, co-op societies, credit unions and other lenders
- requiring covenants to ensure that subsidized construction remains affordable over the long term
- restoring quality, energy efficient housing for seniors, people with special needs and low-income families, by providing financing to non-profit housing organizations, cooperatives, and social housing to build and restore quality and affordable housing
- implementing integrated housing, so that everyone can afford to live in the communities in which they work and under quality conditions
- restoring tax incentives for building purpose-built rental housing, and providing tax credits for gifts of lands, or of land and buildings, to community land trusts to provide affordable housing
- removing the “deemed” GST whenever a developer with empty condo units places them on the market as rentals
- refocusing the core mandate of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) on supporting the development of affordable, non-market and cooperative housing, as opposed to its current priority of supporting Canadian lenders to de-risk investment in housing ownership. With many housing markets demonstrably overvalued, and home ownership rates among the highest in the world, individual home ownership should not be the preoccupation of a public service housing agency and a national housing strategy
- appointing a Minister of Housing to meet the needs of affordable housing that are unique to each province, overseeing its implementation in collaboration with provincial ministers, and building on other aspects of the housing and homelessness crisis in Canada to tackle these issues

Guaranteed Livable Income

The party states that:

- the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed how many Canadians still lack a basic safety net to protect them in times of financial difficulty
- in Canada, one of the richest countries, 10% of people live in poverty and do not have access to “a standard of living adequate for health and wellbeing,” a right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Poverty is expensive -- the Canadian government spends over \$20 billion in employment insurance and transfers to low-income families per year
- poverty is also the largest social determinant of health, impacting educational outcomes, crime and treatment within the criminal justice system
- in response to the pandemic the Government of Canada introduced the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month to eligible workers who lost their income due to COVID-19. It is not an overstatement to say that the CERB saved lives. However, even with these emergency benefits, too many people are being left without support
- Canada has never succeeded in designing a benefits system that covers everyone, in all circumstances of need. Given the virtually limitless number of different employment, unemployment and underemployment circumstances in which Canadians find themselves, it is unlikely that any piecemeal approach will ever succeed in providing comprehensive coverage to all
- even before the pandemic, Canada was in the midst of major changes in the world of work, due to automation and artificial intelligence – a transition that has only sped up during the pandemic. Now is the time to discuss how we will confront this change and the inequalities the changes have created
- Canada has the resources to make sure that no one lives in poverty or without their basic needs met
- the concept of GLI has gained traction in other countries. Recently, Spain became the first European country to announce a plan to introduce a Universal Basic Income (UBI) to help families during the pandemic, with the intention that UBI become a permanent instrument. Italy, the Netherlands, Finland and Kenya have all trialled the GLI model. Various American cities such as Stockton, California have initiated similar programmes

As a comprehensive solution, rather than plugging holes in support one-by-one, the party advocates a Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI), including:

- providing every Canadian with a basic revenue source, ensuring that people can cover basic expenses such as food and accommodation
- making it available with few or no restrictions and be enough to protect Canadians from financial catastrophes
- ensuring that it is comprehensive, thus also be simpler and therefore less expensive to administrate (usually one of the greatest costs of social programs)
- ensuring that the greatest security is offered to the most vulnerable Canadians: precarious workers, people with disabilities, seniors, the underemployed and the homeless, as well as workers in the fossil fuel sector, which is particularly vulnerable to market shocks

To establish a GLI program, the party advocates:

- creating a comprehensive and equitable Guaranteed Livable Income for every person in Canada
- building on the Market Basket Measure, payment would be set at a “livable” level for different regions of the country. The federal government would provide an initial base level subsidy across the country, and an intergovernmental body would determine and administer the necessary supplemental amounts
- by allowing the provinces to reduce their expenditures on provincial welfare, liberating provincial budgets for the health budgets they have asked Ottawa to support
- using GLI as a supplement for and complement to existing public services, and unlike provincial welfare regulations, not discouraging work
- ensuring that the Guaranteed Livable Income program covers everyone, with a benefit amount gradually decreasing as other income increases. Seniors’ and children’s benefits

would remain in place

Universal Programs

In addition to Guaranteed Livable Income, the party advocates:

- universal post-secondary education
- universal pharmacare
- universal dental care
- universal child care

The party states that the solutions are clear, feasible and interconnected – all that is left is the political will to enact them. Embracing further universal and progressive social policies will support our more vulnerable communities and lead to a higher quality of life for all.

Employment & Labour

Job preparation

The party states that:

- the renewable energy sector holds tremendous promise in helping to facilitate a just transition for workers in the fossil-fuel sector in Canada
- it is important to protect workers in regions that are still highly dependent on the fossil fuel sector for a significant percentage of their budget. Provinces like Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland have been left dangerously exposed the volatility of global energy markets which they are unable to control, and are in desperate need of economic diversification
- with wise investment, these regions can use their energy sector expertise to capitalize on a variety of new opportunities in renewable technologies

To support a transition to a green economy, the party advocates:

- introducing a Just Transition Act that takes care of workers and communities during the transition
- planning for a fair and carefully planned transition of workers towards a decarbonized economy, that protects communities from displacement, and in which affected people (workers in greenhouse gas-intensive industries, Indigenous Peoples, marginalized communities) are leading the preparation of their transition strategies
- replacing every high paying fossil fuel sector job with a high paying green sector job through wage insurance, retraining programs and early retirement plans
- reducing wealth inequality in Canada, and ensuring that current wealth holders, particularly those in the fossil fuel sector, pay their fair share. Closing tax havens and loopholes to redistribute wealth towards communities that have been underinvested in
- introducing laws that incentivize green investment and the creation of green jobs (such as in sustainable transport and energy efficiency), and that disincentivize unsustainable investments (such as by raising taxes on environmentally harmful goods and services)
- investing in the cleantech sector and in renewable energy, which will create more, and higher paying jobs than those lost in the fossil fuel sector
- enacting legislation on green jobs training programs, such as the creation of a youth climate corps; for example, jobs related to ecosystem restoration, particularly for people who have been displaced or severely affected by COVID-19.

Industries & Innovation

The party states that innovation is the engine to economic growth. It allows Canada to remain competitive on a rapidly evolving global technological landscape

- Canadian universities routinely rank among the top in the world and our research laboratories are world renowned
- however, Canadian investment in research and development has been declining for years, and at 1.7% of GDP is among the lowest in the OECD
- despite being the country that discovered insulin in 1921, when the pandemic broke Canada had zero capacity to manufacture COVID-19 vaccines. This must change
- there will be massive opportunities for the countries that develop breakthrough solutions to combat climate change. Nearly \$150 billion (USD) was invested globally last year in solar installations alone. Emerging clean technologies could soon reach this same scale
- whether it is the forefront of quantum computing, clean technology, next-generation medicine, or artificial intelligence, the federal government has a crucial role to play in de-risking emerging disruptive technologies so that they may scale, through investment in scientific research and development, in our incredible university systems, and renewal of our national lab infrastructure for the 21st century

To stimulate investment in scientific research, the party advocates:

- implementation of the full funding recommendations from Canada's Fundamental Science Review
- increasing R&D spending to 2.5% of GDP, bringing Canada in line with the OECD average
- increased funding for the granting councils to \$2.3 billion, including the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research

Council of Canada (SSHRC) and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), and ensuring that all grants by the federal granting councils consider Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) outcomes of the research it supports

- restoring and augmenting Climate Change and Atmospheric Research (CCAR) funding to NSERC and ensure ongoing funding for the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory
- establishing a dedicated innovation agency that focuses on developing joint projects across universities, private industry, and national labs
- supporting NSERC's Framework on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in scientific research across all federal grant funding programs, and committing to strengthening Canadian scientific and engineering communities to include the full participation of equity-seeking groups, including women, visible minorities, Indigenous Peoples, people with diverse gender identities and people with disabilities
- creating a dedicated, long-term funding program for water infrastructure, building on the success of the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund that operated between 2016 and 2018
- establishing an "Entrepreneur-in-Residence" Program in Canada's national labs, such as the National Research Council, to spur innovation of breakthrough technologies discovered in our national lab system

Climate Supercomputer

The party states that top climate scientists did not predict the intensity of the extreme weather and climate events that hit Europe and North America during the last three summers, because scientists say that their computers aren't powerful enough, and that IPCC climate computer models are inadequate. They are calling on the international community to invest in creating a shared climate super-computer capable of producing the climate models for extreme climate events

- the cost of the computer is estimated to be a small fraction of the costs associated with extreme events if Canada and other countries continue to be caught unprepared
- Canada can answer this call and demonstrate climate leadership by investing in creating this super-computer, or by bringing together a group of wealthy countries to do so

The party advocates:

- investing in state-of-the-art assessment of climate change impact risks and planning with associated disaster management measures
- ensuring that Canada utilizes the best available scientific expertise to advance research and development for assessing climate change impact risks, with a focus on mitigating the impacts such as storms, droughts, floods, wildfires and related air quality impacts on health
- increased funding for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) to support climate resilience projects critically needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, including wildfire mitigation activities; rehabilitation of storm water systems and restoration of wetlands, shorelines, and other natural infrastructure
- developing transdisciplinary partnerships with governmental, non-profit organizations, academic institutions and industry, and invest in research and the necessary equipment, including the possibility of a shared climate supercomputer

Intellectual Property: Commercialization & Innovation

The party states that:

- while Canadian innovators are among the most ingenious in the world, they face challenges in translating their inventions and intellectual property (IP) into commercially viable products and services
- in order to scale up, domestic companies are increasingly selling their valuable IP to foreign firms in exchange for capital
- between 1998 and 2017, the number of Canadian-invented U.S. patents that were retained by their original inventor fell from 32% to 13%. This means that foreign businesses and countries – not Canadians – reap a majority of the economic and social benefits of Canadian innovation
- the ability of Canadian innovators to retain ownership and control over their inventions and IP is critical to exploiting their economic value, for example through licensing use in downstream production or to researchers who can build upon them to make further discoveries
- capturing revenues from licensing, start-ups and spin-offs is important for economic growth and ensuring that Canada can develop the necessary infrastructure to mitigate and adapt to climate change while funding the health and social programs that foster equity and well-being

The party advocates:

- increasing direct federal funding for private and student-led business R&D
- strengthening Canada's venture capital (VC) ecosystem
- implementing a national Buy Clean strategy to increase government procurement of Canadian low-carbon technologies
- providing access to federally funded IP at a discount to Canadian companies with Canadian operations
- fully implementing the House of Commons Report on IP and Technology Transfer to require Statistics Canada to launch an annual survey on technology
- collaborating with stakeholders to create a 'toolkit' of flexible IP licensing practices
- investigating new ways to support Canadian enterprises engaging in technology transfer with post-secondary institutions

Small and Medium-Sized Businesses

The party states that:

- small businesses are the backbone of the Canadian economy, creating more employment in the private sector than the big corporations
- they create good, stable jobs, and offer competitive wages and benefits
- and, because they're small, they are nimble in adapting to changing global markets
- best of all, their success stays local. They circulate dollars in regional economies and improve the communities around them
- COVID-19 pandemic restrictions significantly impacted small businesses, leading to business closures, debt burdens and loss of jobs. Temporary government financial support is ending, including the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) before COVID-19 restrictions have been fully lifted, leaving small businesses to deal with post-pandemic recovery alone. CEWS is being replaced with the Canada Recovery Hiring Program (CRHP) which does not cover pay for employees on paid leave, putting both small businesses and employees at risk

To provide support that is still needed by small businesses, the party advocates:

- holding the small business tax rate at no more than 9%
- reducing the paperwork burden on small businesses by eliminating duplicative tax filings and red tape
- ensuring that all new legislation considers the impact on small businesses
- reducing bureaucracy and streamlining approvals for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to adopt technologies
- promoting entrepreneurship training and business support, especially for women, young, racialized and Indigenous entrepreneurs
- providing affordable and accessible internet services across Canada, including rural areas
- establishing a federally funded Green Venture Capital Fund of \$1 billion to support viable small local green business start-ups
- subsidizing the implementation of new clean technologies across all SMEs

Agriculture & Food Industry

The party states that:

- during the early days of the pandemic, we saw how our over-reliance on global supply chains can threaten our food security and, with it, our sovereignty
- replacing one-third of Canada's food imports with domestic production would bring \$15 billion food dollars back into our economy to foster economic diversification and rural revitalization

To replace food imports with locally grown food the party advocates:

- assisting farmers and supporting small and medium enterprises to transition away from the industrial model controlled by large agri-business and toward locally and regionally based, ecologically sound and humane agriculture and food systems
- working with the provinces in creating land trusts to set-aside arable land across Canada to help control the price of land and protect it from being permanently removed as viable farmland
- supporting research, development and investments in local markets and urban agriculture to increase access to local food
- protecting supply management systems while allowing small scale production for local markets outside this system
- supporting the development of a food waste strategy
- addressing interprovincial trade barriers that hinder the development of regionally based food systems and value chains
- supporting the phase-out of prophylactic antibiotics in farming to promote higher welfare practices and preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics for human medicine

To strengthen social license with respect to food production, the party advocates:

- adopting comprehensive animal welfare legislation to prevent inhumane treatment of farm animals. This will set minimum standards of treatment, housing density, distances live animals can be transported, and conditions for animals in slaughterhouses and auctions
- protecting food sovereignty, the right of farmers to save their own seed, and funding and promoting seed banks, seed exchange programs, and agrobiodiversity conservation
- supporting the recommendations of the Canada Food Guide and encouraging Canadians to reduce their animal protein consumption as recommended in the Food Guide, while being inclusive of social and cultural diversity in recognizing what constitutes a healthy and environmentally sound diet
- supporting mandatory labelling of genetically modified foods
- preserving the system resource base: land, human resources, and succession by funding an apprenticeship program to connect young aspiring farmers with operating farmers. This will maintain and increase the workforce, knowledge, and skilled labour necessary to have a robust agricultural sector
- reinstating the Canada Land Inventory program to provide a comprehensive record of existing and potential agricultural land and provide fiscal incentives to other levels of government to preserve farmlands under their jurisdictions

Transportation & Infrastructure

Green Buildings

The party advocates:

- creating and implementing a national green retrofit of existing residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings
- supporting agencies and institutions working to create innovative, efficient, and cost-effective programs to carry out green retrofits in different areas and for different communities, thereby creating local jobs and reducing emission
- changing the national building code to require that all new construction and major renovations to older buildings meet net-zero standards by 2030
- undertaking a green retrofit of all federal government buildings, including government agencies

Transportation

The party advocates:

- banning the sale of all internal combustion engine passenger vehicles by 2030, and expanding charging stations for electric vehicles, including charging stations in smaller communities and rural areas
- developing programs to encourage the retirement of existing gas-powered vehicles, including government-funded grants for the purchase of new and used electric vehicles and 'buy-back' programs to encourage vehicle users to give up their existing vehicle
- in every sector, from airline travel to passenger rail, and from freight to ferries, mandating and supporting a faster transition to renewable energy
- ensuring access to zero-carbon public transportation, with high-speed rail networks between major cities, and spokes of light rail and electric bus connections across the country
- guaranteeing every Canadian safe, reliable and accessible access to affordable, net zero ground transportation by expanding VIA Rail to a rail and bus system, including enacting a VIA Rail Act to ensure the VIA Rail mandate for a national passenger transportation network
- expanding cycling and walking infrastructure, working with municipalities and provincial governments to develop infrastructure that is accessible to all communities and individuals

Transit

The party states that the transportation sector produces over a quarter of Canada's climate pollution, and that that proportion is growing.

The party advocates development of a national transportation strategy with a goal of reaching zero-carbon public ground transportation everywhere in Canada by 2040, including:

- use of rail as the hub, with spokes of light rail and electric bus connections, including service to and within rural and remote communities, since everyone in Canada must have access to reliable transportation options at affordable rates. Besides reducing pollution, this measure responds to the findings of the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- establishing a bus-rail grid that provides hourly bus transit between towns, and where bus companies are mandated to deliver passengers to local rail stations
- maintaining rail safety as a top priority
- enacting a Via Rail Canada Act to implement a passenger rail transportation policy and protect services from future cuts
- investing \$500 million initially, rising to \$720 within two years to develop regional rail networks and strengthen rail connections between regions, including building several sections of additional track along existing routes to avoid bottlenecks where heavy freight pushes passenger rail to the siding
- building electrified, 200 km/h or faster, high-speed rail in the Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal-Quebec City triangle and the Calgary-Edmonton corridor
- exempting rural and intercity public transport from sales taxes, just like urban transit

Agriculture and Food

The party states that:

- the agriculture and food sector is an engine of the Canadian economy. The system employs more than two million people in Canada (as a comparison, the oil and gas sector employs about 500,000)
- the sector is vital to the economic viability and social fabric of rural communities, key to ensuring a safe and secure food supply, and essential to the health of the environment and ecosystem services
- agriculture and food systems are highly vulnerable to environmental and economic risks. Because of this, they receive significant policy support from the government in the form of subsidies and other transfers. Support for the agriculture sector in Canada totaled over \$7 billion CAD in 2020 and is a powerful tool that can tip the scale and determine which food systems prosper and which decline
- unfortunately, in Canada, federal government policies have contributed to the growing consolidation of agriculture at all levels, including the radical decrease in farm numbers, and a shift from family-owned mixed farms and local processing to industrial production systems based on crop monocultures and intensive livestock operations

Corporations, Competition & Consumerism

To protect responsible corporations, the party advocates:

- enacting a Carbon Border Adjustment, which will ensure Canadian companies paying carbon taxes are not placed at a competitive disadvantage with foreign companies located in countries with no such taxes. A Carbon Border Adjustment could well be the single most impactful action Canada could take to encourage other countries to adopt strong emissions reduction policies. Not only would a CBA allow us to access the financial benefits that come with a CBA, and protect Canadian companies, it will also signal a strong intention to assume a leadership role in the global fight against the climate emergency.
- continuously evaluating the impact of the Carbon Border Adjustment on developing countries through a lens of global environmental justice



An Economy to Serve People

The party states that:

- the world's major economies are moving at an unprecedented pace to fight climate change, retool their economies, and build the net-zero industries of tomorrow. At the same time, our closest allies are looking to shift their economic dependence away from dictatorships and towards stable, reliable democracies like our own
- these two shifts represent a significant economic opportunity for Canada
- since 2015, its focus has been investing in the middle class, growing the economy, strengthening Canada's social safety net, and making life more affordable for Canadians
- like the Transcontinental Railway at the turn of the last century, building the global clean can be a major national project - one that will protect the environment, grow the national economy, and ensure every single Canadian can share in the prosperity we will create together

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the ministry's immediate priority was to support workers whose work had been interrupted by public health measures
- the ministry was also expected to build a better, more inclusive employment insurance system, complete and advance early and significant actions under Canada's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, and help workers and communities prosper as the country moves toward net-zero, including through the launch of a Clean Jobs Training Centre.

During its prior time in office,

- introduction of the Canada Child Benefit, has lifted hundreds of thousands of children out of poverty and helped millions of Canadian families with the costs of raising children
- Increases to the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Old Age Security, and the Canada Pension Plan have allowed more seniors can enjoy secure and dignified retirement
- historic investment in a Canada-wide system of affordable early learning and child care delivered a 50 per cent average reduction in fees for regulated child care, brought fees down to just \$10 a day in six provinces and territories, with the rest on track to reach this milestone by 2026, and strengthened the existing child care system in Quebec

As examples of recent major investment decisions, the party cites:

- spring 2022: Honda, General Motors, and Stellantis all announced plans to invest in their existing assembly plants to help support the production of hybrid and electric vehicles in Canada. Together these multibillion projects will be supported by \$919.6 million in federal funding
- summer 2022: the party announced support for projects across Canada, including up to \$100 million to minimize the carbon footprint and improve worker safety at BHP's \$7.5 billion Jansen Stage 1 mine in Saskatchewan. In Ontario, Umicore announced its plan to invest \$1.5 billion in a net-zero facility that will produce essential components of electric vehicle batteries
- in Quebec, Rio Tinto Fer et Titane announced its plans to increase its production of critical minerals, cut emissions, and help build clean technology supply chains, supported by up to \$222 million in federal funding. Nokia also announced a \$340 million project to expand its Ottawa facility and revitalize its laboratories with the goal to further advance wireless technology research and development in Canada
- winter 2022-23: Volkswagen announced that its subsidiary, PowerCo, will build its first overseas electric vehicle battery manufacturing 'gigafactory' in St. Thomas, Ontario. MEDTEQ+ announced it will invest in a \$154 million envisAGE Network, supported by \$47 million in federal funding, that will help bring together industry, health experts, and investors to commercialize new health technologies. Together with Ontario, the federal government announced it will support the Oneida Energy storage project, which will be the largest electricity battery storage project in Canada

Economic Growth

The party states that Canada has made a remarkable recovery from the COVID recession, including:

- the strongest economic growth in the G7 over the last year

- 830,000 more Canadians employed than before the pandemic, with near-record low unemployment
- a record 85.7 per cent labour force participation rate for Canadian women in their prime working years, supported by our Canada-wide system of affordable early learning and child care
- inflation has fallen for eight months in a row (as of March 2023), and the Bank of Canada predicts that it will fall to just 2.6 per cent by the end of the year
- at the same time, many Canadians are faced with real affordability challenges, and are feeling the effects of higher grocery prices and housing costs. While inflation has fallen in Canada for eight straight months, it remains elevated—both in Canada and around the world. For many advanced economies, interest rates have risen to their highest levels in more than 15 years. This is resulting in slowing economic growth, both in Canada and around the world. The rapid rise in interest rates has also led to turmoil in some parts of the global banking system and volatility in global financial markets, highlighting the considerable uncertainty about how economic conditions will evolve going forward
- The nation's strength and resilience in the face of global economic challenges has been underpinned by steps the government has taken since 2015, including support for:
 - (1) People, by investing in our public health care system, making childcare more affordable, and reinforcing Canada's social safety net, including supports for children and seniors
 - (2) Growth, by investing in infrastructure, supporting investment in Canada's clean economy, and helping Canadian businesses grow and create jobs
 - (3) Jobs, by helping workers acquire the skills they need, and helping our lowest-paid—and often most essential—workers and their families achieve a good standard of living
 - (4) Communities, by investing in infrastructure, more affordable housing, public transit, and broadband

However, the party warns that:

- while the Canadian economy has remained solid, higher interest rates are beginning to work their way through both the global and Canadian economies. This is resulting in weaker economic activity
- while business activity is at a healthy level and most businesses continue to report strong sales, many are also under financial pressure as the significant rise in interest rates boosts borrowing costs. A growing proportion of businesses expect activity to weaken in the coming year as the lagged impact of higher interest rates continues to feed into weaker consumer spending. As a result, many businesses have started to dial back their investment plans in recent months.

The party reports that since it came to power in 2015:

- 2.7 million fewer Canadians are living in poverty, a 56 per cent decrease
- income inequality has declined by 11 per cent
- the gender wage gap is getting smaller, having decreased by 12 per cent
- women are closing the labour force participation gap, which has decreased by 28 per cent
- more young people have good jobs, with the youth unemployment rate down by 22 per cent

Housing & Poverty Reduction

The party states that:

- everyone should have a safe and affordable place to call home
- for too many Canadians, including young people and new Canadians, the dream of owning a home is increasingly out of reach, and paying rent has become more expensive across the country. This is undermining the financial stability of an entire generation of Canadians
- a lack of affordable housing also has an impact on our economy. Without more homes in our communities, it is difficult for businesses to attract the workers they need to grow and succeed, and when people spend more of their income on housing, it means less money is being spent in our communities
- this is a complex and longstanding issue

In its Mandate Letter to the Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's overarching goal was to help ensure Canadians can get a home of their own, through work to improve housing affordability and end chronic homelessness, and to champion the full breadth of Canadian diversity through greater inclusion
- continuing the party's rights-based approach to housing, the Ministry was to work with provinces, territories and municipalities to prioritize the launch of the new Housing Accelerator Fund and take action to protect consumers from anti-competitive practices in the real estate market
- to help address critical gaps, the Ministry was also to engage with Indigenous partners to begin co-development of an Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy
- the Ministry was also to lead a whole-of-government approach to build a more inclusive, equitable and just society, working to combat systemic racism, discrimination and xenophobia

The party reports that during its current term in office it has:

- introduced a two-year ban on non-resident, non-Canadians purchasing residential property to help curb speculation and ensure that houses are used as homes for Canadians to live in, rather than as financial assets for foreign investors;
- introduced a one per cent annual underused housing tax on the value of non-resident, non-Canadian owned residential property that is vacant or underused

- introduced a new Tax-Free First Home Savings Account to allow Canadians to save up to \$40,000, tax-free, to help buy their first home
- ensured that profits from flipping properties held for less than 12 months are taxed fully and fairly
- doubled the First-Time Home Buyers' Tax Credit to provide up to \$1,500 in direct support to home buyers to offset closing costs involved in buying a first home
- introduced a new, refundable Multigenerational Home Renovation Tax Credit, to provide up to \$7,500 in support for constructing a secondary suite for a senior or an adult with a disability, starting in 2023
- applied the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax to all assignment sales of newly constructed or substantially renovated residential housing, to help address speculative trading in the housing market
- launched a new \$4 billion Housing Accelerator Fund to remove barriers and incentivize housing supply growth, with the goal of creating at least 100,000 net new homes across Canada
- launched a \$200 million stream under the Affordable Housing Innovation Fund to develop and scale up rent-to-own projects
- launched a third round of the Rapid Housing Initiative, which is providing \$1.5 billion to create 4,500 new affordable housing units for Canadians in severe housing need, with 25 per cent of investments going to housing projects targeted towards women
- delivered more than \$500 million towards the government's goal of ending chronic homelessness, through Reaching Home, Canada's Homelessness Strategy
- topped up the Canada Housing Benefit in December 2022, to low-income renters with a \$500 payment to help with the cost of housing.

The party advocates:

- doubling the number of new homes that will be built in Canada within a decade, thereby helping more Canadians buy their first home and curb unfair practices that are driving up prices, including through reallocation of funding from the National Housing Co-Investment Fund's repair stream to its new construction stream
- through the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada, publishing a guideline to protect Canadians with mortgages who are facing exceptional circumstances, including specifically ensuring that federally regulated financial institutions provide Canadians with fair and equitable access to relief measures that are appropriate for the circumstances they are facing, including by extending amortizations, adjusting payment schedules, or authorizing lump-sum payments. Existing mortgage regulations may also allow lenders to provide a temporary mortgage amortization extension—even past 25 years
- with provinces and territories, begun development of a Home Buyers' Bill of Rights, to level the playing field for young, middle class, and new Canadians by making the process of buying a home more open, transparent, and fair, including for example by ensuring the legal right to a home inspection, requiring that real estate agents disclose whether they are representing both sides of a potential sale, and ensuring transparency on the history of sale prices

Living wage & Wealth Inequality

The party states that:

- despite Canada's strong recovery from the pandemic, too many Canadians are struggling with the impacts of global inflation, which is making the cost of living a real challenge
- in the past year, it has strengthened Canada's social safety net and provided targeted inflation relief to the Canadians who need it most
- it continues to introduce new, targeted measures to support Canadians, continuing efforts to avoid exacerbating inflation. These include cracking down on junk fees and making post-secondary education more affordable

The party reports that its key continuing activities include:

- supporting about 3.5 million families annually through the tax-free Canada Child Benefit, with families this year receiving up to \$6,997 per child under the age of six, and up to \$5,903 per child aged six through 17
- increasing Old Age Security benefits for seniors age 75 and older by ten per cent as of July 2022, providing more than \$800 in additional support to full pensioners
- reducing fees for regulated child care by 50 per cent on average, delivering regulated child care that costs an average of just \$10-a-day by 2026—with six provinces and territories reducing child care fees to \$10-a-day or less by April 2, 2023—and strengthening the child care system in Quebec with more child care spaces
- strengthening the Canada Pension Plan, which will eventually raise the maximum retirement benefit by up to 50 per cent
- enhancing the Canada Workers Benefit for our lowest-paid—and often most essential—workers, to provide up to \$1,428 for a single worker without children, up to \$2,461 to a family, and an additional \$737 for workers with disabilities
- permanently eliminating interest on Canada Student Loans, and ensuring borrowers do not need to make payments on their loans until they earn at least \$40,000 per year
- fighting climate change while making life more affordable with a federal price on pollution that puts more money back in the pockets of eight out of every ten Canadians in the provinces where it applies

The party reports that it plans:

- a one-time Grocery Rebate, providing \$2.5 billion in targeted inflation relief, to be delivered through a one-time payment from the Canada Revenue Agency as soon as possible following the passage of legislation

Labour & Employment

The party states that:

- as a core objective it prioritizes the creation of meaningful middle class jobs
- higher immigration and higher labour force participation are expanding the pool of available workers, and offsetting population aging more than in other G7 economies
- the resulting boost to employment has helped maintain real household disposable income per capita, even as it declined in peer economies. This is expected to continue..

The party further states that in order to promote skills and labour mobility for a clean economy, during its current term in office it has:

- Implemented Labour Market Transfer Agreements enabling provinces and territories to deliver training and employment supports tailored to their unique labour market needs, including with a \$1.5 billion top-up in 2020 to enable workers to return to work in sectors hit hardest by the pandemic
 - provided nearly \$3 billion annually to provinces and territories for training and employment supports and a top-up of \$2.7 billion over six years, starting in 2017-18
 - invested over \$200 million to expand the Union Training and Innovation Program to train more than 30,000 additional apprentices and journeypersons
 - invested \$250 million over three years for the Upskilling for Industry Initiative to support more than 15,000 workers, and \$125 million over five years to launch the Sustainable Jobs Training Centre
 - introduced a Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program to help key sectors of the economy implement solutions to address their current and emerging workforce needs and the Apprenticeship Service to support first-year apprentices in construction and manufacturing trades by providing employers with \$5,000 for upfront costs like salary and training, or \$10,000 for members of underrepresented groups
 - introduced an Apprenticeship Service to help first year apprentices in construction and manufacturing Red Seal trades connect with opportunities at small and medium-sized employers
 - to help workers at all skill levels improve their foundational and transferable skills, like problem solving and digital skills, provided free training resources and online skills assessments
 - provided \$815 million over five years for the Canada Training Credit, which covers up to 50 per cent of eligible training fees, and \$595 million over six years for the Labour Mobility Deduction for Tradespeople to make it more affordable to travel to where the jobs are
 - to promote creation of jobs, tied many of the above credits and solutions to requirements for payment of prevailing wages by employers and ensuring that apprenticeship opportunities are being created, the definition of prevailing wage being based on union compensation, including benefits and pension contributions from the most recent, widely applicable multi-employer collective bargaining agreement, or corresponding project labour agreements in the jurisdiction within which relevant labour is employed
 - additionally, at least ten per cent of the tradesperson hours worked must be performed by registered apprentices in the Red Seal trades
- To help tradespeople invest in the equipment they need, Budget 2023
- doubled the maximum employment deduction for tradespeople's tool expenses from \$500 to \$1,000

Employee Business Ownership

To promote employee ownership and management of businesses, the party proposes to introduce legislation to support creation of Employee Ownership Trusts, and seeks stakeholder feedback on how best to enhance employee rights and participation in the governance of Employee Ownership Trusts

Seasonal and Gig Workers

The party states that:

- many seasonal workers, including within the fishing and tourism sectors, rely on Employment Insurance for the support between work seasons
- to address gaps in Employment Insurance support between seasons, it previously introduced temporary rules to provide up to five additional weeks—for a maximum of 45 weeks—for eligible workers in 13 economic regions
- it now proposes to extend this support for seasonal workers until October 2024
- to protect workers who are classified as contractors but in reality qualify as regular employees, the party proposes to amend the Canada Labour Code to strengthen prohibitions against employee misclassification

Union Rights

To support the right form unions, bargain collectively, and strike, the party proposes amendments to the Canada Labour Code that would prohibit the use of replacement workers during a strike or lockout, and improve the process to review activities that must be maintained to ensure the health and safety of the public during a work stoppage

Industries, Innovation & Agriculture

Mining & Critical Minerals

The party states that:

- as a global leader in mining, Canada is in a prime position to provide a stable resource base for critical minerals that are central to major global industries such as clean technology, auto manufacturing, health care, aerospace, and the digital economy
- for nickel and copper alone, the known reserves in Canada are more than 10 million tonnes, with many other potential sources at the exploration stage
- US legislation pertaining to critical minerals and electric vehicles in create opportunities for Canada, including in particular, requirements for robust supply chains of critical minerals that Canada has in abundance, to support acceleration of clean technology & manufacturing in the US
- to fully unleash Canada's potential in critical minerals, a framework to accelerate private investment is required
- during its current term in office, previous budgets committed \$3.8 billion for Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy to provide foundational support to Canada's mining sector to take advantage of these opportunities. The Strategy was published in December 2022
- in March 2023, it launched the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund to allocate \$1.5 billion towards energy and transportation projects needed to unlock priority mineral deposits. The new fund will complement other clean energy and transportation supports, such as the Canada Infrastructure Bank and the National Trade Corridors Fund

It proposes:

- a new Investment Tax Credit for Clean Technology Manufacturing to boost private investment in Canadian critical minerals projects and create new opportunities and middle class jobs in communities across the country

Clean Technology Manufacturing

The party states that:

- manufacturing and processing of clean technologies, and in the extraction and processing of critical minerals, can create good middle class jobs for Canadians and ensure that our businesses remain competitive in major global industries
- but investment will be required

The party proposes a refundable tax credit equal to 30 per cent of the cost of investments in new machinery and equipment used to manufacture or process key clean technologies, and extract, process, or recycle key critical minerals, including:

- extraction, processing, or recycling of critical minerals essential for clean technology supply chains, specifically: lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, copper, and rare earth elements;
- manufacturing of renewable or nuclear energy equipment;
- processing or recycling of nuclear fuels and heavy water;
- manufacturing of grid-scale electrical energy storage equipment;
- manufacturing of zero-emission vehicles; and,
- manufacturing or processing of certain upstream components and materials for the above activities, such as cathode materials and batteries used in electric vehicles

The investment tax credit is expected to cost \$4.5 billion over five years, and an additional \$6.6 billion from 2028-29 to 2034-35

Battery Manufacturing

The party states that:

- globally, major automakers are pivoting to building electric vehicles at historic speeds. Canada can capitalize on this shift by rapidly developing global supply chains for electric vehicle manufacturing, including in battery manufacturing and the critical minerals and high-value midstream components that play an essential role in their production
- such segments of the electric vehicle supply chain can create and secure more high-quality jobs for Canadian workers for a generation to come
- Volkswagen announced in March 2023 that its subsidiary PowerCo will build its first overseas 'gigafactory' in St. Thomas, Ontario. This massive facility will represent a significant portion of the North American battery manufacturing sector and will help to cement Canada's place in the North American and global battery value chains

The party proposes investments directed toward:

- anchoring the future Canadian supply chain: Around 50 per cent of the battery's total value accrues in battery cell and pack production activities
- accelerating investment across the value chain, including critical minerals
- promoting growth in the automotive sector of the future, including integration between battery and automotive manufacturing
- securing good jobs for Canadians, including factories such as battery gigafactories that can employ thousands of people, create valuable economic spin-off benefits for local communities, and support even more good jobs across their supply chains
- supporting the shift to a net-zero economy: the shift to using batteries and EVs is a vital part of Canada's plan to reach net-zero by 2050

Research & Development

The party states that:

- Canada's research community and world-class researchers solve some of the world's toughest problems, and Canada's spending on higher education research and development, as a share of GDP, has exceeded all other G7 countries
- during its current term in office it has committed more than \$16 billion of additional funding to support research and science across Canada, including:
 - * \$2.4 billion for the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the granting councils—the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research
 - * more than \$500 million in total additional support to third-party research and science organizations, in addition to the creation of the Strategic Science Fund
 - * \$1.2 billion for Pan-Canadian Genomics and Artificial Intelligence Strategies, and a National Quantum Strategy
 - * \$1 billion in Budget 2021 to the granting councils and the Canada Foundation for Innovation for life sciences researchers and infrastructure
- it intends for Canada to become a full member in the Square Kilometre Array Observatory, which will provide Canadian astronomers with access to its ground-breaking data, with up to \$269.3 million in support
- it has been consulting with stakeholders, including through the independent Advisory Panel on the Federal Research Support System, to seek advice on how to further strengthen Canada's research support system

The party further proposes:

- in order to help more Canadian businesses access expertise and research and development facilities they need, providing \$108.6 million over three years to expand the College and Community Innovation Program, administered by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council

Space Exploration

The party states that:

- Canada's participation in the International Space Station has helped to fuel important scientific advances, and showcased Canada's ability to create leading-edge space technologies, such as Canadarm2
- Canadian space technologies have inspired advances in other fields, such as the NeuroArm, the world's first robot capable of operating inside an MRI, making previously impossible surgeries possible

It proposes:

- to provide \$1.1 billion over 14 years, on a cash basis, to the Canadian Space Agency to continue national participation in the International Space Station until 2030
- to join efforts to return to the moon, by contributing a robotic lunar utility vehicle to perform key activities in support of human lunar exploration. Canadian participation in the NASA-led Lunar Gateway station—a space station that will orbit the moon—also presents new opportunities for innovative advances in science and technology. Canada is providing Canadarm3 to the Lunar Gateway, and a Canadian astronaut will join Artemis II, the first crewed mission to the moon since 1972
- in support of the moon project, to provide \$1.2 billion over 13 years to the Canadian Space Agency to develop and contribute a lunar utility vehicle to assist astronauts on the moon
- to provide \$150 million over five years to the Canadian Space Agency for the next phase of the Lunar Exploration Accelerator Program to support the Canada's space industry
- to \$76.5 million over eight years, on a cash basis, to the Canadian Space Agency in support of Canadian science on the Lunar Gateway station

Forestry

The party:

- states that the forestry sector plays an important role in Canada's natural resource economy, and is a source of good careers in many rural communities, including Indigenous communities. As global demand for sustainable forest products grows, continued support for Canada's forestry sector will help it innovate, grow, and support good middle class jobs
- proposes to provide \$368.4 million over three years to Natural Resources Canada to renew and update forest sector support, including for research and development, Indigenous and international leadership, and data. Of this amount, \$30.1 million would be sourced from existing departmental resources

Agriculture

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister:

- to develop a sector-specific strategy to address persistent and chronic labour shortages in farming and food processing
- to prioritize measures to support efficiency and climate-resiliency in the agriculture and food sector to strengthen food security and significantly cut agriculture's environmental footprint, as well as working closely with provinces and territories and producers to support the sustainable growth of the agricultural and agri-food sectors, with an aim to establish Canada as a global leader in the sector

- to strengthen Canada's food system, with particular emphasis on developing a National School Food Policy

In addition, the party:

- states that Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine has resulted in higher prices for nitrogen fertilizers, which has had a notable impact on Eastern Canadian farmers who rely heavily on imported fertilizer. It proposes to provide \$34.1 million over three years to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's On-Farm Climate Action Fund to support adoption of nitrogen management practices by Eastern Canadian farmers, that will help optimize the use and reduce the need for fertilizer
- states that farm production costs have increased in Canada and around the world, including as a result of Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine and global supply chain disruptions. It proposes to provide \$13 million in 2023-24 to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to increase the interest-free limit for loans under the Advance Payments Program from \$250,000 to \$350,000 for the 2023 program year. Additionally, it undertakes to consult with provincial and territorial counterparts to explore ways to extend help to small agricultural producers who demonstrate urgent financial need
- states that Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) is a highly transmissible illness that can affect cattle, pigs, and other cloven-hoofed animals. Recent outbreaks in Asia and Africa have increased the risk of global spread. An FMD outbreak in Canada would cut off exports for all livestock sectors, with major economic implications. The party proposes to provide \$57.5 million over five years to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to establish an FMD vaccine bank for Canada, and to develop FMD response plans. The government will seek a cost-sharing arrangement with provinces and territories.

Dairy

The party:

- states that the dairy sector is facing a growing surplus of solids non-fat (SNF), a byproduct of dairy processing. Limited processing capacity for SNF results in lost opportunities for dairy processors and farmers
- it proposes to provide \$333 million over ten years for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to support investments in research and development of new products based on SNF, market development for these products, and processing capacity for SNF-based products more broadly

Transportation & Infrastructure

In its Mandate Letter to the Minister of Transport at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's immediate priority should be to enforce vaccination requirements across the federally-regulated transport sector that are in place and to continue to advance the restart and rebuilding of the commercial air sector
- it should also prioritize work to make High Frequency Rail a reality, and to advance measures that support Canada's transition to net-zero, including accelerating the transition to zero emission vehicles.

The party states that:

- the expansion and transformation of Canada's electricity system will require major investments and enhanced partnerships between governments and the private sector
- during its current term in office the Canada Infrastructure Bank has made investment commitments of \$8.6 billion in 37 projects, in support of its mandate

The party proposes:

- to position the Canada Infrastructure Bank to play a leading role in electrifying Canada's economy, supporting lower energy bills for Canadians and businesses, and ensuring that cleaner, affordable electricity is available from coast-to-coast-to-coast
- the Canada Infrastructure Bank invest at least \$10 billion through its Clean Power priority area, and at least \$10 billion through its Green Infrastructure priority area
- to support the building of a more sustainable, secure, and affordable electricity grid, providing \$3.0 billion over 13 years, starting in 2023-24, to Natural Resources Canada to recapitalize funding for the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program to support critical regional priorities and Indigenous-led projects, and add transmission projects to the program's eligibility; renew the Smart Grid program to continue to support electricity grid innovation; and create new investments in science-based activities to help capitalize on Canada's offshore wind potential, particularly off the coasts of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador
- advancing the Atlantic Loop—a series of interprovincial transmission lines that will provide clean electricity between Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia—including negotiating with provinces and utilities to identify a clear path to deliver the project by 2030

VIA Rail

To ensure proper train service, the party proposes to provide \$210.0 million over five years to VIA Rail to conduct maintenance on its trains on routes outside the Québec City–Windsor Corridor and to maintain levels of service across its network. This is in addition to the \$42.8 million over four years, with \$169.4 million in remaining amortization, provided in prior budgets to construct, maintain, and upgrade stations and maintenance centres in the Québec City–Windsor Corridor

Air Transport

The party states that in order to strengthen the Canadian Transportation Agency, make airlines more accountable, and ensure that passengers are fairly compensated for delays and cancellations, it proposes to:

- amend the Canada Transportation Act to strengthen airline obligations to compensate passengers for delays and cancellations, in alignment with the national air passenger rights regime with those of leading international approaches and ensure that Canadians are fairly compensated for travel delays that are within airlines' control
- amend the Canada Transportation Act to make the Canadian Transportation Agency's complaint adjudication process more efficient, and to provide the Minister of Transport with the authority to impose a regulatory charge on airlines to help cover the costs of resolving air passenger complaints
- allocate \$75.9 million over three years to ensure the Canadian Transportation Agency has the resources for enforcement and compliance, and dispute resolution services

Banking & Finance

The party states that:

- Canadians must be confident that federally regulated financial institutions and their owners act with integrity, and that Canada's financial institutions are protected, including from foreign interference
- it intends to amend the Bank Act, the Insurance Companies Act, the Trust and Loan Companies Act, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Act, and the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA) to modernize the federal financial framework to address emerging risks to Canada's financial sector

The party advocates amending the above acts to:

- expand the mandate of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) to include supervising federally regulated financial institutions (FRFIs) in order to determine whether they have adequate policies and procedures to protect themselves against threats to their integrity and security, including protection against foreign interference
- expand the range of circumstances where OSFI can take control of an FRFI to include where the integrity and security of that FRFI is at risk, where all shareholders have been precluded from exercising their voting rights, or where there are national security risks
- expand the existing authority for the Superintendent to issue a direction of compliance to include an act that threatens the integrity and security of an FRFI
- provide new powers under the PCMLTFA to allow the Minister of Finance to impose enhanced due diligence requirements to protect Canada's financial system from the financing of national security threats, and allow the Director of FINTRAC to share intelligence analysis with the Minister of Finance to help assess national security or financial integrity risks posed by financial entities
- improve the sharing of compliance information between FINTRAC, OSFI, and the Minister of Finance
- designate OSFI as a recipient of FINTRAC disclosures pertaining to threats to the security of Canada, where relevant to OSFI's responsibilities

Corporations, Competition & Consumerism

To assist consumers and small businesses, the party proposes:

- to protect consumers from hidden fees, in collaboration with regulatory agencies, provinces, and territories, to reduce junk fees for Canadians, including higher telecom roaming charges, event and concert fees, excessive baggage fees, and unjustified shipping and freight fees, building on recent amendments to the *Competition Act* to strengthen protections against hidden prices; and introducing amendments to the *Bank Act* and *Financial Consumer Agency of Canada Act* to protect Canadians' rights and interests when dealing with their banks; and a new policy direction to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to ensure Canadians can affordably and easily change, downgrade, or cancel services
 - to address problems with predatory lending that affects the most vulnerable people, including low-income Canadians, newcomers, and seniors—through very high interest rate loans, by amending the Criminal Code, which currently allows rates equivalent to 47 per cent APR (annual percentage rate), to a maximum of 35 per cent APR, and to launch consultations on whether the criminal rate of interest should be further reduced; and to adjust the Criminal Code's payday lending exemption to require payday lenders to charge no more than \$14 per \$100 borrowed
 - in order to support owners of small businesses, to implement commitments secured from major card issues to lower fees processing for small businesses by up to 27 percent from current rates, while also protecting reward points for Canadian consumers offered by Canada's large banks, and to provide free access to online fraud and cyber security resources to help them grow their online sales while preventing fraud and chargebacks
- When it comes to broken appliances or devices, high repair fees and a lack of access to specific parts often mean Canadians are pushed to buy new products rather than repairing the ones they have. This is expensive for people and creates harmful waste
- to reduce waste and control costs for consumers and farmers, implementing a right to repair equipment and home appliances and electronics in 2024, by preventing companies from blocking repairs with complex programming or hard-to-obtain bespoke parts, etc.
 - to reduce the number of charging devices consumers are required to purchase and recycle, explore following the lead of the European Union and mandate universal charge interfaces



An Economy to Serve People

The party states that:

- life in Canada is becoming harder, that young people struggle to find good jobs, that parents struggle with multiple jobs and enjoy less time with their children; and that the richest are richer than ever, while too many workers earn less than a living wage, and without the benefits and security of unions.
- the federal government has an important role to lay in creating better, fairer, and more secure jobs
- its plan will create more than a million good jobs in a first mandate, in energy efficiency retrofits, affordable housing, renewable energy, infrastructure, transit, and child care

Housing & Poverty Reduction

The party states that:

- owning a home has become an impossible dream for too many Canadian. Everyone should have the right to a safe and affordable place to call home
- working people should be able to afford to live close to their workplaces, including in the heart of our biggest cities
- young people should be able to stay in the neighbourhoods they've grown up in, and seniors should never be forced out of the communities that they've spent their lives in
- but for too many families, safe and affordable housing is increasingly out of reach, thanks to skyrocketing rents, demo-victions and ballooning home prices
- average rents rose in every single province last year, and 1.6 million Canadian households spend more than 30 per cent of their income on housing
- Canada has the fastest growing house prices in all of the G7, a trend that shows no signs of slowing

With respect to rental housing, the party advocates:

- ensuring that more affordable rental units are built across the country, since one in three Canadians is a renter, including creating at least 500,000 units of quality, affordable housing over ten years, through a mix of effective measures that work in partnership with provinces and municipalities, build capacity for social, community, and affordable housing providers, to provide rental support for co-ops, and meet environmental energy efficiency goals
- to kick-start the construction of coops, social and non-profit housing and break the logjam that has prevented access to housing funding, setting up dedicated fast-start funds to streamline the application process and help communities get the expertise and assistance they need to get projects off the ground
- mobilizing federal resources and lands for these projects, turning unused and under-used properties into vibrant new communities
- to further spur construction of affordable homes, waiving the federal portion of the GST/HST on the construction of new affordable rental units
- providing immediate relief for families that are struggling to afford rent in otherwise suitable housing, while long-term are brought forward

To promote home ownership, the party advocates:

- re-introducing 30-year terms to CMHC insured mortgages on entry-level homes for first time home buyers, to will allow for smaller monthly payments, freeing up funds to help make ends meet for young families
- to assist with closing costs, doubling the Home Buyer's Tax Credit to \$1,500
- providing innovative paths to home ownership, provide resources to facilitate co-housing, such as model co-ownership agreements and connections to local resources, and easier access to financing by offering CMHC-backed co-ownership mortgages
- to help end speculation that's fuelling high housing prices, implementing a 20% Foreign Buyer's tax on the sale of homes to individuals who aren't Canadian citizens or permanent residents
- to fight money laundering, which fuels organized crime and drives up housing prices, working work with the provinces to create a public beneficial ownership registry to increase transparency about who owns properties, and requiring reporting of suspicious transactions

Universal High-Speed Internet

The party states that:

- more than ever, Canadians need fast and reliable internet connections at home to be able to work and go to school; and we all rely on our cell phones to keep us connected wherever we are
- these are essential utilities, yet too many Canadians still struggle to access them. More than half of Canadians living in rural areas do not have access to high-speed internet, and Canadians pay some of the highest prices for mobile wireless and broadband subscriptions in the world
- profit margins of the Canada's biggest telecom companies in Canada are over 40 per cent, while two million Canadians living in rural, remote and Northern areas still

don't have access to reliable internet service

The party advocates:

- until the industry becomes more competitive, implementing a price cap to make sure that Canadians do not pay more than the global average for their cell phone and internet bills
- expanding cell coverage and delivering reliable, affordable broadband internet to every community in Canada as an essential service, and ensuring that every Canadian has access to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband within four years, including creation of a Crown telecom services corporation
- ensuring that providers offer a basic plan for wireless and broadband that is comparable with affordable plans available in other countries
- to put an end to surprise bills, requiring companies to offer unlimited wireless data options at affordable rates, as exist elsewhere in the world, and abolishing data caps for broadband internet
- to protect Canadians from unfair wireless and internet sales and services practices, introducing a Telecom Consumers' Bill of Rights

Poverty Reduction & Livable Income

The party states that:

- as the nation recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, many Canadians are living at the edge of poverty, and that even when the economy recovers, those who are struggling now will be at a disadvantage for a long time to come
- this is a critical moment to strengthen the Canadian social safety net
- the Canada Emergency Response Benefit has shown what can happen when governments mobilize to make a livable income a priority

The party advocates:

- working immediately to build a guaranteed livable income for all Canadians, starting with lifting seniors and those living with disabilities out of poverty
- complementing the basic livable income with bold new investments in housing, health care, post-secondary education and training to set all Canadians up to succeed
- in time, working to expand all income security programs to ensure everyone in Canada has access to a guaranteed livable basic income
- fully implementing the right to housing, and working toward the goal of ending homelessness in Canada within a decade
- an affordable housing strategy including support for those at risk of becoming homeless, taking the lead from communities about local needs and adopting a "housing first" approach
- to help people find an affordable home in the long term, creating more social housing and other affordable options
- to help to the most vulnerable right away, working with the provinces and municipalities to fast-track the purchase, lease and conversion of hotels and motels for emergency housing relief
- to address the link between poor health and poverty implementing a national pharmacare program
- providing better access to mental health and addictions support
- developing a national, public, universal child care program
- ensuring that all Canadians can access healthy, affordable food

Labour & Employment

Pensions

To enable workers to retire at a steady, dignified level of comfort and income despite rising costs and failed retirement funds, the party advocates:

- ensuring that unfunded pension liabilities owed to workers, and employees' severance pay, are top priorities for repayment
- preventing companies from paying out dividends and bonuses when pensions are under-funded
- creation of a mandatory, industry-financed pension insurance program to ensure that no worker is deprived of retirement benefits through no fault of their own
- a basic guaranteed livable income for seniors
- creation of a Pension Advisory Commission to develop a long-term plan to enhance Old Age Security, boost the Guaranteed Income Supplement to lift all seniors out of poverty, and strengthen the Canada Pension Plan
- making automatic enrollment in OAS and GIS retroactive, so no retiree misses out on benefit that they should be receiving, and supporting efforts to provide retirement financial literacy

Job Training

The party states that:

- technology continues to rapidly change the workplace. Advances could lead to economic growth and prosperity, but only if we make sure that workers share in the gains that will

come from these changes

- it is committed to working with the provinces to ensure that Canadians have access to education throughout their professional lives, including proactive training and retraining, as well as support when they are unemployed
- it envisions a regime in which training opportunities are flexible enough to work with people's busy lives, and significant enough to really improve job prospects

To that end, the party advocates:

- changing EI rules to allow workers who quit their job to go to school to qualify for EI benefits, so that families can count on some income support during that period of transition back to school
- expanding options for workers in designated sectors and regions to take EI funded training in advance of losing a job while at the same time promoting investment to ensure that regional economies are creating good jobs that support families and communities
- to ensure that businesses are investing in training also, requiring large employers to spend at least 1 percent of payroll on training for their employees annually
- in delivering these opportunities, working with provinces to establish training priorities, and create a new Workers Development and Opportunities Fund to expand training options beyond people who qualify for EI. The fund would be provincially directed, with dedicated support for marginalized workers, those in transitioning sectors and for efforts to improve literacy and essential skills

Employment Insurance

The party states that:

- although all workers pay into EI, even in normal times less than 40 percent qualify for benefits when they need them. Only a third of unemployed women can access EI, a trend that's only set to worsen with the growth of precarious and part-time work
- previous governments have used the EI fund to balance books, while fewer and fewer workers can access the benefits that they've already paid for

The party advocates:

- creating a low income supplement so that no one who is relying on EI regular or special benefits to stay afloat receives less than \$2,000 a month
- to assist those who leave jobs voluntarily but still need support, making EI available to people who quit their jobs to go back to school, to provide necessary childcare, or to protect their health or the health of immunocompromised family members
- for those on EI while dealing with illness, extending sickness benefits from 15 to 50 weeks, and creating a pilot project to allow workers with episodic illnesses and disabilities to access EI sickness benefits a day at a time, as needed
- to help Canadians in seasonal industries bridge the gap between the end of EI and the start of seasonal work, reinstating the Extra Five Weeks pilot project and making it permanent, and restoring economic regions in the territories and PEI to their 2014 boundaries
- ensuring that parental leave is available to all Canadian families in the way that works best, through implementation of a new special leave that allows parents to take shorter parental leave at a higher replacement rate, and allowing self-employed workers to opt-into parental benefit at any time before taking the leave, and doubling leave for parents of multiples
- protecting the EI Operating Account in law, so that future governments can't raid it for general revenue
- freezing premiums until the post-pandemic economy recovers

Unions and workers' rights

The party states that:

- the federal government has an important role to play in making work better, fairer and more secure
- it believes that membership in a union is the best ticket into the middle class, and that workers and the entire economy are better off when worker's rights are protected and bargaining is fair
- it will defend the Rand formula, so that unions can effectively advocate for workers, and we will continue to oppose heavy-handed legislation that suspends the rights to bargain and to strike
- it will ensure that workers and employers can take action together to improve health and safety, eliminating unsafe working conditions and ensuring that whistleblowers are protected

The party advocates:

- working with the provinces to update federal standards and bring in a permanent safety net of paid sick leave across the country
- to close the gap until every worker has access to paid sick days, amending the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit and continuing it until all Canadians have access to paid sick days, including allowing sick leave to be taken one or two days at a time, giving full income replacement to workers who are sick, and reimbursing employers instead of putting the onus on workers to apply for the program

- immediate amendment of Canada Labour Code to allow 10 paid sick days for federally-regulated workplaces
- prioritizing anti-scab to ban the use of replacement workers in labour disputes – for good, in order to prevent use of scab replacement workers from undermining workers’ ability to negotiate fairly
- to prevent workers from working 40 hours a week while continuing to live below the poverty line, implementing a federal minimum wage starting at \$15 an hour and rising to \$20 an hour, indexed to the cost of living
- to help workers who do not receive benefits like extended health coverage and dental care, implementing rules to require that part-time and contract workers be compensated equally to full-time workers
- to address abuse of young workers through unpaid internships, imposing an immediate ban on unpaid internships outside of education programs
- replacing the public service’s Phoenix pay system , and working to reduce the inefficient and costly practice of contracting out government work
- taking action to put an end to harassment in the federal workplace

Industries, Innovation & Agriculture

The party states that:

- it is committed to putting Canadian workers at the centre of a robust strategy to drive innovation and boost competitiveness
- the pandemic showed the critical importance of domestic manufacturing

The party advocates:

- developing comprehensive industrial strategies to incubate and expand critical domestic manufacturing capacity and supply chain infrastructure including for auto, aerospace, shipbuilding, construction materials, pharmaceuticals and personal protective equipment, beginning by strengthening and modernizing the Investment Canada Act
- scrapping the Invest in Canada agency and creating iCanada, a one-stop shop federal government office to help attract investors to Canada and turn their plans into reality, and champion Canadian industry on the international stage
- it is committed to promoting good jobs in the automotive and parts industries, including urgently convening an auto summit with provincial, municipal, industry and labour leaders to develop a consensus on a National Automotive Strategy to attract and retain jobs and investment and restoring the Automotive Innovation Fund, making contributions to automakers tax-free to help secure next generation production capacity
- commissioning an independent study into the causes and consequences of the trade deficit in automotive products with Mexico, along with potential strategies for reducing it
- ensuring that Canadian workers have the skills they need implement updated development and manufacturing for future vehicles
- working with all levels of government, together with business and labour leaders, to develop a national industrial strategy for building an advanced low carbon manufacturing economy
- to foster entrepreneurship, including support to help the hard-hit tourism sector recover
- launching a Canadian start-up culture, with a focus on helping Canadian companies in all regions of the country commercialize new technologies and scale up, train and retain the highly-skilled Canadian workforce needed to support industry growth, and bolster Canadian competitiveness

To support the steel and aluminum industries, the party advocates:

- working to grow the domestic market for Canadian manufactured goods, and providing strategic supports to the steel and aluminum industries to attract and retain jobs and investments
- to protect Canadian mills and workers from unfair foreign exports, including from China, adopting measures to stabilize the Canadian steel market, and protect the sector from predatory practices of foreign producers
- ensuring that Canadian-made steel and aluminum are used in infrastructure projects across the country

To support the agriculture industry, the party advocates:

- implementing a plan for a Canadian Food Strategy to take a whole-of-government approach to address regional needs and priorities by investing in agricultural communities, supporting young and new farmers and ensuring that rural livelihoods are good and sustainable
- full protection for supply management, and ensuring that reciprocity is maintained in all trade negotiations
- ensuring that high-speed broadband and cell phone infrastructure is available to connect our farmers and rural communities to needed services
- introducing a payment protection program for produce growers, and taking immediate steps to restore protection for growers selling to the United States under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act

To support the forestry and wood products industries, the party advocates investing in forestry innovation and support for value-added Canadian wood products, and the good jobs that go with them

To support fisheries and coastal communities, the party:

- supports a vision of strong coastal communities, sustainable fisheries and thriving marine and freshwater ecosystems, to make Canada a global leader in ocean and freshwater sustainability
- to protect wild salmon on the Pacific coast, focusing on conservation, protection, and restoration of critical habitat, including full implementation of the recommendations of the Cohen Commission and working with the province of British Columbia and First Nations to support the transition to land-based closed-containment systems
- on the Atlantic coast, ensuring that resource allocations in the fishery are guided by the principles of adjacency, historic dependence and sustainability, while also respecting Indigenous rights
- investment in habitat restoration and the rebuilding of fish stocks, as well as response to oil spills and derelict vessels to better protect our coasts

Small businesses, trades & crafts

The party states that:

- small businesses are one of the engines of job creation in Canada, and an important part of every community across the country. Local shops keep our communities running, and they need our support now more than ever
- too many main street small and medium sized businesses were hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and need a government that helps them access the services and infrastructure needed for recovery and expansion while investing in a healthy and talented workforce

The party advocates:

- continuing to providing pandemic wage and rent subsidies until small businesses are able to fully reopen
- to help small businesses get people back to work, implementing a long-term hiring bonus to pay the employer portion of EI and CPP for new or rehired staff
- end gouging by capping high credit card merchant fees at a maximum of 1%
- by implementing universal pharmacare, saving businesses approximately \$600 per employee with extended health benefits every year
- to help Canadian small business access world markets, streamlining access to government export services and making it simpler to break into foreign markets
- providing small- and medium-sized businesses with a single point of contact to help ease regulatory processes and support compliance
- to address labour shortages faced by many small businesses operating in rural areas, making new investments in training and boosting support to traditionally underemployed Groups so that they can access good jobs that pay a fair wage

Transportation and Infrastructure

The party believes that Canadians should be able to rely on the federal government to invest infrastructure projects that will make a real difference in communities across the country.

The party advocates:

- using Community Benefit Agreements to guarantee good jobs, training, apprenticeships, and support for local businesses are part of all infrastructure projects.
- implementing a permanent, direct, and allocation-based funding mechanism for modern public transit across Canada for the long term.
- increasing investment to help cities transition their bus fleets to electric drive, and expand affordable rail and bus options.
- working with communities for which it is a priority to develop fare-free transit
- increased federal funding to respond to disasters and adapt infrastructure to withstand floods, fires, and other extreme weather events
- ensuring that every community in Canada has access to affordable high-speed internet

Corporations, Competition & Consumerism

The party advocates:

- to protect consumers, requiring financial advisors to provide advice that is in investors' best interest, including more powers to investigate and enforce such rules, and compensation for misled investors
- legislation to protect privacy and prevent sale of personal information by credit and debit card companies
- establishing a right to repair electronic devices at affordable prices, and making companies responsible for electronic waste
- to ensure fair gasoline prices, creation of a Fair Gasoline Prices Watchdog to investigate complaints about gouging, and boost the power of investigate allegations of anti-competitive activity in the gasoline market
- to protect travellers' safety and consumer rights, strengthening the Air Passenger Bill of Rights

The party states that Canadians pay some of the highest prices for mobile and broadband internet in the world, while according to the CRTC the profit margins of Canada's five largest telecom companies are almost 40%, and two million Canadians in rural and remote areas lack reliable internet access.

The party advocates:

- implementing a price cap to ensure that prices in Canada are no more than the global average.
- ensuring that every community in Canada has access to high-speed internet without delay
- requiring providers offer basic wireless and broadband plans that are available in other countries, and require unlimited data rates at affordable prices
- implementing a telecom consumer’s bill of rights
- ensuring that consumers have a right to repair electronic devices and other prices at affordable prices
- requiring financial institutions and advisors to provide advice that is in the best interest of the investor, rather than the bank
- creating a fair gasoline prices watchdog to investigate complaints of price gouging, to ensure gasoline prices are fair
- increasing the competition bureau’s power to proactively investigate anti-competitive activity in the gasoline market
- to protect traveller safety and consumer rights, strengthening the Air Passenger Bill of Rights



An Economy for All

The party states that:

- there are only two ways to create more wealth and prosperity: we can either work more or work more efficiently through increased productivity
- investments in R&D, innovation, more efficient production processes, machinery and equipment are critical to improvements in productivity and living standards
- improved productivity leads to better, higher-paying jobs
- in a context where there are manpower shortages in many sectors, investment is a way to increase production without necessarily having to employ more workers
- since 2015, business investment has gone down not only in the oil and gas sector, but in many others as well
- Canada is attracting less foreign direct investment
- a 2018 study by the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary found \$14 billion worth of direct and indirect federal business subsidies. Most if not all of these create unfair market distortions by favouring some companies or sectors at the expense of others
- Canada’s combined federal-provincial corporate income tax rate is the 12th highest amongst the 360 ECD countries
- abolishing the capital gains tax encourage every Canadian to save and invest more and would give our entrepreneurs access to a larger pool of capital

The party advocates:

- stop taking of billions of dollars from the private sector and redistributing them through subsidies, lowering taxes for all businesses and encouraging saving and investment to make our economy more productive
- eliminating all corporate subsidies and other inefficient government interventions (bailouts of failing companies, regional development grants, conditional loans and loan guarantees with an implicit subsidy, tax credits, etc.) that unfairly support some companies or business sectors. This will generate savings of between \$5billion and \$10billion a year
- gradually reducing over the course of one mandate the corporate income tax rate from its current 15% down to 10%. When completed, this measure will make about \$9.5 billion a year available to businesses, allowing them to increase salaries or invest in productivity improvements
- over the course of one mandate, gradually abolish the personal capital gains tax by decreasing the inclusion rate from the current 50% down to 0%. When completed, this measure will put about \$7 billion per year back into the pockets of Canadians
- end the policy of mass immigration as a solution to manpower shortages, and instead encouraging businesses to invest and improve their productivity

Housing & Poverty Reduction

The party states that:

- housing has become out of reach for many Canadians, in particular for young families living in big cities. Vancouver and Toronto have become two of the most unaffordable large cities in the world
- over the past decades, the federal government has spent billions of dollars and created various programs to make housing more affordable. Among other things, it has manipulated the financial criteria to qualify for mortgages and mortgage insurance, provided tax breaks to first buyers, and funded social housing
- the fundamental problem however is the mismatch between supply of and demand for housing, that are being made worse by other government policies, in particular mass immigration and zoning restrictions
- about 40% of immigrants to Canada end up settling in only two cities, Toronto and Vancouver, where the housing shortage is most acute. The Trudeau government has increased immigration targets from 250,000 per year to 500,000 in 2025. Immigrants include more temporary foreign workers and foreign students, large numbers of illegal immigrants, and

plans to accept hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees under a special program. The resulting skyrocketing number of newcomers is one of the main reasons for the constantly high level of demand for housing and the exorbitant prices in Canadian cities. Even the building of many homes could not keep up with this level of demand

- current inflationary monetary policy – that is, the Bank of Canada printing too much money in order to fund the current government’s gigantic deficits - adds to the already overheated conditions in the housing market
- housing is primarily a provincial or local responsibility.

The party advocates:

- substantially reducing immigration quotas, from about 500k per year planned 2025 to 100k-150k per year
- modifying the Bank of Canada’s inflation target, from 2% to 0%. This will cool down inflation in all sectors, including housing
- respecting local and provincial governments’ responsibility for housing policies, making such governments accountable to their citizens and lifting federal pressure to “densify” neighbourhoods of single-family homes in order to accommodate mass immigration policies
- privatizing or dismantling the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), so that Canadians are not encouraged to buy houses they can’t afford, and accumulate massive amounts of debt that the federal government, and ultimately Canadian taxpayers, will be responsible for
- working with provinces to curb speculation and money laundering by foreign non-resident buyers in Canada’s land and housing markets.

Agriculture

The party states that:

- supply management is a government-imposed cartel that keeps the prices of dairy, poultry, and eggs artificially high through the control of production, the banning of imports, price fixing, and the prevention of competition in the market
- the system forces producers to buy quotas which grant permission to produce a set amount. For example, it costs between \$20,000 and \$40,000 to get the right to milk one cow
- supply management limits imports by imposing tariffs that range from 150% for eggs to 300% for butter, and results in Canadian farmers being barred from exporting their products, and negatively impacts other sectors of our economy, such as the food processing and food preparation industries
- supply management also supports one of the most influential lobbies in Ottawa, with affects on free trade negotiations
- according to the OECD, supply management caused Canadian consumers to pay \$3.6 billion more every year between 2011 and 2015
- according to a study done by University of Manitoba economists, supply management imposes a financial burden of \$339 annually on the poorest 20% of Canadian households, the equivalent of a 2.3% tax on their incomes
- the market value of quotas was estimated at \$35 billion in 2016. But that’s not what it would cost the government to buy them back if it decided to abolish the system, rather the accounting value of quotas after depreciation would form the basis for compensation, with farmers who bought them recently being reimbursed close to the market value, while those who bought them at lower prices years ago would get less, and those who got them for free would get nothing. The Conference Board of Canada estimated such a buy-out would cost between \$3.6 billion and \$4.7 billion in total.

The party advocates:

- creating a free, open, and fair system that will save Canadians billions of dollars annually by phasing out the supply management system over a number of years to allow farmers to adapt, and compensate them for the lost value of their quotas
- phasing out the supply management system over a number of years to allow farmers to adapt, and compensating them for the lost value of their quotas
- allowing Canada’s dairy, egg and poultry farmers to thrive and sell their products internationally

Points to Ponder: An Economy to Serve People

Consider discussing the following questions with your local candidates, elected officials, and the parties, and with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

Poverty Reduction

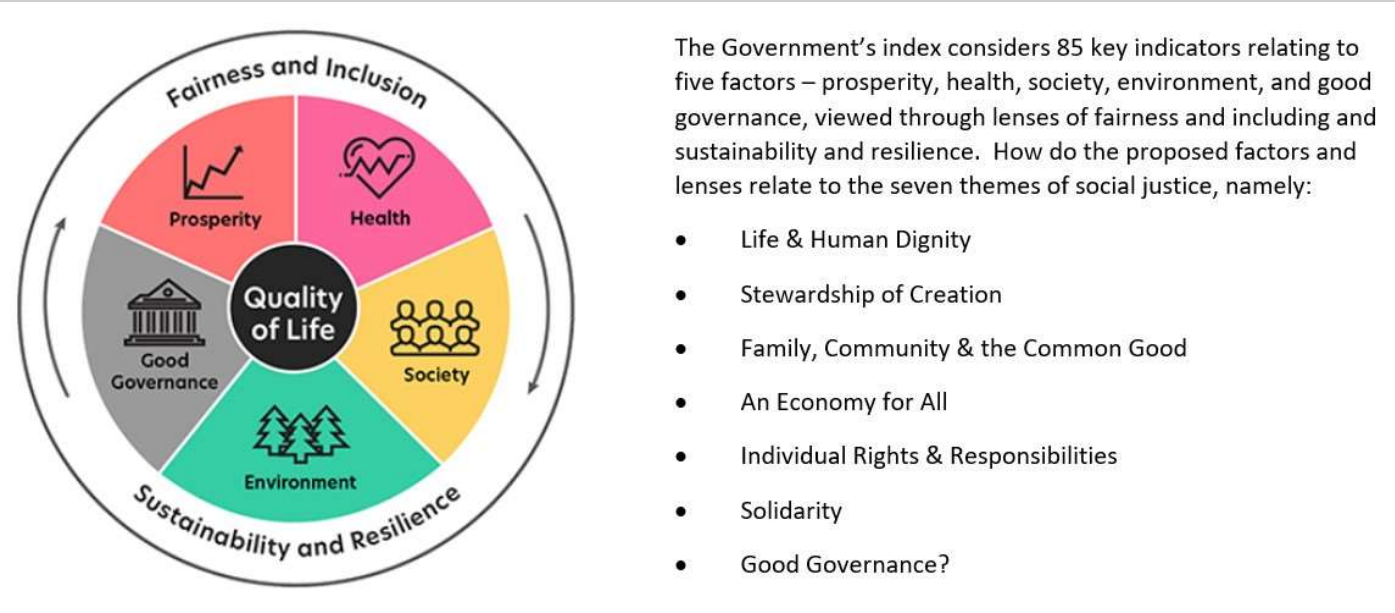
- What can or should be done to ensure that all Canadians are encouraged and enabled to apply the full range of their talents and gifts to the care of their families, to lift themselves out of poverty, and in doing so receive a fair, dignified return while being enabled to give praise to God as co-creators, through meaningful creative work?
- How can Canada best strike a balance between the principles of solidarity – ‘we’re all in this together’ – and subsidiarity – ‘everyone should do what he or she can to support themselves, before burdening others?’
- What is an appropriate definition of poverty, particularly in a society overflowing with consumer objects and material wealth? Should such definitions include consideration of the ability of individuals to seek personal fulfillment in pursuing truth?
- What should be done to ensure that a dignified living wage, capable of providing a dignified home and opportunity to support a family is available to workers, or those willing to work, or to reduce poverty in Canada? Should a

basic income policy be considered? If so, what form should it take? What can or should be done by the provinces, and what should be left to the federal government, or to private or community organizations?
 – It has been observed that debt levels among the elderly are increasing, especially as the costs of long-term, dignified care increase. What can or should be done to alleviate poverty and debt among the elderly?

GDP & Well-Being

For decades, governments have focused exclusively on gross domestic product – a measure of an economy’s sheer productivity – as the best measure of national economic health. More recently, some voices have begun to advocate for a broader index of national well-being, to include factors such as the physical and emotional health of the people, the health of the environment, equity in housing, income, and opportunity, and food security, in addition to raw production.

Recently a few parties have begun to propose alternative “wellness” indices, based on factors selected to represent the health, happiness, and well-being of society and its individual members. And in 2019 the current government quietly introduced a new “Quality of Life” measure in its instructions to new cabinet ministers, and caused a “Quality of Life Hub” to be posted on the Internet at <https://www160.statcan.gc.ca/index-eng.htm>. The Hub introduces the index, a draft method for measuring it, and solicits public feedback.



– Which of these approaches is more likely to reflect the well being of current and future national, provincial, or local populations, and their ability to achieve personal fulfillment in seeking and finding truth?
 – What else can or should be done to ensure that Canada’s economy serves the people, rather than the other way around?
 - How should Catholics respond to the government’s call for comment, with properly and prayerfully-formed consciences?

Businesses and Corporations

For decades, corporate lobby groups and business schools have taught that the only legitimate object of a business corporation is to make money for its shareholders. More recently, some business voices have begun to advocate a broader role for corporations, to include service of its employees, its customers, and the community, and protection of the environment as part of a corporation’s proper role. As one example, a United Nations initiative has resulted in standards for corporate social responsibility, known as “environmental, social, and governance” or “ESG” standards.

– Which of these object definitions is most consistent with church teachings? Should anything be done to encourage development of a corporate and business culture that aims to serve people, communities, and future generations, in addition to profits? If so, what, and by whom – investors, shareholders, directors, consumers, or governments?

The Individual & Society: Rights, Responsibilities, & Subsidiarity

Civil Liberties | Human Rights | Responsibilities: Participation & Subsidiarity

In human society, to one person's right there corresponds a duty in all other persons... Those, therefore, who claim their own rights, yet altogether forget or neglect to carry out their respective duties, are people who build with one hand and destroy with the other. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Catholic Teaching

Civil Rights & Liberties

Every member of society is imbued with a number of rights. **With them come responsibilities.**

In Catholic terms, a "right" has been defined as a subjective moral power, residing in the person posing it, "to do, hold, or extract something," which functions through appeal to another's will through the other's intellect. It is to be distinguished from might, i.e. the physical force or power to take something away from another. – Fr John Hardon, SJ, *Modern Catholic Dictionary*

Man's history of sin begins when he no longer acknowledges the Lord as his Creator and himself wishes to be the one who determines, with complete independence, what is good and what is evil. "You will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gen 3:5): this was the first temptation, and it is echoed in all the other temptations to which man is more easily inclined to yield as a result of the original Fall. - Pope Saint John Paul II, *Veritatis splendor*

The demands of the common good... are strictly connected to respect for and the integral promotion of the person and his fundamental rights. These demands concern above all the commitment to peace, the organization of the State's powers, a sound juridical system, the protection of the environment, and the provision of essential services to all, some of which are at the same time human rights: **food, housing, work,**



Civil Rights & Liberties

Freedom of Expression

The Bloc states that:

- Quebecois social debates, no matter how heated they may be, are brought to a successful conclusion thanks to the freedom of expression of each and every one of us
- it opposes censorship, the banning of social debates and the restriction of subjects that can be discussed in the public arena, particularly in universities, the media and legislative assemblies
- it continues to unreservedly condemn online hatred, intimidation and all types of hateful, defamatory, incitement to racial hatred, to violence, or any other form of discourse that constitutes a breach of the law and deserves to be duly punished
- it is proud to promote respect, listening, empathy, civic-mindedness and intelligence in the use of freedom of expression

Gender equity

The Bloc states that:

- equality between women and men is one of the fundamental values of the Quebec nation
- it fights to preserve women's rights, and recognizes that the best way to avoid setbacks is to move forward
- raising the pandemic is an opportunity to implement an inclusive recovery that makes full use of women's leadership in public decision-making, in business and in their communities
- it is resolutely feminist and will continue to defend women's rights for justice, work and fairness
- it reiterates and defends the inalienable right of women to control their own bodies
- it intends to put an end to the abandonment by employment insurance of young mothers when they lose their jobs at the end of their parental leave
- it wants to encourage women's participation in politics by introducing a higher reimbursement for political parties that elect a higher number of women than men
- it will demand that Ottawa contribute to Quebec initiatives in support, training and networking for women entrepreneurs

Housing

The Bloc Québécois advocates:

- progressive federal reinvestment in social, community and truly affordable housing until it reaches 1% of its total annual revenues in order to ensure constant and predictable funding
- devoting all surplus federal properties to the development of social, community and very affordable housing to help reduce the housing crisis
- a tax on real estate speculation to counter the artificial rise in markets
- reform of the home ownership system to take into account the different realities of Quebec households and increasingly diverse family situations, including an undertaking by the federal government of financial reorganization of the various programs stemming from the National Housing Strategy to create an acquisition fund. The creation of such a fund would enable cooperatives and NPOs to acquire housing buildings currently accessible on the private market, preserve their affordable character and turn them into social, community and very affordable housing
- ensuring that Quebec receives its fair share of unconditional funding from federal homelessness programs, while calling for the amounts allocated in the past year during the pandemic to be made permanent

Participation & Subsidiarity

The Bloc has released no official statement concerning its policies on the responsibilities of the individual to contribute to or to participate in society.

education and access to culture, transportation, basic health care, the freedom of communication and expression, and the protection of religious freedom. -164-166, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Racism & Discrimination

The unity of the human family is **not yet becoming a reality**. This is due to obstacles originating in materialistic and nationalistic ideologies that contradict the values of the person integrally considered in all his various dimensions, material and spiritual, individual and community. **In particular, any theory or form whatsoever of racism and racial discrimination is morally unacceptable.** - 433, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Conscience & Religion

The Catholic Church emphasizes, among other rights, **the right to religious freedom**. Emphasis is given to the paramount value of the right to religious freedom: **“all men are to be immune from coercion** on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such wise that no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs, whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits”. The respect of this right is an indicative sign of “man’s authentic progress in any regime, in any society, system or milieu.” -320, 321 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

With euthanasia and medically-assisted death and abortion legalized, it is critical that healthcare providers whose deepest moral convictions tell them that such procedures are wrong, not be forced to participate. Catholic teaching says workers should be safeguarded from suffering any affront to conscience or personal dignity.

Social & Civic Institutions

The Bloc has released no official statement concerning its policies on the roles, purposes or rights of social or civic or institutions.



Civil & Human Rights

The party states that:

- the right to life is the first human right
- freedom of Speech is the second and is essential if we are to defend any human rights
- all Canadians deserve equal treatment under the law
- it would end frivolous “human rights” cases; taxpayers’ money should not be used to promote the agenda of special-interest groups

Conscience & Religion

The party states that:

- radical Islam has proven to be a threat to Western democracy
- Sharia Law is incompatible with Canada’s culture and heritage and with Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- it rejects Islamic cultural practices such as “honour-killings”, FGM (Female Genital Mutilation), forced marriages, forced conversion and inhumane animal slaughter (Halal slaughter)

The party advocates:

- freedom to practice all religions as long as they are not harmful to others. The freedom of religion does not protect female genital mutilation, honor killings, forced marriages, multiple wives, etc.
- restoring protection from assisted suicide and euthanasia. We want to kill the pain, not the patient
- better access to palliative comfort care, and conscience protection for health care professionals; no Canadian should be forced to violate his or her conscience

Speech & Truth

The party states that:

- freedom of speech is the second most important human right, next to the right to life
- without Freedom of Speech, we can’t defend any human rights
- most major media in Canada, including state-funded CBC, are biased against a Christian worldview and policies

The party advocates:

- using our voices and our freedom to defend our freedom – “use it or lose it!”
- de-funding CBC and confronting the issue of media bias

Gender Equity, Privacy, Private Property

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on gender equity, privacy, or the right to hold private property.

Housing

To make housing more affordable, the party advocates:

- reducing foreign purchases of homes, businesses and farmland
- strengthening the family unit, reducing divorce and the necessity of one couple maintaining two homes
- making stay-at-home parenting more affordable

Right to Arms

It is a grave duty of conscience to avoid cooperating, even formally, with practices contrary to the Law of God.

Freedom of Speech: truth, the press & the media

Information is among the principal instruments of democratic participation.

Participation without an understanding of the situation of the political community, the facts and the proposed solutions to problems is unthinkable.

It is necessary to guarantee a real pluralism in the dissemination of information, ensuring that there are many forms and instruments of information and communications. Special attention must be given to the phenomenon of the news media being controlled by just a few people or groups. This has dangerous effects for the entire democratic system... The media must be used to build up and sustain the human community in its different sectors: economic, political, cultural, educational and religious. Society has a right to information based on truth, freedom, justice and solidarity. **The essential question is whether the current information system is contributing to the betterment of the human person;** that is, does it make people more spiritually mature, more aware of the dignity of their humanity, more responsible or more open to others, in particular to the neediest and the weakest. A further aspect of great importance is that **new technologies must respect legitimate cultural differences.** In the world of the media the intrinsic difficulties of communications are often exacerbated by ideology, the desire for profit and political control, rivalry and conflicts between groups, and other social evils. Moral values and principles apply also to the media.... 414-416, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Gender Equity

The feminine genius is needed in all expressions in the life of society. The first indispensable step in this direction is the

The party states that:

- when guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns
- violent crime is the problem, not firearms

Participation & Subsidiarity

Provinces, Territories, & Municipalities

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the rights or responsibilities of provinces, municipalities, or territories.

Participation & Subsidiarity

The Party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the responsibilities of the individual to contribute to or to participate in society.

Social & Civic Institutions

The Party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the roles, purposes or rights of social or civic or institutions.



Civil Rights & Liberties

The party states that it began and led the fight for human rights in modern Canada, most notably under Prime Minister John George Diefenbaker, and that it will continue to champion human rights for all Canadians.

Discrimination

The party states that:

- the blood ban is a human rights issue that is long overdue, and advocates ending it
- it has been clear in its opposition to conversion therapy and attempts to forcibly change a person's sexual orientation, and that it advocates implement the ban promised by the current government, which has been repeatedly delayed. Using the Justice Department's explanatory language about the intention of the ban, it will clarify that the ban does not criminalize non-coercive conversations, giving comfort to parents and others who fear that legitimate conversations might be criminalized

Conscience & Religion

The party advocates:

- protecting the conscience rights of healthcare professionals, in order to avoid driving them out of their professions
- encouraging faith-based and other community organizations to expand their provision of palliative and long-term care

Freedom of speech; Truth, the Press & the Media

To promote free speech on campus and ensure that Universities and colleges remain bastions of free-flowing debate and ideas, the party advocates working with the provinces and territories to ensure that public post-secondary institutions accommodate the range of perspectives that make up Canada through a commitment to free speech and academic freedom.

Online Hate

The party states that:

- it condemns and will always oppose the dissemination of hate speech, speech that incites violence and sexually abusive material
- it will combat the growing presence of online sexual exploitation, human trafficking, and extremist groups

To better protect Canadians, the party advocates:

- fighting online incitement and hatred by clearly criminalizing statements that encourage acts of violence against other people or identifiable groups, while protecting forms of speech, criticism, and argument that do not encourage violence

concrete possibility of access to professional formation. The persistence of many forms of discrimination offensive to the dignity and vocation of women is due to a **long series of conditioning that penalizes women**, who have seen themselves relegated to the margins of society and even reduced to servitude... An urgent need to recognize effectively the rights of women in the workplace is seen **especially under the aspects of pay, insurance and social security**. –295, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Property

Private property and other forms of private ownership of goods “assure a person a highly necessary sphere for the exercise of his personal and family autonomy and ought to be considered as an extension of human freedom ... stimulating exercise of responsibility, it constitutes one of the conditions for civil liberty.” –171, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

The Church’s social doctrine requires that ownership of goods be equally accessible to all, so that all may become, at least in some measure, owners. **The world exists for everyone, because all of us were born with the same dignity**. Differences of colour, religion, talent, place of birth or residence, and so many others, cannot be used to justify the privileges of some over the rights of all. As a community, **we have an obligation to ensure that every person lives with dignity and has sufficient opportunities for his or her integral development**. –176, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Not to share our wealth with the poor is to rob them and take away their livelihood. The riches we possess are not our own, but theirs as well... Other rights having to do with the goods necessary for the integral fulfilment of persons, including that of private property or any other type of property, should in no way hinder [this right], but should actively facilitate its implementation. *Fratelli tutti*, –188-120

Human Rights

- providing \$25 million to law enforcement to allow them to follow up more rapidly and investigate online threats of violence, hate speech, sexual exploitation, human trafficking and disinformation campaigns by foreign governments or extremist groups
- creating a stronger legal duty for social media platforms to remove illegal content, such as content that incites violence.

The party states that it does not advocate:

- restrictions on legitimate freedom of speech. Free speech, freedom of expression, and a free press are fundamental tenets of Canadian law and Canadian democracy
- censorship of material that is not criminal in nature merely because some may find it to be offensive

Gender equity

The party states that the reality is that women in Canada experience barriers to equality of opportunity throughout their lives:

- Canadian girls, as they approach adolescence, experience higher levels of abuse and violence and greater declines in mental health and confidence than boys do
- senior women in Canada experience higher levels of abuse, violence, and poverty than men
- as has been shown recently by in-depth research published by the Globe and Mail and others, the gender pay gap is still a reality in the Canadian workforce

The party advocates a comprehensive plan to secure opportunities for women, including:

- boosting support for child care and those caring for ageing parents
- ensuring access to career training, including for non-traditional careers like the skilled trades
- helping women start and build businesses
- to increase opportunities for women, implementing a national mentorship strategy for women of all ages, including adolescent girls, to prepare them for and give them access to networks that will position them for senior leadership roles across corporate Canada and civil society
- seeking out qualified female candidates for federal appointments
- requiring federally regulated corporations and federally mandated organizations to implement formal recruitment plans to seek out qualified female candidates for senior leadership positions
- stamping out the culture of sexual harassment that persists in too many federal government institutions, including the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP, and ensuring that the Government of Canada serves as an example for the country of a safe and respectful work environment

The party states that:

- a safe and respectful workplace free from sexual harassment is essential for women to succeed in the workforce.
- in view of recent occurrences in the military, it will take real action to ensure that the Canadian Armed Forces - and the entire federal government - are safe and respectful workplaces, starting by ensuring that the investigation of sexual misconduct is done by investigators outside the chain of command

Privacy

The party states that it believes that digital data privacy is a fundamental right that urgently requires strengthened protection through legislation and enforcement, and that Canadians must have the right to understand and control the collection, use, monitoring, retention, and disclosure of their personal data.

To that end, it advocates strong legislation to protect privacy more effectively than the current government’s Bill C-11

Housing

The party states that Canada is in a housing crisis, and that:

- affording a home - to rent, let alone to buy - is slipping out of reach of Canadians across our country
- the primary cause is that supply simply isn’t keeping up with demand. Governments have not let Canadians build enough housing to keep up with our growing population
- action is needed from all levels of government

To swiftly increase the housing supply, the party advocates implementing a plan to build 1 million homes in three years, by:

- leveraging federal infrastructure investments to increase housing supply, including building public transit infrastructure that connects homes and jobs by bringing public transit to where people are buying homes; and requiring municipalities receiving federal funding for public transit to increase density near the funded transit
- reviewing the extensive real estate portfolio of the federal government – the largest property owner in the country with over 37,000 buildings – and release at least 15% for housing while improving the Federal Lands Initiative
- incentivizing developers to build housing, by encouraging Canadians to invest in rental housing by extending the ability to defer capital gains tax when selling a rental property and reinvesting in rental housing, which is currently excluded; and exploring conversion of unneeded office space to housing

The Church also recognizes a number of Human Rights, including “**the right to life**, an integral part of which is the right of the child to develop in the mother’s womb from the moment of conception; **the right to live in a united family** and in a moral environment conducive to the growth of the child’s personality; the right to develop one’s intelligence and freedom in seeking and **knowing the truth**; the right to share in the **work** which makes wise use of the earth’s material resources, and to derive from that work the means to support oneself and one’s dependents; and the right freely to **establish a family**, to have and to rear children through the responsible exercise of one’s sexuality. The Church also emphasizes rights to **adequate housing; clean water, and secure, nutritious food; education and access to culture, transportation, basic health care.** – 151-166 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Individual Responsibilities

“In human society, to one man’s right there corresponds a duty in all other persons: the duty, namely, of acknowledging and respecting the right in question.” **“Those, therefore, who claim their own rights, yet altogether forget or neglect to carry out their respective duties, are people who build with one hand and destroy with the other.** -156 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Subsidiarity

Subsidiarity is the principle that **each element of society should serve its proper purpose, and support others in serving theirs, the overarching goal being to encourage and enable the authentic human development of the individual.**

One consequence of this principle is that **each individual, and smaller groups of people, should be allowed and expected to make for themselves all the decisions that can**

- continuing commitment to Reconciliation with Canada’s Indigenous Peoples by enacting a “For Indigenous, By Indigenous” strategy – long called for by Indigenous housing advocates - to stop to federal paternalism and promote instead partnering with Indigenous communities and empowering Indigenous Peoples with the autonomy to meet their own housing needs
- improving Community Land Trusts for affordable housing by creating an incentive for corporations and private landowners to donate property to Land Trusts for the development of affordable housing, in a manner similar to that which exists for donating land to ecological reserves

Foreign Speculation

To root out corrupt activities that drive up real estate prices and put homeownership out of reach, the party advocates:

- implementing comprehensive changes to the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act, to give FINTRAC, law enforcement, and prosecutors the tools necessary to identify, halt, and prosecute money-laundering in Canadian real estate markets
- establishing a federal Beneficial Ownership Registry for residential property
- closely examining the findings and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia, which is doing important work, and quickly implementing recommendations at the federal level

To arrest and reverse the inflationary impacts of foreign buyers and speculation in the housing market, the party advocates ensuring that housing in Canada is truly for Canadian citizens and residents first, by: banning foreign investors not living in or moving to Canada from buying homes here for a two year period after which it will be reviewed, and instead encouraging foreign investment in purpose-built rental housing that is affordable to Canadians

Home Mortgages

To make home mortgages more affordable, the party advocates:

- encouraging a new market in seven- to ten-year mortgages to provide stability both for first-time home buyers and lenders, opening another secure path to homeownership for Canadians, and reducing the need for mortgage stress tests
- removing the requirement to conduct a stress test when a homeowner renews a mortgage with another lender instead of only when staying with their current lender, as is the case today, thereby increasing increase competition and helping homeowners access more affordable options
- increasing the limit on eligibility for mortgage insurance and index it to home price inflation, allowing those in high-priced real estate markets with less than a 20% down-payment an opportunity at home-ownership
- fixing the mortgage stress test to stop discriminating against small business owners, contractors and other non-permanent employees including casual workers
- opposing taxation of capital gains on the sale of principal residences



Civil Rights & Liberties

The party states that:

- in the past, Canada was considered a place of diversity and inclusivity. Now is the time to decide whether Canada will in fact live up to the promise of a just society in the years to come
- hate crimes are on the rise: what will be done to end them?
- thousands of Indigenous children have been discovered in unmarked graves across the country: how will we atone for this tragedy?
- tens of thousands of people poured into the streets demanding a dismantling of systemic racism: when and how will we do this?
- however, if systemic discrimination is approached as a novel idea, we have failed to understand its history and its intrinsic nature
- it understands systemic discrimination comes in many forms, and seeks to combat it in every public arena, through fostering Indigenous self-determination, providing a fair deal for youth, tackling identity-based hate and ensuring that the creation of a Just Society is at the centre of all decision making

Racism & Discrimination

The party states that:

- it is the responsibility of political leadership to build cohesion within our society through seeking common ground, celebrating diverse identities, and discouraging polarisation.
- there is no singular catch-all solution to ending the systematic oppression that Black people, Indigenous Peoples, people of colour, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and members of other equity-seeking groups face. There are, however, steps that the federal government can and must take to address these long-standing injustices

responsibly be left to them, rather than to larger groups or greater authorities. A premise of this principle is that we are each responsible for our own salvation, within the limits of the gifts and the challenges with which God has endowed us. This is **one of the fundamental social teachings of the Church**, since it helps to ensure that each individual is empowered to find his or her own way to God.

Families, Individuals, and Civil Society

It is impossible to promote the dignity of the person without showing concern for the **family, groups, associations, local territorial realities**; in short, for that aggregate of economic, social, cultural, sports-oriented, recreational, professional and political expressions to which people spontaneously give life and which make it possible for them to achieve effective social growth. **This is the realm of civil society...** This network of relationships strengthens the social fabric and constitutes the basis of a true community of persons, making possible the recognition of higher forms of social activity.

The political community is established to be of service to civil society, from which it originates... This vision is challenged by political ideologies of an individualistic nature and those of a totalitarian character, which tend to absorb civil society into the sphere of the State. The political community and civil society are **not equal in the hierarchy of ends**. The political community is essentially at the service of civil society and, in the final analysis, the persons and groups of which civil society is composed.

The State must provide an adequate legal framework for social subjects to engage freely in their different activities and it must be ready to intervene, when necessary and with respect for the principle of subsidiarity, so that the interplay between free associations and democratic life may be directed to the common good. -185, 417, 418 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Subsidiary governments: provinces, municipalities, territories, & Aboriginal

- it is deeply committed to immediate as well as long-term actions that will truly address systemic racism in our public institutions, and will continue to propose bold, just, and necessary solutions

To end systemic racism, the party advocates:

- taking action on recommendations, calls to action, and calls for justice, including implementation of recommendations to begin dismantling systemic racism in Canadian institutions and all of the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and recommendations of the Report of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on its Mission to Canada

To end systemic discrimination in the federal civil service, the party advocates:

- a major review of the Employment Equity Act, which applies to nearly 1.5 million workers in the federal public service, Crown corporations, the Canadian Forces, and numerous federally regulated industries, including additional inputs from workers with lived experiences facing systemic racism and discrimination; and extended timeline and resources for the task force to complete comprehensive consultation with marginalized communities; and broadening of the application of EEA provisions to non-federally regulated private firms (such as temp agencies) doing outsourced work for the federal government

- reduced funding for the RCMP, to limit it to its core role, including an immediate and comprehensive review of the RCMP role in policing municipalities and reserves and the RCMP's other duties and identifying areas for de-tasking police and reducing police spending; and working with provinces and municipalities to reduce police spending in those Jurisdictions from covering services such as first responders to mental health calls, school resource officers, by-law enforcement, construction traffic policing, and the policing and criminalization of poverty

- advocating for an end to police street checks, carding, and arbitrary stops and detentions. These practices have been shown to disproportionately target Black and Indigenous Peoples in Canada

- investing funds that are divested from police services in social and community services, which are more effective in preventing and reducing crime, strengthening individuals and communities, and creating a more just society. These will include alternative responses to mental health calls, investment in afterschool programs for young persons, mental health support for youth and adults, and increased employment opportunities

Identity-Based Hate

The party states that:

- hate has been on the rise in Canada

- Islamophobia, anti-Asian hate, antisemitism, anti-Black hate, and LGBTQ2S+ discrimination based upon identity has increased in recent years

- doctrines of racial and religious supremacy are an ongoing threat, and it is the duty of our governments to identify, expose and root out supremacist movements and to ensure that those who promote and disseminate such ideologies know that there will be no safe place or dark corner where their beliefs will be allowed to flourish

- silence emboldens hate; hate dehumanises; and dehumanization facilitates atrocities. It is the responsibility of political leadership to build cohesion within our society through seeking common ground, celebrating diverse identities, and discouraging polarisation

The party advocates:

- rejecting and condemning extremist ideologies that promote violence, including avoiding the dangerous creation and exploitation of division, which undermines the long-term foundations of our democracy

- undertaking all efforts through a lens of seeking to build cohesion within our society through seeking common ground, celebrating diverse identities, and discouraging polarization

- developing better guidelines to address the weaponization of free expression to promote hate speech and propaganda

- funding data collection on the spread of online hate and real-world violence, and supporting research and advocacy groups seeking to address online hate and offline incidents

Privacy

To protect privacy, truth, and democracy in the digital age, the party advocates:

- enshrining citizens' digital rights, including 'the right to not be profiled online,' for example by following the lead of the European Union and listening to the recommendations of Canada's national Privacy Commissioner. Regulations must distinguish between demographic profiling, and more manipulative psychometric profiling techniques

- reducing the spread of misinformation, by supporting research & development to improve artificial intelligence (AI) solutions for detecting misinformation, hate, and violence online, so that this content can be de-emphasized and corrected

- positioning Canada as a global leader in requiring companies who run large-scale online platforms to detect and prevent proliferation of misinformation, and holding publishers of malicious disinformation to account

- investing in initiatives and partnerships that increase citizens' opportunities and abilities to differentiate between misinformation, and higher-quality, verifiable, evidence-based content, including enhancement of education in media and digital literacy for all age groups

- to protect civil liberties and freedom of expression, limiting government to a regulatory rather than hands-on role in monitoring and moderating online content, and building

societies

The principle of subsidiarity is opposed to various forms of centralization, bureaucratization, and welfare assistance, and to the unjustified and excessive presence of the State in public mechanisms... Just as it is gravely wrong to take from individuals what they can accomplish by their own initiative and industry and give it to the community, so also it is an injustice and at the same time a grave evil and disturbance of right order to assign to a greater and higher association what lesser and subordinate organizations can do. - 185, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

protections that prevent suppression of lawful and accurate content, no matter how critical of government policy it may be

LGBTQI2+

The party states that:

- it has never been more important to ensure adequate support for the LGBTQI2+ communities, especially in the area of mental health supports. Over the past year, two national research reports^{13,14} demonstrated that LGBTQI2+ people have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially Black and racialized LGBTQI2+ persons
- an important component of support is to take decisive action against harmful practices that have severe health effects, such as conversion therapy

The party advocates:

- support for the 23 recommendations outlined in the LGBT Purge Fund's report entitled *Emerging from the Purge* which highlights the reality that LGBTQI2+ people continue to experience significant discrimination in federal workplaces
- listening to feedback about the appropriate nature of new 2021 federal census questions attempting to capture data on trans and non-binary Canadians
- establishing a funding program within Health Canada to support community-based organizations offering targeted LGBTQI2+ youth's mental health and well-being programs, including suicide prevention, peer support, coming out, and counselling
- funding community-driven education and awareness programs that lead to a greater understanding of intersex realities and the diversity of sexualities and gender identities, and referral programs to direct for trans, non-binary and Two Spirit people to appropriate services
- ending the discriminatory, unscientific and homophobic blood ban
- banning and condemning the practice of medically unnecessary surgeries on intersex children
- banning and condemning the practice of conversion therapy, in all its forms
- ensuring access to comprehensive sexual health care and gender affirming health care, including hormone treatments and blockers, and gender confirmation surgeries
- ensuring that trans, non-binary, and Two Spirit people, without undertaking surgeries, are able to alter their sex designation on all federally-issued official documents, consistent with their gender identity
- ensuring that the national census is designed to reflect the diversity of sex and gender identity and ask appropriate questions to ensure adequate, safe and effective data collection
- requiring accessible facilities in all federal buildings, including gender-neutral washrooms, changing facilities, etc. while also re-affirming trans, non-binary and Two Spirit people's right to use whichever facilities with which they identify
- ensuring that Canada advocates internationally for an end to state-sanctioned discrimination and violence against LGBTQI2+ people
- supporting all recommendations in the *Emerging from the Purge Report*, calling on improved workplace inclusion policies and practices

Conscience & Religion

The party states that:

- hate has been on the rise in Canada. Islamophobia, anti-Asian hate, antisemitism, anti-Black hate, and LGBTQI2S+ discrimination based upon identity has increased in recent years
- doctrines of racial and religious supremacy are an ongoing threat, and it is the duty of our governments to identify, expose and root out supremacist movements and to ensure that those who promote and disseminate such ideologies know that there will be no safe place or dark corner where their beliefs will be allowed to flourish

Freedom of speech; Truth, the press & the media

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on freedom of speech, truth, or the media.

Gender equity

The party states that:

- according to the Public Health Agency of Canada, the majority of people who have been infected with, and have died from COVID-19 have been women
- there is also a high proportion of women who work on the front lines of health services, caregiving, cleaning, and other essential roles. These are roles in which workers are both at high risk of contracting viruses, and at high risk for burnout
- women and girls who face intersecting barriers and discrimination experienced additional challenges during the pandemic, including a widening employment gap between racialized and non-racialized groups that disproportionately affects women
- isolation measures imposed to prevent the spread of the virus, resulted in four key gendered impacts: (i) increased rates of gender-based violence, (ii) more economic stress, (iii) increased burden of caregiving and housework, and (iv) reduced access to support services

The party advocates:

- in collaboration with women's and Indigenous organizations, developing a comprehensive Canada-wide plan of action – with a timetable and dedicated funding – to eliminate

violence against women, girls and gender-diverse people

- implementing all the recommendations of the Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- increasing access to shelters by investing \$40 million over four years in the Shelter Enhancement Program, providing more than 2,100 new and renovated spaces in first-stage shelters and hundreds of spaces in transition houses
- increased funding to bolster investigations and convictions in human trafficking cases
- opposing any possible government move to diminish access to safe, legal abortion
- expanded programs in reproductive health, rights, and in sexual and reproductive health education
- expanded supports for low-income mothers
- passage of pay equity legislation, as recommended by the Pay Equity Task Force; immediate implementation of full pay equity for women employed in the federal sector and develop tax incentives for companies to meet the highest standards of gender and pay equity
- establishing specific job re-entry programs for women with children who want to restart their working lives either part-time or full-time
- ensuring that the criteria for new appointments to public boards and agencies include equal opportunity for women
- supporting greater engagement of women in the political life of Canada by advocating that all political parties nominate, train, and support more women and gender-diverse candidates.

Housing

The party advocates:

- appointing a Minister of Housing, to strengthen the National Housing Strategy and oversee its implementation in collaboration with provincial ministers, with a target of 25,000 new and 15,000 rehabilitated units annually for 10 years
- increasing the National Housing Co-Investment Fund by \$750 million for new construction, and the Canada Housing Benefit by \$750 million for rent assistance for 125,000 households
- enhancing federal contributions toward housing through direct investments, changes to tax policies, and lending and granting programs
- creating a national Co-Op housing strategy to encourage more development of co-operative housing
- eliminating the first-time home buyer grant

Participation & Subsidiarity

The Party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the responsibilities of the individual to contribute to or to participate in society.

Social & Civic Institutions

The Party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the purposes and rights of social or civic or institutions.



Civil Rights & Liberties

Conscience & Religion

The party states that it proposes providing an additional \$25.4 million over five years, and \$0.6 million ongoing, to the Department of Canadian Heritage to continue to support Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy and fight all forms of racism, including but not limited to anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia

Racism & Discrimination

In its mandate letter to the Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister:

- to prioritize the development of a 10-year National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, the completion of Canada's first Federal LGBTQ2 Action Plan and the continued implementation of the Youth Policy
- to prioritize also creation of a new stream of the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy for Canadians with disabilities

The party states that:

- the nation's commitment to embracing diversity is an example to the world and a pillar of our national character—one in three people in Canada is a member of a racialized or

religious minority community. We work together, support each other, and learn and prosper by living alongside each other
- however, many racialized and religious minority communities in Canada continue to experience barriers and discrimination

The party further states that during its current term in office it has taken significant steps to fight systemic racism, discrimination, and hate, including:

- \$85 million over four years to launch Canada's new Anti-Racism Strategy
- \$100 million over five years to launch the Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan
- \$200 million to establish the Black-led Philanthropic Endowment Fund, and create a sustainable source of funding to support Black communities
- up to \$265 million over four years for the Black Entrepreneurship Program
- \$18 million over two years to support the Canadian Race Relations Foundation in delivering grants for community-level interventions to combat racism in Canada, including the rise of anti-Asian racism during the pandemic
- \$21.5 million to enhance legal supports for racialized communities
- implemented the "nothing without us" Accessible Canada Act to realize a barrier-free Canada for persons with disabilities by 2040

Hate Crimes

The party states that police-reported hate crimes have increased by 72 per cent between 2019 and 2021, and that hateful rhetoric is on the rise, and misinformation and disinformation, both online and in our communities, is increasingly affecting the safety and well-being of Canadians

To confront hate in all its forms, including hate faced by 2SLGBTQI+ communities, it proposes to introduce a new Action Plan to Combat Hate, the new plan including measures to combat hateful rhetoric and acts, building on measures being taken earlier in its term in office, including:

- providing \$49.5 million over five years to Public Safety Canada to enhance and expand the Communities at Risk: Security Infrastructure Program and allow it to be more responsive to the evolving security needs of communities
- providing an additional \$25.4 million over five years, and \$0.6 million ongoing, to the Department of Canadian Heritage to continue to support Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy and fight all forms of racism, including but not limited to anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia
- providing \$1.5 million over two years to the Privy Council Office to create a new Anti-Racism, Equity and Inclusion Secretariat to ensure that considerations of anti-racism, equity and inclusion are applied in the development of federal government policies

Support for Black Canadian Communities

The party states that Black Canadians continue to experience persistent inequities in income and employment while also facing a higher likelihood of discrimination.

The party proposes:

- to provide \$25 million to Employment and Social Development Canada for the Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative, to continue empowering Black-led and Black-serving community organizations and the work they do to promote inclusiveness
- to address system discrimination in public employment and to ensure that Black public servants can work in a safe and healthy environment that is equitable, diverse, and inclusive, to provide \$45.9 million over three years to the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat to create a Mental Health Fund for Black public servants and establish dedicated career development programs, including to prepare Black public service leaders for executive positions
- to address workplace harassment, discrimination and violence, to provide \$6.9 million over two years to the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat to advance a restorative engagement program to empower employees who have suffered harassment and discrimination, and to drive cultural change in the public service. Of this amount, \$1.7 million would be sourced from existing departmental resources. Funding will also support a review of the processes for addressing current and historical complaints of harassment, violence, and discrimination

Freedom of speech; Truth, the press & the media

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on truth, freedom of speech, or the media.

Gender equity

The party states that during its current term in office it has made record investments to support women and gender diverse people, and that it proposes delivering new support to build on the important progress that has been made, including providing \$160 million over three years for the Women's Program to provide funding to organizations in Canada that serve women.

Participation & Subsidiarity

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on participation, subsidiarity, or individual responsibilities.

Social & Civic Institutions

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the purposes and rights of social or civic or institutions.



Civil Rights & Liberties

Conscience & Religion

The party states that to address anti-Semitism, anti-Black racism, Islamophobia and other forms of hate flourishing on the internet, it advocates convening a national working group to counter online hate and protect public safety, and ensure that social media platforms are legally responsible for the removal of hateful and extremist content before it can do harm

Gender Equity

The party states that:

- our communities and our country are stronger when women thrive. It's still all too common for women to experience discrimination and gender-based violence, particularly if they are members of a marginalized community
- gender equity is one of its fundamental values
- Canadian women make 32% less than men, and the gap is even wider for racialized women, Indigenous women, immigrant women and women with a disability, and that it advocates prioritizing pay equity by requiring employers to be transparent about pay and implementing and enforcing tough and pro-active legislation and regulations immediately
- it advocates stable core funding for women's support and advocacy they need, when they need it, tackling of femicide and implementation of a National Action Plan to end gender-based violence, backed by funding to ensure that shelter services and other programs are available in all regions of the country, especially areas that have traditionally been under-served
- it advocates updating the Canada Labour Code to include ten days of paid leave for those dealing with family and domestic violence, improving police training on sexual assault, and requiring universities to develop plans to end sexual violence on campus
- it plans to address violence against Indigenous women, girls and LGBTQI2S+ people by working with Indigenous peoples to implement all the Calls for Justice of the National Inquiry
- so that women don't have to choose between having a family and having a career, provision of quality, affordable not-for-profit child care
- it advocates making parental leave more flexible, making it easier to qualify for Employment Insurance, and support for more options for women to build careers in the trades and other non-traditional fields like agriculture, innovation, research and STEM
- it believes in respecting peoples' rights to make decisions about their own bodies and their own lives. Yet many individuals seeking abortion services in Canada can't access them – only 1 hospital in 6 offers abortion, and some provinces refuse to cover the cost of surgical abortion outside hospitals. Lack of access is even worse for people in rural areas and the North. Everyone deserves safe, accessible abortion and reproductive healthcare services – no matter where they live or how much money they make. It's not enough for elected officials to say that they won't reopen the abortion debate – we need leaders to take action to improve access to services. It will enforce the Canada Health Act to make sure that the provinces make medical and surgical abortion available in all parts of the country, without barriers. We will ensure that a full range of prescription contraceptive and reproductive health care options are easily accessible at no cost through Medicare and our national pharmacare program, and work with the provinces, territories and Indigenous governments to end period poverty
- finally, it will tackle obstacles to women's political participation by reforming the electoral system and introducing legislation to encourage political parties to run more women candidates

Discrimination

Racism

The party states that:

- Indigenous and racialized people in Canada are facing a frightening evolution of hate. Racist discrimination and violence remain a reality, while extremist views are increasingly inescapable on the internet
- it recognizes the inherent dignity of all people and the fact that racism hurts deeply, and diminishes the humanity of marginalized people

- Canada has seen a 200% increase in active hate groups in the last 5 years, with an increasing number of violent incidents targeting Muslim, Jewish and Black Canadians
- it will on white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups with a national action plan to dismantle far-right extremist organizations, including those that promote white supremacy. We'll establish national standards for identifying and recording all hate incidents and their dispensation in the justice system and work in collaboration with non-profits to increase the reporting of hate crimes
- to address anti-Semitism, anti-Black racism, Islamophobia and other forms of hate flourishing on the internet, it advocates convening a national working group to counter online hate and protect public safety, and ensure that social media platforms are legally responsible for the removal of hateful and extremist content before it can do harm
- it advocates collection of race-based data on health, employment, policing and more with the goal of improving outcomes for racialized communities
- it advocates an immediate ban on carding by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and working with local partners across Canada to end this practice in all jurisdictions across the country, including a review of the information obtained through carding that has been retained by police, and an examination of how that information has been shared between the RCMP and other police forces and government agencies
- to address chronic over-representation of Indigenous peoples and Black Canadians in the federal prison population, establishing a national task force to develop a roadmap to resolution, including addressing the discriminatory impact of mandatory minimums, providing greater judicial discretion in sentencing, developing culturally appropriate bail programs, increasing restorative and community justice programs and better integrating Gladue principles in court proceedings
- it also advocates development and implementation of an African Canadian Justice Strategy , working with Black Canadians with experience and expertise on criminal justice issues
- to address employment and wage gaps for racialized Canadians, it advocates comprehensive review of existing employment equity regime, and strengthening of labour laws to ensure diverse and equitable hiring within the federal public service, and in federally-regulated industries
- it also advocates making jobs and training for under-represented groups a core part of federal infrastructure plans

LGBTQ2S+ Rights

The party states that:

- although Canada has made important strides in upholding LGBTQ2S+ rights, there is more work to be done to improve the lives of LGBTQ2S+ Canadians and make Canada a country where everyone can live free from hate and bias
- one of the most significant setbacks of recent years is the decision to maintain the discriminatory ban on blood donation by men who have sex with anyone assigned male at birth. Behaviour-based screening is needed rather than policies that discriminate against an entire sexual orientation. It will immediately end the discriminatory blood ban and put in place policies based in public health evidence to secure the blood supply
- damaging practices such as so-called "conversion therapy" have no place in Canada. It will immediately legislate a ban on conversion therapy in Canada, and work with provinces and territories to support eliminating this practice in all parts of the country. Access to gender confirming procedures and medication can be life-saving for some transgender people. It will work with the provinces to ensure that there is equal access to gender confirming surgery across the country, and that these procedures and medications are covered by public health plans
- it advocates review and elimination of systemic barriers related to gender in the delivery of federal public services, and funding to support the creation and expansion of shelters for trans youth
- Canada has a unique and important role to play in helping LGBTQ2S+ refugees around the world. It advocates establishment of a clear and permanent path for resettlement of LGBTQ2S+ refugees in Canada to replace the current piece-meal approach that only deals with emergency cases as they arise
- to end employment discrimination faced by members of the LGBTQ2S+ community, it advocates adding sexual orientation, gender identity and expression to the Employment Equity Act, in order to address the disadvantages experienced by LGBTQ2S+ communities – and particularly transgender people – in finding work

Housing

The party states that:

- everyone should have the right to a safe and affordable place to call home, that workers should be able to live close to work, including in the hearts of large cities, that young people should be able to live in the neighborhoods they grew up in, and that seniors should not be forced to move from their communities.
- before the pandemic, more than 1.7 million families spent more than 30% of their income on housing

The party advocates:

- creating 500,000 units of quality affordable housing over ten years, by investing \$5 billion dollars during the first 18 months of a mix of partnerships with provinces and municipalities
- to kick-start the construction of housing co-ops, setting up dedicated fast-start funds to streamline application processes
- spurring construction of affordable rental homes by waiving the federal portion of applicable HST/GST

Food Security

The party states that Canada ranked 37th of 41 countries in access to nutritious food for children, according to UNICEF

The party advocates:

- partnering with provinces, municipalities, territories and Indigenous communities to develop a national school nutrition program, to give every child in Canada access to healthy food and understanding of nutrition
- supporting local food producers by encouraging local food hubs, community-supported agriculture, local distribution of food
- development of a national food policy and food waste strategy
- supporting Indigenous food sovereignty and access to healthy food
- reforming the Nutrition North program to improve food security for northern families

Clean Water

The party believes that it is past time for the federal government to step up and fund the services and infrastructures that Indigenous communities need to thrive, including investments required to ensure clean water and lift all drinking water advisories on Indigenous lands.

The party advocates supporting Indigenous-led water management and on-reserve emergency management training programs and water.

Privacy

The party advocates strengthening of privacy protections for Canadians by updating privacy legislation to include a digital bill of privacy rights, and boosting the powers of the Privacy Commissioner to make and enforce orders and levy fines and penalties

Participation & Subsidiarity

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on participation, subsidiarity, or individual responsibilities.



Civil Rights

Freedom of Expression

The party states that:

- the rights of Canadians to freely hold and express beliefs are being eroded at an alarming speed under the current government
- some government decisions even require that Canadians renounce their most deeply held moral convictions and express opinions they disagree with, for example through the denial of summer job funding to organizations, including charities, that would not sign an attestation supporting abortion, and the passage of bill C-16 as part of a trend to force Canadians to express support for the existence of various gender identities beyond the biological categories of male and female and to use pronouns demanded by those who identify with other genders
- the government is also considering bringing back Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act, a hate speech provision that was repealed by the preceding government in 2013
- history and social scientific research show that freedom of conscience and freedom of expression, when maximally protected, advance the intellectual life of a nation, foster greater ideological diversity and societal understanding, and nurture other freedoms necessary for a successful democracy
- Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees citizens freedom of conscience and religion, as well as freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication

The party advocates:

- restricting the definition of hate speech in the Criminal Code to expression which explicitly advocates the use of force against identifiable groups or persons based on protected criteria such as religion, race, ethnicity, sex, or sexual orientation
- repealing any existing legislation or regulation curtailing free speech on the internet and preventing the reinstatement of section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act
- ensuring that Canadians can exercise their freedom of conscience to its fullest extent as it is intended under the Charter and are not discriminated against because of their moral convictions
- withholding federal funding from any post-secondary institution shown to be violating the freedom of expression of its students or faculty

Speech & Gender Rights

The party states that:

- with the active support of the woke far left and all establishment parties, radical trans activists are trying to transform society in a way that curtails everyone's freedoms. This radical agenda, which contradicts basic biological realities, is proving particularly harmful to women and children.
- in recent years, cultural Marxists and radical activists in the media, government, and schools have made every effort to normalize toxic transgender ideology. They teach children that their gender is determined by stereotypes and if they do not fit into the traditional male or female gender roles, encourage them to think they may have been born in the wrong body.
- children are never born in the wrong body. Children should be taught to accept themselves, not seek solutions through pharmaceuticals and medical procedures.
- Bill C-16, adopted by the Liberal government in 2016 and famously opposed by Jordan Peterson, recognized gender self-identification and opened the door to compelled speech. Since then, businesses and government agencies have banned the use of words like "woman" and "mother" in favour of "menstruating people" and "birthing people."
- women's rights and security are being trampled to accommodate men pretending to be the other sex. Women are encountering trans men in changing rooms and bathrooms. Violent criminals who are biological men but identify as women are being incarcerated in women's prisons. Women have to unfairly compete with biological men in sports.
- Cultural fads like Drag Queen Story Hours are promoting this ideology among children and making it appear normal to identify as the other sex or as different invented genders.
- Bill C-4, which was unanimously adopted by all parties in the House of Commons in 2021, criminalizes parents and therapists who try to help minors with gender dysphoria accept who they are. In effect, the law bans "conversion therapy" in one direction, but allows it in the other.
- it is illegal to treat children for a mental disorder, but it is legal to encourage them to undergo "gender affirming therapy" and mutilate their body.
- the transfer to women's prisons of male inmates who self-identify as women has been standard practice in Canada since it was introduced by the current government in 2018. It has resulted in criminals with histories of sexual abuse against women being housed alongside female inmates, with several cases of violent behaviour being reported in the media.
- in particular, women and children must be protected from the harmful consequences of this ideology.

The party advocates:

- removing the ban imposed by Bill C-4, the so-called "conversion therapy bill", on helping minors who suffer from gender dysphoria accept their body.
- strict enforcement of section 163.1(1)(b) of the Criminal Code in order to remove inappropriate pornographic content from schools and libraries.
- protecting women's spaces – prisons, shelters, bathrooms, and changing rooms – from intrusion by biological men.
- maintaining separate competitions for women in which biological men cannot participate in sports regulated and funded by the federal government.
- repealing Bill C-16, which added gender self-identification as ground for protection against discrimination.

Right of Self-Defence

The party states that:

- under the current government, Canada has become a dramatically more dangerous place. After declining for decades, crime is on the rise and Canadians feel unsafe, even in their own homes
- one way to deter crime is to make it clear to criminals that there are laws and enforcement means in place that make it likely that they will be caught and severely punished.
- Another is the fear that their victims will defend themselves
- any justice system grounded in morality and reason allows self-defence. In Canada, this right is, however, inconsistently applied due to the law's complexity and imprecision. There have been many cases over the past years when honest citizens who defended themselves against violent assailants were themselves charged and went on trial because they used force that was not deemed "reasonable in the circumstances" and "proportionate to the perceived threat."
- the Criminal Code specifically makes it illegal to carry and use even non-lethal devices such as pepper spray as modes of defence against potential attackers. This makes women in particular even more defenceless and prone to fall victim to aggression and sexual violence.
- section 34 of the Criminal Code states in what circumstances individuals can use force to defend themselves or others if force is being used or threatened against them or others. Section 35 recognizes certain circumstances where an individual is justified in using physical force against another person to protect his or her property from being entered, taken, damaged or destroyed.
- according to at least one experienced lawyer [see party policy statements for name], although the Criminal Code was amended in 2013 to clarify these self-defence sections, the law remains imprecise, and has been dealt with on a very uneven basis, being primarily driven by the individual opinions and emotions of police and prosecutors. In at least one recent Manitoba case, a judge sentenced a homeowner to five years in prison for manslaughter in the death of a person who entered his house in the middle of the night and attacked him with a knife. The resident took the assailant's weapon and stabbed him with it. The judge found that he had a right to protect himself but had gone beyond what was necessary for self-defence. Condemning a person to years in prison for having their assessment of a perceived threat in defending themselves while in a state of panic after being violently attacked, is clearly a breach of the universal human right to self-defence, and can be damaging to a defender's mental health, family life, and livelihood
- victims of robbery are typically advised to call the police and avoid confrontation with assailants while waiting for the police to arrive, but police stations are often far away and it can take a long time for the police to arrive on the scene of a crime, particularly in rural areas
- Section 92 of the Criminal Code makes it illegal to possess and carry pepper spray for self-defence and punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years.
- Canadians should be able to defend themselves in circumstances where they are violently attacked or are victims of robbery in their own homes, without fear of criminal charges.
- everybody, and women in particular, should be allowed to carry effective means of self-defence against aggressors and rapists

The party advocates:

- amending section 34 of the Criminal Code to clarify and fortify the right to self-defence, and increase the burden of proof necessary to charge and convict victims who used force to defend themselves against a violent attacker
- amending section 35 of the Criminal Code to include the concept of the inviolability of one's home, known as "Castle Doctrine," that allows victims to use force (up to and including deadly force) to defend themselves against a violent intruder, free from legal prosecution.
- amending the Criminal Code to remove pepper spray from the list of prohibited weapons and make it legal to possess and carry it for self-defence.

Participation & Subsidiarity

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the responsibilities of the individual to contribute to or to participate in society.

Social & Civic Institutions

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the rights or purposes of social or civic or institutions.

Points to Ponder: Rights & Responsibilities; Subsidiarity

Consider asking your local candidates, elected representatives, and the parties the following questions, and discussing their answers with your family, friends, neighbours, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

Civic & Individual Responsibilities

It is clear that the nation and our provinces owe their citizens great respect for each of a broad range of human rights. But with rights come responsibilities. What responsibilities do individuals have toward their communities, provinces, the nation, and the world? For example, to what extent are citizens called to:

- Live sustainable lifestyles, for example by conserving energy, avoiding waste, and ensuring that they minimize their impact on future generations? What, if anything, can or should citizens look to their governments for, to encourage or enable sustainable consumer lifestyles?
- Participate in society, for example through informed voting, continued engagement with candidates and elected representatives, and keeping up responsibly with the news?
- Lend a hand to their neighbours, for example by volunteering at home or within the community, in addition to paying taxes? Can our governments do anything to enable or encourage citizens to contribute by volunteer service?
- Under what conditions, if any, is it just to require health care providers or practitioners to participate in morally questionable practices such as abortion or assisted death, when it is contrary to their understanding of morality or their religious beliefs?
- In addition to human and civil rights, many parties speak of things Canadians and others "deserve." How do the parties determine what citizens do or do not deserve? Do they apply predictable, objective criteria in making such determinations, or can such determinations sometimes seem arbitrary and unfair, or, in the context of elections, opportunistic? What criteria should be applied?
- As lists of our defined rights expand, how do we reconcile conflicts between them? And how should they be enforced, and by whom?

Government and Civil Society

– To what extent, if any, should powers or responsibilities of federal, provincial, or local governments be expanded, reduced, or redistributed in order to ensure that individuals, public interest groups, and service organizations have opportunities to employ their lives and talents in the service of others, and the common good? To what extent should those powers be shared with non-governmental entities? What roles should other social institutions – for example, the Church, schools, and civic organizations – play in increasing social and civic equity and caring for all?

Gender Equity

Some parties appear to have called for imposition of strict gender balance in industry and of immigrant participation in teaching, and front-line workers

– To what extent is it appropriate for a government to mandate and enforce strict numerical balance (as opposed to equality of opportunity, or equity) of gender, racial, and immigration or status representation in all fields and industries? What goals do such measures serve? Are such measures appropriate in all circumstances, or should any conditions apply? Is it possible that imbalances in some fields are either voluntary, a consequence of natural diversity and difference, or otherwise culturally appropriate? To what extent do individuals have a right to associate with those of one gender or the other?

Solidarity

Supporting the Marginalized | Indigenous Rights & Relations | Rural Communities | Immigration & Newcomers

The other is as important as the self. Injustice done to another is an injustice that affects everyone. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Solidarity is found in a commitment to the good of one's neighbour. **The good of one is the good of all**, and the other is as important as the self. Injustice done to another is an injustice that affects everyone. – 193, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Support for the Marginalized and the Vulnerable

Some people are born into economically stable families, receive a fine education, grow up well nourished, or naturally possess great talent. They will certainly not need a proactive state; they need only claim their freedom. Yet the same rule clearly does not apply to a disabled person, to someone born in dire poverty, to those lacking a good education and with little access to adequate health care. **If a society is governed primarily by the criteria of market freedom and efficiency, there is no place for such persons, and fraternity will remain just another vague ideal.** Pope Francis – *Fratelli tutti*, 109

So many needy brothers and sisters are waiting for help, so many who are oppressed are waiting for justice, so many who are unemployed are waiting for a job, so many peoples are waiting for respect. How can it be that even today there are still people dying of hunger? Condemned to illiteracy? Lacking the most basic medical care? Without a roof over their head? **The scenario of poverty can extend indefinitely, if in addition to its traditional forms we think of its newer patterns. These new patterns often affect financially affluent sectors and groups which**



Solidarity

The Bloc has released no official statements concerning its policies on:

- mental health care
- addictions

Indigenous Peoples

The Bloc states that:

- it has always sought to maintain nation-to-nation relations with aboriginal communities; for decades making it clear that it is an ally of aboriginal peoples
- it will work in concert with indigenous nations on the federal scene to strengthen and guarantee their inherent rights
- together with indigenous nations, it will ensure that the federal government fully implements the United Nations Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples
- it will work toward abolition of the Indian Act
- the right to internal self-determination, as well as the inherent right of Indigenous Nations to self-government, are the keys that will allow them full development

The Bloc advocates:

- accelerated implementation of the United Nations Declaration. It proposes to renovate indigenous policy from top to bottom, both to take into account the Declaration, but also in the aim of creating an independent entity which would deal with indigenous needs and demands.
- co-management of resources with indigenous peoples
- to avoid instances of moneys allocated for indigenous peoples not being delivered directly to them, ensuring that the indigenous nations receive their due
- pressuring the federal government to ensure that communities have all the necessary resources to raise the veil on the historical reality of residential schools and to force churches to open their archives
- ensuring the availability, predictability and sustainability of funding for programs allowing the healing of victims residential schools such as the Support Program specially designed for this purpose

Immigrants & Newcomers

The Bloc states that it wants to make every new arrival in Quebec a success story. To that end, it will:

- propose a package of measures to reduce unacceptable federal delays in processing permanent residency and immigration applications, in particular to speed up the processing of permanent residency applications from Quebec, which take four to five times longer to be processed by the federal government than in the rest of Canada
- demand that the temporary foreign worker program be transferred to Quebec, since Ottawa refuses to manage it properly, and to facilitate the hiring of these workers
- in order to promote harmonious integration of new arrivals and fight against racism, propose that the federal government set an example by using anonymous resumes within its public service in order to combat discrimination in hiring
- demand the repeal of the Safe Third Country Agreement to put an end once and for all to irregular crossings at the Canada-U.S. border, thus allowing a more orderly reception of migrants. Ending the Agreement will also put an end to the imbalance affecting Quebec and its borders, through which the overwhelming majority of asylum seekers enter Canada
- propose that Quebec be identified as a privileged host country for French-speaking refugees
- because the Canadian model of multiculturalism hinders the integration of newcomers into Quebec society, it will table a bill to exclude Quebec from the Multiculturalism Act and thereby enable Quebec to choose its own model

are nevertheless threatened by despair at the lack of meaning in their lives, by drug addiction, by fear of abandonment in old age or sickness, by marginalization or social discrimination... –5 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Disabilities, Mental Health & Addictions

Persons with disabilities are fully human subjects, with rights and duties: “in spite of the limitations and sufferings affecting their bodies and faculties, **they point up more clearly the dignity and greatness of man.**” Persons with disabilities are to be helped to participate in every dimension of family and social life at every level accessible to them and according to their possibilities... **They too need to love and to be loved**, they need tenderness, closeness and intimacy according to their capacities. – 148, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Indigenous Peoples & Reconciliation

The relationship of Indigenous peoples to their lands and resources **deserves particular attention**, since it is a fundamental expression of their identity. These peoples offer an example of **a life lived in harmony** with the environment that they have come to know well and to preserve. Their extraordinary experience, which is an irreplaceable resource for all humanity, runs the risk of being lost together with the environment from which they originate. – 471, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

The Canadian Catholic Church supports the work of the Truth and Reconciliation commission. **We are called to support thriving Indigenous communities in Canada**, rooted in their unique cultures and traditions.

Northern & Rural Communities

Looking after the common good means making use of the new opportunities for the redistribution of wealth to the benefit of the



Solidarity

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on:

- care for the disabled
- mental health care

Addictions

The party states that:

- marijuana is a gateway drug, impairs judgment and contributes to traffic fatalities
- pregnant mothers who use marijuana pass THC to their pre-born children

The party advocates:

- eliminating publicly-funded safe drug injection sites
- re-criminalizing the possession and sale of recreational marijuana

Indigenous Peoples

The party states that The Indian Act is outdated and must be replaced with legislation based on:

- recognition of prior occupancy by first peoples
- restitution, where and as appropriate
- reconciliation leading to full participation in Canadian society for all Canadians.

Rural & Agricultural Communities

The party states that a nation that cannot feed itself cannot survive.

The party advocates:

- development of a national food strategy
- making food production a high national priority
- support and encouragement for the institution of the Family Farm.

Immigrants & Newcomers

The party states that:

- the Canadian government MUST protect Canadian citizens. Canada’s first responsibility is to citizen safety
- Canada’s border MUST be respected and entry must be restricted to those coming in legally through official ports of entry
- immigration is a privilege, not a right
- all immigrants must be thoroughly vetted and must declare and demonstrate their loyalty to Canada and to Canadian values
- ONLY Canadian citizens should be allowed to vote or hold office



Support for the Disabled

The party states that one in five Canadians lives with a disability and needs Canada’s support to live full lives and participate fully in society, including in the workforce

To break down the barriers faced by Canadians living with disabilities the party advocates:

- doubling the Disability Supplement in the Canada Workers Benefit from \$713 to \$1,500, on top of its proposed increase in the Canada Workers Benefit

underprivileged that until now have been excluded or cast to the sidelines of social and economic progress. **Too often, social services and infrastructure development suffer from neglect in rural areas.** – 299, 300, 363, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Agricultural labour merits special attention... considering the many problems that need to be met in the context of an ever more globalized economy as well as its growing significance in safeguarding the natural environment. Radical and urgent changes are therefore needed in order to restore to agriculture — and to rural people — their just value as the basis for a healthy economy... – 363, 299 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*.

Immigrants & Newcomers

Ideally, unnecessary migration ought to be avoided; this entails creating in countries of origin the conditions needed for a dignified life and integral development. Yet **until substantial progress is made in achieving this goal, we are obliged to respect the right of all individuals to find a place that meets their basic needs** and those of their families, and where they can find personal fulfilment. Our response to the arrival of migrating persons can be summarized by four words: **welcome, protect, promote and integrate.** – Pope Francis, *Fratelli tutti*, 129

In the modern world, where there are still grave inequalities between rich countries and poor countries, and where advances in communications quickly reduce distances, **the immigration of people looking for a better life is on the increase.** These people come from less privileged areas of the earth and their arrival in developed countries is often perceived as a threat to the high levels of well-being achieved thanks to decades of economic growth. In most cases, however, immigrants fill a labour need which would otherwise remain unfilled... **Institutions in host countries must keep careful watch to prevent**

- to ensure that going to work never costs a disabled person money, overhauling the complex array of disability supports and benefits to ensure that working always leaves someone further ahead, and working with the provinces to ensure that federal programs are designed to work with provincial programs to achieve this result

- providing an additional \$80 million per year through the Enabling Accessibility Fund to provide additional incentives for small business and community projects to improve accessibility, grants and support for all types of accessibility equipment that disabled Canadians need to work, and enhancements to existing programs that will get more disabled Canadians into the workforce

- reducing the number of hours required to qualify for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) and the Registered Disability Savings Plan from 14 to 10 hours per week, thereby saving a disabled person made eligible for the tax credit or their family an average of \$2,100 per year and making it easier to qualify for the RDSP, which provides up to \$3,500 per year in matching grants for Canadians with disabilities

Mental Health & Addictions

The party acknowledges that mental health and addiction were serious problems before COVID. Pandemic lockdowns made them worse. They are crises that government needs to address.

To address the mental health crisis, the party advocates introduction of a Canada Mental Health Action Plan comprising:

- proposing to the provinces that they partner with us by dedicating a significant portion of the stable, predictable health funding to mental health to ensure that an additional million Canadians can receive mental health treatment every year
- encouraging employers to add mental health coverage to their employee benefit plans, by offering a tax credit for 25% of the cost of additional mental health coverage for the first three year
- a pilot program to provide \$150 million over three years in grants to non-profits and charities delivering mental health and wellness programming
- creating a nation-wide, three-digit suicide prevention hotline.

Addictions

The party states that the opioid epidemic should be addressed as the health issue that it is, and that law enforcement should focus on dealers and traffickers. The last thing that those suffering from addiction should have to worry about is being arrested. Any interaction the government has with them should focus on keeping them safe and helping them recover.

To promote recovery from addiction, the party advocates revising the federal government's substance abuse policy framework to make recovery its overarching goal, including reorienting the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy towards ensuring that everyone suffering from addiction has the opportunity to recover and to lead a drug-free life, and that all policies that fall under the Strategy have the reduction of harm and promotion of recovery as their objectives. To that end, it advocates:

- investing \$325 million over the next three years to create 1,000 residential drug treatment beds and build 50 recovery community centres across the country, to provide spaces to those who suffering addiction, their families, and those who have recovered where they can get the help they need and support each other
- supporting innovative approaches to address mental health challenges and addiction, such as land-based treatment programs developed and managed by Indigenous communities as part of a plan to enhance the delivery of culturally appropriate addictions treatment and prevention services
- partnering with provinces to ensure that Naloxone kits are available for free across Canada

Indigenous Peoples

The party states that:

- Indigenous peoples and all Canadians should expect their government to recognize Indigenous and treaty rights and to work with Indigenous peoples as nation-to-nation partners to resolve long-standing challenges
- it is crucial that our efforts are focused on durable solutions that make a real and meaningful impact on the quality of life of Indigenous peoples
- recent reports have identified significant gaps in opportunity and outcome between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. All levels of government need to engage with Indigenous peoples to make meaningful progress in closing these gaps.
- it believes that building a true partnership to ensure a just and secure place for thriving, self-determining Indigenous nations starts with making the recognition of Indigenous rights a top priority

Regarding past injustices, the party states that Canadians were shocked at the revelation of unmarked graves at the sites of former residential schools; that we must act now to make amends for past injustices perpetrated by and on behalf of the Government of Canada. To that end, it advocates:

- developing a comprehensive plan to implement TRC Calls to Action 71 through 76
- funding an investigation at all former residential schools in Canada where unmarked graves may exist, including the sites where children have already been discovered
- ensuring that proper resources are allocated for communities to reinter, commemorate, and honour any individuals discovered through the investigation, according to the wishes

the spread of the temptation to exploit foreign labourers, denying them the same rights enjoyed by nationals, rights that are to be guaranteed to all without discrimination. – 297, 298, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church

We are called to welcome immigrants and refugees with generosity and good will, as if they were Jesus Christ himself. *Matthew, Chapter 25*

“When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” 23
Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, citing Lev. 19:33-34

of their next of kin

- developing a detailed and thorough set of resources to educate Canadians of all ages on the tragic history of residential schools in Canada
- building a national monument in Ottawa that honours residential school survivors and all the children who were lost

Indigenous Prosperity

The party states that:

- recognition of Indigenous rights has been sought for decades, both in the courts and through treaty negotiations
- the journey is far from over; Indigenous people want a say in what happens on their traditional territories, and want to be true partners in the responsible development of those lands, including through equity opportunities and timely access to capital to support their involvement
- Canada’s natural resource industries have led the way in developing new ways to partner with First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples, and are significant employers of Indigenous peoples. In many regions, these industries provide the best chance for lifting rural, remote, and isolated communities out of poverty
- many First Nations and other Indigenous rights holders have pioneered world-leading benefit agreements and equity partnerships with private companies that have led to better projects and increased opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities alike
- the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) has affirmed the right of Indigenous communities to pursue economic opportunities and benefit from the development of resources on their traditional territories

To respect and uphold the right of Indigenous communities to pursue such opportunities through resource development, the party advocates:

- working with Indigenous-led organizations, such as the First Nations Major Project Coalition, the Indigenous Resource Network, the Indian Resource Council, the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, the National Coalition of Chiefs, and First Nations LNG Alliance, to support communities that wish to become partners in good projects that meet high environmental standards
- creating a Canadian Indigenous Opportunities Corporation to support First Nations and Inuit organizations seeking to purchase an equity stake in major projects, based on rigorous market analysis to guarantee loans to Indigenous groups; and providing an initial \$5 billion of capital for investment in projects across the country
- requiring future governments to consult with Indigenous Communities before cancelling approved projects when they have signed or are negotiating benefit agreements or partnerships
- implementing Article 18 of UNDRIP by working with First Nations to develop a transparent process that communities can use to identify who represents them in consultations if it is to be someone other than elected Chiefs
- creating a streamlined environmental review process for major projects that partner with First Nations during the environmental assessment phase
- supporting Indigenous Protected Areas that safeguard culturally significant areas without alienating future benefits that may accrue to the impacted Indigenous community if used in a way that maintains those safeguards

To help Indigenous businesses overcome barriers such as paternalistic legislation, geographic isolation and lack of infrastructure, and networking and capacity challenges, the party advocates:

- providing \$4 million over three years in targeted funding for the hiring and training of local and regional economic development officers
- in collaboration with municipal and First Nations organizations, promoting mechanisms that foster relationships between municipalities and neighbouring First Nations
- utilizing the existing infrastructure of Indigenous national organizations (NACCA & CCAB), providing capacity building and business education to enhance and promote Indigenous business success and success stories
- developing an Indigenous Business Mentorship Program
- modernizing the First Nations Land Management Act to bring it more in line with the Framework Agreement
- committing \$25 million to a national police support and community training program to reduce the incarceration rates of Canada’s Indigenous communities
- working with Indigenous community groups, establishing a national working group in the Canadian public service to encourage applications from Canada’s Indigenous communities
- improving opportunities for Indigenous businesses to receive government contracts by: setting active targets and accountability mechanisms for departmental procurement officers; ensuring procurement rules don’t unnecessarily exclude legitimate Indigenous businesses; and working with ISED to investigate new or enhanced measures to increase Indigenous business involvement in the defence and security industries

The party advocates

- increasing Indigenous governance capacity by training young Indigenous leaders including through the Institute of Corporate Directors
- empowering the First Nations Finance Authority to monetize government funding, leveraging the market to supercharge First Nations infrastructure
- remaining open to exploration of innovative new models to fund and deliver social services and critical infrastructure
- developing, in collaboration with Indigenous groups, a National Action Plan to address violence against Indigenous women and girls

- consulting with First Nations on overhauling current funding models, with the goal of making it easier for First Nations to escape Third-Party Management, reducing red tape, and providing a clearer path with better incentives for moving towards block funding

Drinking Water

The party states that the fact that many Indigenous communities still lack safe drinking water is a national shame. To resolve the issue, the party advocates recognizing safe drinking water as a fundamental human right and ending long-term drinking water advisories, targeting high-risk water systems and working with Indigenous communities to find new approaches, such as regional or coalition-based governance

Mental Health

The party states that:

- Indigenous people die by suicide at much higher rates than non-Indigenous people, and that driven by a combination of intergenerational trauma, poverty and many other factors, this ongoing crisis in mental health was heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic
- addressing poverty and infrastructure gaps will help improve risk factors for mental health in the medium to long term, but help is needed now

To address these issues, the party advocates:

- providing \$1 billion over five years to boost funding for Indigenous mental health and drug treatment programs
- supporting innovative approaches to address the crises of mental health and addiction, such as land-based treatment programs and programs delivered in Indigenous languages
- supporting the development of mental health and drug treatment programs by Indigenous people to develop capacity at the community level and allow for the delivery of culturally appropriate programs delivered in the appropriate Indigenous language
- introducing stability to urban indigenous assistance Canada's Conservatives by negotiating longer-term funding contracts with urban indigenous organizations to provide stability and better planning opportunities

Employment & Skilled Trades

To overcome barriers that have caused underrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in skilled trades, the party advocates:

- working with Indigenous groups, provinces, territories, and trade organizations to identify opportunities to increase access for Indigenous workers and youth to apprenticeship programs
- investment in jobs training programs designed in partnership with the private sector, Indigenous organizations, and provincial/territorial governments to maximize opportunities for employment

Broadband in Rural Indigenous Communities

To address a significant connectivity gap faced by Indigenous peoples, even compared to other Canadians living in rural and remote areas, the party advocates:

- supporting access to existing broadband programs, including streamlining application processes for Indigenous communities and provide more support and develop more flexible funding arrangements, along with technical support during the application process

Northern, Rural & Agricultural Communities

To empower and support northern Canadians, the party advocates:

- allowing the territories to set their borrowing limits instead of Ottawa arbitrarily setting limits
- ensuring that decisions about development in the north are made by northerners, not by Ottawa, including allowing northerners to decide on the level of development and the opportunities they want, such as responsibly unlocking Canadian oil and natural gas for export to European and Indo-Pacific markets
- giving each of the territories their fair share of federal training funds and reviving mine training in Nunavut, to increase employment of Inuit in mining
- working with the territories, local Indigenous communities, and Parks Canada to find opportunities to build the eco-tourism economy at our Northern parks
- working with governments and communities in Nunatsiavut, Nunavut, Nunavik, and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region to develop community-based marine fisheries, which will help create employment and fight local and regional food insecurity
- doubling the residency deduction, which has not increased since 2016, to recognize the rising cost of living in the north, including boosting the basic amount in the intermediate zone to match the northern zone, and add the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland, new parts of northern Saskatchewan, and new parts of north-western B.C. to this zone
- implementing a Northern Housing Strategy, including stable and predictable funding, and working with Indigenous groups including the Inuit, and with resource companies investing in the north to ensure that housing gets built
- improving Nutrition North so that it achieves the goal of ensuring that northerners have access to affordable healthy food
- ensuring that the territories receive their fair share of infrastructure funding by reserving a funding envelope for them that accounts for the high construction cost in the north
- moving ahead with the Grays Bay Port and Road Project, connecting Nunavut and NWT, via a 230 km all-weather trunk road connecting a Port at Grays Bay to an existing ice road

- from Yellowknife via the Northwest Territories diamond mines; and the only deep-water port on the Northwest Passage to (seasonally) connect to the national highway system
- moving ahead with the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Line, an Inuit-led project that will deliver renewable energy and broadband service to underserved remote communities while enabling the region's mining sector to flourish
- completing the Tuktoyaktuk road and port and pursuing an Arctic Gateway policy across the Canadian North
- a large-scale project to provide clean power to the Yukon, developed in partnership with the Government of the Yukon

Rural Areas

The party advocates action to create jobs across rural Canada, including:

- building digital infrastructure to connect all of Canada to High-Speed Internet by 2025, and speeding up the spectrum auction process to get more spectrum into use and apply use it or lose it provisions to ensure that spectrum (particularly in rural areas) is actually developed, with the auction revenues dedicated to the digital infrastructure plan, with a requirement that Huawei equipment not be used, to protect national security
- appointing a Minister of Rural Affairs to Cabinet
- setting aside a portion of federal infrastructure funds for projects in rural areas
- ensuring that the national tourism strategy supports rural tourism and encourages Canadians and visitors from around the world to explore remote parts of the country, including the hidden gems that are off the beaten path
- significantly reducing the amount of money the government spends on advertising with big foreign tech companies like Twitter and instead directing federal ad dollars to Canadian media, including regional media that keep rural communities connected
- to reduce rural crime, adding a sentencing consideration for courts based on evidence that an offence was "directed at a property or person that was vulnerable because of their remoteness from emergency services."

Small Craft Harbours

The party states that coastal communities rely on the Small Craft Harbours Program to maintain more than 10,000 commercial wharves in Canada, especially in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick.

The party advocates provision of sustainable funding for small craft harbours by doubling annual funding.

Rural Crime

To address crime in rural areas, the party advocates:

- working with provinces to combat the increasing problem of rural crime and ensure that families living in small towns and rural areas feel safe in their homes and on their farms
- addition of a sentencing consideration for courts based on evidence that an offence was "directed at a property or person that was vulnerable because of their remoteness from emergency services"

Immigrants & Newcomers

The party states:

- that Canada remains a beacon of the best humanity has to offer, providing safety and opportunity to all, a country determined to measure success not on a person's faith or family name but on the merit of their abilities, the promise they possess, and on their determination to succeed
- historically, it contributed to the end of racial discrimination in Canadian immigration, to the streamlining processes for refugees and persecuted minorities, and worked to ensure that those who arrive in Canada have the greatest chance to succeed

To address immigration backlogs, the party advocates:

- creating an efficiency mechanism, where those waiting for their application to be reviewed can pay a fee for expedited processing, including using all revenues from this expedited processing fee will be directed towards hiring additional people to streamline processing wait lines even more, so that even those unable to afford the expedited processing fee will benefit
- working to identify underutilized resources and ensure that our processing capacity is used to its full potential
- simplifying and streamlining application processes

Visitor Visas

In order to address the essential interconnectedness of a well-ordered asylum system focused on the most vulnerable, an effective immigration enforcement system, and the ability of Canadians to invite friends and family to visit for important occasions, the party advocates:

- increasing the capacity of the Immigration and Refugee Board to hear asylum claims without delay

- strengthening integrity and enforcement overall
- exploring mechanisms to pursue a more generous and fairer visa system for visitors by including more enforceable commitments to abide by the terms of their visitor visa

Immigration

To modernize and enhance the fairness of immigration processing, the party advocates:

- the technological infrastructure of immigration online and recording all interactions between immigration officers and applicants to help ensure oversight, fairness, and accountability
- introducing technology to speed application vetting by immigration officers
- increased cultural awareness training and using remote meeting technology to match applicants with immigration officers who best understand the cultural context of the applicant
- letting applicants correct simple and honest mistakes in an application within a set amount of time, rather than rejecting the application completely and requiring the application to re-submit
- developing new timely and appropriate credential recognition strategies, including credential pre-qualification to allow people in other countries to acquire Canadian-standard proficiency through accredited institutions overseas or distance learning with Canadian institutions
- to improve fairness in the process for reuniting families, scrapping the current lottery system and replacing it with a system combining a first-come, first served principle with weighting to prioritize applicants on criteria such as providing child care or family support, and language proficiency
- significant expansion of the super visa program, including allowing family members of Canadians to come and live in Canada for up to five years without permanent status, renewing their stay for additional time, where appropriate, provided that they purchase health insurance, and allowing those coming to Canada on a super visa to purchase health insurance from the government of their province or territory on a cost-recovery basis where the provincial or territorial government wishes to offer this option
- supporting programs to enable international students and temporary foreign workers, for example, to stay beyond their work or study term, including creating pathways to permanence for those already living and working in Canada, so long as they are prepared to work hard, contribute to the growth and productivity of Canada, and strengthen our democracy
- continuing to support settlement services for newcomers, especially for the most vulnerable

To support employers seeking to fill vital skill gaps and assist the public through the provision of essential public services, the party advocates:

- prioritizing and streamlining immigration that directly secures the health of Canadians as we work to strengthen our health system, including new measures to attract healthcare workers, especially in priority areas and regions
- reworking the Temporary Foreign Workers Program to better align it with domestic needs and to protect workers - both those already living in Canada and those wishing to come here to work
- reducing duplication and easing the application process through creation of a trusted employer system so that companies do not have to constantly re-apply to the program
- ensuring that those who enter Canada as low-skilled workers, as justified by concrete labour market data, are treated fairly, including by allowing employers to sponsor applications for permanent residency
- continuing to monitor the Temporary Foreign Workers Program to ensure that it achieves its intended results and is resistant to abuse
- recognizing that provincial and territorial governments have a better sense of their region's needs, working with them to expand their influence over economic immigration to their region

Refugees

The party states that overwhelming evidence now proves that privately-sponsored refugees are more likely to succeed than publicly-sponsored ones, even after they have been in Canada for a long time. Government data proves that even a decade after privately sponsored refugees arrive, they earn more and depend less on the government than those who come through government sponsorship

The party advocates replacing public, government-assisted refugee places with more private and joint sponsorship places, so that all refugees arriving in Canada do so under private or joint sponsorship programs, with exceptions in cases of emergency or specific programs (such as the human rights defenders program discussed below)

- this would ensure that every refugee family arriving in Canada will do so with a group of dedicated and motivated Canadians, ready to make them feel welcome, while also ensuring that private sponsors will not always have to bear the full costs of sponsorship, allowing them to help more refugees
- in determining financial allocations for joint sponsorships, prioritizing the following categories: (i) support delivered to the most vulnerable; (ii) support delivered through sponsorship agreement holders with a demonstrable track record of successfully integrating refugees; (iii) support delivered through a new, specialized, "human rights defender" stream, welcoming human rights advocates such as notable Hong Kong protestors who are particularly vulnerable in their home country as a result of their willingness to stand up for the rights of others
- making the Rainbow Refugee Assistance Project a permanent government program, working with LGBTQ+ organizations in Canada to encourage and facilitate greater participation

by these organizations in refugee sponsorship, and leading a global network of free countries to assist the world's persecuted sexual minorities

- to assist internally displaced people, and those extremely vulnerable to ongoing persecution but who have not crossed a national border or fall outside the UNHCR definition, allowing private sponsorship of the most vulnerable victims of persecution directly from their country of origin and working with Canadian communities to create a specific program to allow direct private sponsorship of persecuted religious and sexual minorities

Border Control

To restore the integrity of our immigration system, the party advocates ending illegal border crossings and unofficial points of entry like Roxham Road, including:

- closing a loophole in the Safe Third Country Agreement that allows people can to make an asylum claim if they are coming from the US if they are not crossing at a legal port of entry
- working with the US to set up joint border patrols at and near high traffic points on the land border, modeled on the successful Canada-US "Shiprider" border patrols on the Great Lakes
- forward deployment of Immigration and Refugee Board judges to common arrival points to expedite asylum hearings in straightforward cases



Solidarity

The party states that:

- in the past, Canada was considered a place of diversity and inclusivity. Now is the time to decide whether Canada will in fact live up to the promise of a just society in the years to come
- it is the responsibility of political leadership to build cohesion within our society through seeking common ground, celebrating diverse identities, and discouraging polarisation.

Inclusion

The party advocates:

- establishing a high-level Office of Environmental Justice at Environment and Climate Change Canada
- supporting swift passage of the proposed National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act (Bill C-230)
- creating an independent, scientific, non-partisan, diverse Climate Council to advise the government, including creation of an independent, non-partisan council, composed of First Nations, Inuit and Métis representation, climate scientists and researchers, youth and representatives from communities that are the most affected by the climate emergency, to advise the government on the development and implementation of its climate change policies through a lens of environmental justice and eradicating environmental racism
- providing universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible green and public spaces, ramping up programs to help all people in Canada benefit from nearby nature, especially racialized communities and others facing systemic barriers
- expanding funding for federal programs as well for partnerships with municipalities and local organizations to leverage networks and knowledge in reaching all communities and tackling discrimination and racism in green spaces

People with Disabilities

The party states that:

- it is time for every person in Canada with disabilities to be able to live with dignity
- Canadians with disabilities and their families have suffered disproportionately during the pandemic. There has been an erosion of mental health and confidence in public institutions for people with disabilities, leading to vaccine hesitancy
- even prior to the pandemic, people with disabilities lived with disproportionate levels of poverty and exclusion. As we observed during the pandemic, the introduction of basic income support can significantly improve peoples' ability to sustain themselves
- a Guaranteed Livable Income would best provide the support that Canadians with disabilities desperately need. This program is a floor for the access to resources for people with disabilities; it is not a ceiling. With additional programs to break down barriers, people with disabilities will have every right to be full, equal partners in Canadian society

The party advocates:

- creation of a Canada Disabilities Act (CDA) to express Canadians' vision of a more equitable society rather than the current confusion resulting from the multiplicity of acts, standards, policies, and programs that prevail
- support for a national equipment fund to provide equipment such as wheelchairs and accessibility tools to assist persons with disabilities with the tools needed to fully participate

in work and community life (this can be a joint program with provinces – the concern is equal access and common standards)

- investment in social housing adapted as necessary to meet particular needs, with both rental and purchase options, including requiring that housing developments that receive federal funding must ensure that 30% of all units in each development must be deeply affordable and/or available to people with disabilities and special needs
- providing federal health transfer payments to provinces and territories directed to rehabilitation for those who have become disabled, e.g. loss of limbs etc.
- enforcing the Employment Equity Act to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal opportunity to long-term employment and advancement. People with disabilities are generally the last to find employment and the first to be laid off
- instituting a Guaranteed Liveable Income for people living with disabilities so that none live in poverty
- converting the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) to a refundable credit
- redesigning the Canada Pension Plan/Disability Benefit (CPP/D) test to incorporate the DTC definition of disability and permit employment

Support for the Homeless

To support the homeless community, the party advocates:

- providing expanded mental health services for the homeless community
- increased access to high-quality mental health service, to recognize the intersections between those experiencing homelessness and those experiencing mental health issues
- implementing programs that direct funds to municipalities providing support for people in the homeless community who use drugs
- supporting Housing First initiatives and other successful models of improving health outcomes

Support for those experiencing mental health issues

The party states that:

- every year, 1 in 5 Canadians will experience a mental health issue or illness. Societal stigma, regional disparities, and a lack of affordability present great barriers to accessing mental health services
- the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health problems, with youth, racialized communities and LGBTQ+ individuals reporting highest rates of poor mental health
- Canada's youth suicide rate is the third highest in the industrialized world. Suicide among Indigenous communities is a crisis, with suicide being the leading cause of death for First Nations under the age of 44, and the suicide rates for Inuit youth being 11 times the national average
- along with a reduced quality of life, the economic cost of mental health is \$50 billion per year
- stakeholders report long wait times, lack of affordability for private care, lack of access to ongoing support, lack of access for folks living outside of urban settings, and lack of integration between mental health and substance use supports
- the decriminalization of simple possession of illicit drugs paired with the creation of a national safe government supply of drugs of choice and the creation of more affordable supportive housing will help to address the connection between substance use and mental health
- high-quality and accessible services must be provided equitably to everyone in Canada, with an understanding of the impact of mental health on youth, Indigenous Peoples, racialized communities, and the LGBTQ+ community

The party advocates establishment of a National Mental, comprising an evidence-based and culturally appropriate suicide prevention strategy to address the alarming rates of suicide, particularly in Indigenous communities, in particular:

- negotiating a Canada Health Accord to prioritize expansion of mental health and rehabilitation services, and call for the inclusion of mental health services as medically necessary
- allocating increased direct federal investment in community-based mental health care
- establishing robust accountability mechanisms to ensure the delivery of mental health care on par with physical health
- increased investments in Indigenous-led mental health, including increased support for Indigenous-led, culturally safe, mental health programs and services, rooted in Indigenous healing practices, land-based healing and the principle of self-determination and ensuring all programming is guided by the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework, establishing permanent program funding for the delivery of land-based, trauma-informed, community addictions care for Indigenous peoples; increased targeted investment in the mental health workforce serving Indigenous communities; doubling the current budget of the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative; and taking active steps to implement Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, specifically those related to mental health.
- supporting First Nations, Métis and Inuit in (re)building traditional knowledge systems around healing and wellness, including formal inclusion of traditional healing within mental wellness and home and community care programs and ensuring that the process is led by First Nations, Métis Nation and Inuit organizations
- investing in youth mental health, including providing specific funding for early mental health interventions, including social and emotional learning programs, quality and accessible early childhood education, access to community-based mental health services for parents and caregivers, youth peer support programs, mobile youth mental health clinics, etc.; and launching a targeted strategy aimed at ensuring timely access to mental health services for young people and children
- providing funding for prevention, treatment, and research related to youth mental health, to address the growing crisis of mental health issues among young people
- calling for a national study on the impact of phones and social media on mental health in adolescents

- because creation of housing stock alone will not necessarily meet the needs of those with severe and/or chronic mental health issues, providing access to supportive community housing including rental supplements/allowances, case management, counselling, assistance with medication, and life skills training

Indigenous Peoples

Housing

To ensure access to housing for Indigenous peoples, the party advocates:

- under the guidance of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation, developing inclusive and culturally appropriate Urban Indigenous Housing Strategies - for Indigenous Peoples and by Indigenous Peoples - as proposed by the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association's Indigenous Caucus.
- changing legislation that prevents Indigenous organizations from accessing financing through CMHC to invest in self-determined housing needs
- allocating funding towards urban Indigenous housing providers
- developing and implementing Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy
- ensuring that all housing in Indigenous communities is built following principles laid out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- leveraging federal lands and real property for transfer to off-reserve Indigenous organizations to create housing and economic development opportunities
- assisting urban and rural Indigenous people in identifying emergency accommodations and affordable housing options for youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQIA+, and vulnerable populations
- establishing a "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" housing support program for all off-reserve and urban Indigenous communities, and including off-reserve Status and non-Status Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous Health

To promote Indigenous health, the party advocates:

- upholding Jordan's Principle in full, ensuring Indigenous Peoples receive the health care they need without being delayed by bureaucratic disagreements over jurisdiction
- implementing Calls to Action 18-24 from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- supporting First Nations, Métis and Inuit in (re)building traditional knowledge systems around healing and wellness, including the formal inclusion of traditional healing within mental wellness and home and community care programs. This process must be led by First Nations, Métis Nation and Inuit organizations
- ending all drinking water and boil water advisories, including investing in and upgrading critical infrastructure to ensure safe water access and end boil water advisories in every community, and supporting Indigenous-led processes to implement safe drinking water and wastewater management systems
- ensuring access to high-quality safe and affordable housing (see Housing)
- improving food security in northern communities, including consulting with residents on Arctic farming, working with non-profit groups to build greenhouses or hydroponic towers and funding education programs in nutrition and horticulture

Reconciliation & Restitution

The party states that:

- Canada has a profound legal and moral obligation to reconcile and provide restitution for the colonial relations – marked by violent expropriation, displacement, and forced assimilation – that have undermined the cultural, governance and economic foundations of the Indigenous Peoples of this land
- it recognizes the ongoing leadership, resistance and resilience of Indigenous Peoples in the face of systemic oppression and intergenerational trauma
- it will support all Indigenous Peoples' efforts to emerge from the positions of disadvantage in which Canada has placed them, including support for cultural revitalization and healing
- it reaffirms its support for the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and is committed to implementing UNDRIP for those First Nations who support it
- it believes that every nation has a right to decide who will speak on its behalf, and the government of Canada must be led by Indigenous Peoples with respect to designing any UNDRIP legislation

The party advocates:

- providing sustainable funding for new and existing Indigenous Healing Centres to address the harms caused by residential schools, including increased funding to Friendship Centres across Canada providing critical social services off-reserve; honouring the original request from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for funding for the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Project; calling on the Pope to apologise on behalf of the Catholic Church for its involvement in residential schools
- recognizing that Indigenous children in residential schools have been replaced by Indigenous children in foster care; Indigenous children account for 7.7 per cent of children in Canada, but 52.2 percent of children in care;
- not fighting the Canada's Human Rights Tribunal orders requiring the government to compensate the child and family victims of Canada's discrimination,

- ensuring that non-status First Nations' children living off reserve have access to Jordan's Principle
- respecting Indigenous sovereignty over self-defined and self-governed lands – whether First Nations, Métis Nation or Inuit – and respect all rights that their title to land entails, including the right to stewardship
- full implementation of treaties and other self-government agreements between Canada and Indigenous governments, including genuine nation-to-nation engagement with Indigenous Peoples that is truly grounded in the UNDRIP doctrine of free, prior and informed consent
- in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, working towards the creation of an Indigenous Lands and Treaties Tribunal Act to establish an independent body that will decide on specific claims, ensuring that treaty negotiations are conducted and financed fairly and that treaty negotiations and claims resolutions do not result in the extinguishment of aboriginal and treaty rights
- formal repudiation the doctrine of terra nullius, the doctrine of discovery, and other doctrines of superiority
- affirming the inherent right of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation to determine child and family services

Education

The party advocates:

- ensuring that every First Nations, Métis and Inuit child has access to quality educational opportunities based on the expressed cultural, political and social priorities of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit governments, following meaningful consultation
- supporting the development of Indigenous education curricula that are language and culture-specific
- increasing access to post-secondary education for Indigenous youth by removing the two per cent funding cap, as well as fully funding the program backlog
- supporting and sustain the transmission, proliferation, and regeneration of Indigenous cultural works and languages
- educating non-Indigenous Canadians on the histories, customs, traditions and cultures of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples of Turtle Island

Rural & Agricultural Communities

The party states that:

- twenty per cent of people in Canada live in rural and remote environments. In some regions that number rises to nearly 50 per cent. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, rural communities were struggling
- the prevalent economic model has undermined the social, economic, and cultural fabric of rural communities, and for many years, these communities have been deprived of the resources and investments necessary to strengthen their basic foundations
- challenges faced by rural communities include lack of sufficient support for localized economic development; lack of infrastructure and services – Municipalities are not permitted to run deficits, yet they own and are responsible for core infrastructure assets, with limited tax bases; mean that rural municipalities struggle to generate sufficient revenue to upgrade ageing infrastructure and provide essential services, such as telecommunications, health care and public transport
- aging population - The rural population is aging faster than their urban counterparts. There are significant disparities between urban and rural health delivery for seniors and people with diverse abilities
- youth retention: limited services and lack of employment opportunities in rural communities, paired with greater access to learning and opportunities in cities have drawn young people away from rural communities. Once young people have left for urban centres, they often do not return: the population of youth aged 15 to 19 in rural Canada declined by 10 per cent between 2011 and 2016
- economic challenges: as a result of all the above factors, rural incomes tend to lag behind those of urban communities, and unemployment level tend to be higher
- strong rural communities are essential for economic, social, and cultural resilience, as engines for diversification, innovation, and progress toward a more just and equitable society

To ensure that rural and remote communities get their fair share of resources to help kick start their revitalization, the party advocates:

- addressing disparities in delivery, access, and funding for rural services
- establishing a parliamentary committee to collect information on place-based needs in rural and remote communities, including the state of funding for rural services in the context of the economic/social realities faced by those communities, and developing recommendations on how these gaps can be closed in ways that work at the local level
- making investments to expand transit services and infrastructure. This will create jobs, provide cleaner and safer alternatives to driving, lower rural Canada's carbon footprint, and improve access to services for rural Canadians
- reevaluating the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) so that rural communities are covered with an equitable amount of funding to meet the needs of the community
- support the provinces in implementing innovative delivery models such as Telemedicine to improve health access in rural Canada
- expanding the mandate of Canada Post to include banking, high-speed internet hubs, and EV charging stations, and increasing the salaries of Canada Post employees operating in rural communities (who are predominantly women), and closing pay gaps between urban and rural services are closed

- improving rural connectivity, by building up broadband infrastructure in rural areas to help revitalize rural economies and give communities greater access to the services they need; continuing to support the Universal Broadband Fund with an additional \$150 M annually over 4 years to reach communities at the lowest end of the eligibility spectrum; and breaking up telecom monopolies through changes to CRTC regulation to allow for more equitable treatment of rural consumers

Rural Infrastructure & Industry

To ensure long-term predictability for rural and northern communities, the party advocates supporting the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' request for at least \$250 million annually in dedicated infrastructure funding starting in 2028-29

To make industries important to rural communities more sustainable, the party advocates:

- supporting localized investments in renewable energy and green manufacturing which will allow for job transition in communities dependent on the oil and gas sectors
- assisting farmers with transitioning away from the industrial model controlled by large agri-business and toward locally and regionally based food systems
- replacing one-third of Canada's food imports with domestic production, bringing would bring \$15 billion food dollars back into our economy to foster economic diversification and rural revitalization
- promoting the creation of land trusts to set-aside arable land across Canada to help control the price of land and protect it from being permanently removed as viable farmland
- funding new and innovative value-added forestry-based manufacturing facilities in rural Canada to create jobs and keep profits from our resources in Canada, and working with provinces, territories, and municipalities to make sure that timber, pulp, and paper manufacturing is environmentally and economically sustainable in rural Canada
- maintaining and improving policies that support owner-operation of inshore fisheries and conservation of fish stocks
- supporting aquaculture development in closed containment facilities to protect wild species and limit pollution and provide support to fish pen workers in the transition
- protecting the traditional fishing rights of Indigenous Peoples living in Canada, including the right to engage in fishing in pursuit of a moderate livelihood

Immigrants & Newcomers

The party states that:

- Canada prides itself in multiculturalism in our society and in projecting a welcoming image towards immigrants and refugees
- it believes that Canada has more work to do to achieve an equitable and just multiculturalism. Over the past few years, there have been increasing calls to address systemic racism and colonialism within all branches of the government, from healthcare to employment, to housing, to transportation. Immigration and refugee policies and practices should not be left out of this conversation
- it aims to strengthen our communities and set an international example by bringing more skilled workers, better family reunification strategies and addressing current inequalities within the existing systems in Canada

To address systemic racism and discrimination in Immigration and Refugee services, the party advocates:

- updating the citizenship guidebook to include a more accurate history of Canada and Turtle Island that includes the harms of residential schools and the Indian Act
- addressing xenophobia in all aspects of settlement, including temporary visa liberalization, issuing of temporary permits (study, work, visit, etc.) and family reunification (including increasing capacity for family sponsorship and revision of adoption processes)
- terminating the Safe Third Country Agreement with the United States, which the Canadian Federal Court recently ruled violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantee of "the right to life, liberty and security of the person," as it allows Canada to send refugee-claimants at the Canada-U.S. border back to the United States, despite the risk they will be detained and eventually returned to their countries of origin without their refugee claims being assessed
- revising all Canada Border Services Agency practices, including operation of immigration detention centres, family separation, and developing an oversight mechanism, including a Civilian Complaint and Review Commission

To address foreign skills recognition, the party advocates:

- reviewing and updating accreditation policies and licensing programs to better and more accurately reflect the current needs of our Canadian society
- collaborating with accreditation institutions in Canada to recognize foreign training and education
- allocating greater funding to provide training language skills, employment skills, and accreditation recognition for any newcomer legally eligible to work in Canada
- creating incentives for employers to hire newcomers and refugee claimants

With respect to permanent residency and citizenship, the party advocates:

- introducing exceptions for permanent residency and citizenship application costs based on household income (for many refugees, the \$1,000 application fee for citizenship is unaffordable)
- in recognition of the role temporary foreign and frontline workers played in our healthcare and economy during the COVID-19 pandemic, introducing lower barrier, more accessible pathways to permanent residency for these workers

- improved conditions for refugees and asylum seekers by addressing the years-long processing time, unaffordable application fees and eliminating status-based service requirements
- developing safe strategies for temporary foreign workers and whistle blowers to report abusive employers without losing their status

With respect to family reunification, the party advocates:

- increased support for parent and grandparent sponsorship by IRCC, by increasing the number of accepted applications and decreasing processing times
- reviewing adoption bans from Muslim majority countries so that adoptive parents can remain together through their immigration process, as well as allowing adoption from these countries by Canadian citizens
- lowering barriers for convention refugees to reunite with their children and bring them to Canada by making the process more accessible
- removing visa requirements for most parents visiting their children – including international students, temporary workers, Canadian citizens and convention refugees



Disabilities

Financial Support

The party states that:

- persons with disabilities can face additional costs related to medical care, retrofits, and medical devices, and are almost twice as likely to be low-income as people without a disability
- since their creation in 2008 Registered Disability Savings Plans (RDSPs) have supported the long-term financial security of people with disabilities who are eligible for the Disability Tax Credit, with total RDSP assets having grown to approximately \$8.8 billion
- it has expanded access to RDSPs by allowing qualifying family members, such as parents, spouses, or common-law partners to open RDSPs and be the plan holder for an adult with mental disabilities whose ability to enter into an RDSP contract is in doubt, and who does not have a legal representative
- because the qualifying family member provision is set to expire, it intends to extend it until December 31, 2026, and to extend the provision to include adult siblings of an RDSP beneficiary. These measures are expected to cost \$13 million over five years
- because the Qualifying Family Member was originally intended as a stopgap for provinces and territories to develop more appropriate, long-term solutions to address RDSP legal representation issues for persons with disabilities, it continues to encourage provinces and territories that have not already done so to address issues surrounding guardianship for persons with disabilities

Inclusion

The party states that:

- following the October 2022 launch of the comprehensive, whole-of-government Disability Inclusion Action Plan, it needs to collect views from Canadians with disabilities in matters that affect them
- to that end, it proposes to provide \$10 million over two year to Employment and Social Development Canada for investment in capacity building and the community-level work of Canada's disability organizations
- it further proposes to provide \$21.5 million in 2023-24 to Employment and Social Development Canada to continue work on the future delivery of the Canada Disability Benefit, including engagement with the disability community and provinces and territories on the regulatory process.
- to advance launch of a Canada Disability Benefit as part of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, investments set out in its current budget continue to lay the necessary groundwork for the Canada Disability Benefit

The party further states that during its current term in office the federal government has provided significant support to Canadians with disabilities, including:

- more than \$1.6 billion per year to support persons with severe and prolonged mental and physical impairments through the Disability Tax Credit
- more than \$1 billion per year through Canada Disability Savings Grants and Bonds, as well as exempting from tax investment income earned in Registered Disability Savings Plans, which supports the financial security of persons with disabilities
- \$922 million to provinces and territories through the Workforce Development Agreements in 2023-24, approximately 30 per cent of which is targeted to help persons with disabilities get training, develop their skills, and gain work experience
- more than \$650 million annually through more generous Canada Student Grants, interest-free Canada Student Loans, and easier-to-access repayment assistance—including loan

forgiveness for those with severe permanent disabilities—to support persons with disabilities with the additional costs of post-secondary education, such as those that come with supportive services and devices

- \$105 million in 2023-24 to support the implementation of an employment strategy for persons with disabilities through the Opportunities Fund. This included funding to the Ready, Willing and Able Program to support persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder or intellectual disabilities in finding employment
- more than \$460 million per year through the Child Disability Benefit provided as a supplement to the Canada Child Benefit for parents of children with severe and prolonged disabilities, providing an average of approximately \$2,700 in annual support

Mental Health & Addictions

The party states that during its term in office it has made it a priority to invest in mental health services for Canadians, and that key investments include:

- \$5 billion over ten years to provinces and territories, starting in 2017-18, to improve and increase the availability of mental health and addiction services
- over \$240 million since 2020-21 for the Wellness Together Canada portal, which provides Canadians with free tools and services to support their mental health and well-being
- \$100 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, to support projects for innovative mental health interventions for populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including health care workers, frontline workers, youth, seniors, persons with disabilities, Indigenous people, and racialized communities
- \$25 million over five years, starting in 2019-20, and \$5 million ongoing, to support a pan-Canadian suicide prevention service to provide people across Canada with access to bilingual 24/7 crisis support from trained responders
- more than \$1.5 billion over six years, starting in 2021-22, to support trauma-informed, culturally appropriate, Indigenous-led services to improve mental wellness, including over \$825 million through Budget 2021 and Budget 2022 to support distinctions-based mental health and wellness strategies with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis

Opioid Crisis

The party states that the overdose crisis and toxic illegal drug supplies take the lives of an average of 20 Canadians per day—many of whom are experiencing homelessness—resulting in immeasurable strain on our communities, health care systems, and local social services

The party reports that during its term in office it:

- has invested more than \$800 million through the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy to restore harm reduction as an essential pillar of the strategy, and worked to support a compassionate and evidence-based response to the overdose crisis and the stigma associated with it
- has authorized safe consumption sites to provide a safe space for tens of thousands of Canadians dealing with substance use issues. Health care workers have been able to treat 42,000 overdoses, without a single death on site

The party proposes:

- among other improvements to health care services, new funding of \$46.2 billion for provinces and territories to help provide access to timely, equitable mental health and substance use services
- to complement these investments, allocating a total of \$359.2 million over five years, with \$5.7 million ongoing and \$1.3 million in remaining amortization, to support a renewed Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy including:
 - (1) \$144 million over five years for the Substance Use and Addictions Program to fund community-based supports, including safer supply, supervised consumption sites, and other evidence-based health interventions
 - (2) \$20.2 million over five years to the Public Health Agency of Canada for a new community-based program to prevent substance use among young people
 - (3) \$73.9 million over five years, with \$4.6 million ongoing, to Health Canada to streamline authorizations for supervised consumption sites and drug checking services, scale-up access to safer supply, and evaluate innovative approaches
 - (4) \$50.8 million over five years, with \$1.1 million ongoing and \$1.3 million in remaining amortization, to Health Canada; and \$16 million over five years, to the Public Health Agency of Canada to support vital data collection on substance-related harms and lab-based analysis of the illegal drug supply
 - (5) \$4.6 million over five years, to Public Safety Canada to develop an overdose monitoring app for paramedics and other first responders
 - (6) \$42 million over five years, to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; \$6.2 million over five years to Public Services and Procurement Canada; and \$1.6 million over five years, sourced from existing resources, to Global Affairs Canada to take further action to work with our partners to tackle drug trafficking and stem the global flow of these substances

Indigenous Peoples

The party states that:

- building a Canada that works for everyone requires a commitment to address past wrongs and to work to support a brighter future for all Canadians
- during its current term in office it has worked with Indigenous partners to advance meaningful reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities. Real progress has been made to improve the quality of life in Indigenous communities and close gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. But there is more work to do.
- among the most significant measures, the party includes investment of:

- * \$29 billion for child welfare services, including funding to implement An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families, to maintain and enhance the First Nations Child and Family Services program, and to support ongoing negotiations towards additional program reforms
- * nearly \$6.4 billion to meet the needs of First Nations children through Jordan's Principle
- * \$6.7 billion to support primary care and public health on reserve, distinctions-based mental health care, and non-insured health benefits. This also includes \$1.2 billion in infrastructure funding, which has already supported 248 health-related projects in First Nations communities
- * over \$5.9 billion for elementary and secondary education to help First Nations children living on reserve receive high-quality schooling. This also includes \$1.8 billion in infrastructure funding, which has already supported 261 school facility projects
- * over \$5.7 billion to address critical infrastructure gaps related to water and wastewater, and accelerate progress to end long-term and short-term drinking water advisories in First Nations communities on reserve
- * over \$4 billion to support First Nations housing on reserve, and almost \$2.5 billion to support community infrastructure on reserve
- * nearly \$2.5 billion in funding to build an early learning and child care system that meets the needs of First Nations families
- * \$991 million for First Nations and Inuit policing and police facilities to provide access to local and culturally sensitive police services that make communities safer
- * \$417 million targeted for First Nations post-secondary education

Inuit Priorities

In addition, the party states that key investments in Inuit priorities made during its current term in office include:

- \$25 million to implement the Inuit Nunangat Policy, which was co-developed with Inuit and will guide the federal government in design, development, and delivery of new and renewed federal programming, policies, and initiatives
- over \$1.3 billion to support housing in Inuit communities
- \$5.1 billion to reduce tuberculosis, provide non-insured health benefits, and support distinctions-based mental health care
- more than \$230 million for Inuit communities to build an early learning and child care system that meets the needs of Inuit families
- \$70 million to support the National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy
- more than \$125 million targeted for Inuit post-secondary education

Métis Priorities

In addition, the party states that key investments in Métis priorities made during its current term in office include:

- more than \$860 million for Métis communities to build an early learning and child care system that meets the needs of Métis families
- \$690 million to support housing in Métis communities and more than \$400 million towards Métis communities skills and employment training, economic development, and to support the startup and expansion of Métis small and medium-sized businesses
- \$867 million to support distinctions-based mental health care and the monitoring and treatment of chronic diseases
- more than \$360 million targeted for Métis post-secondary education

Self-Determination and Prosperity

The party states that:

- Indigenous self-determination is critical to Canada's future. It strengthens nation-to-nation, government-to-government, and Inuit-Crown relationships
- Indigenous governments must be able to set and implement priorities respecting their communities, lands, and resources, and Indigenous Peoples, businesses, and communities must have the opportunity to fully participate in the economy, and build opportunities for themselves and future generations in the ways they see fit
- the party proposes investing in measures that will continue to advance service transfer to Indigenous governments and institutions, and unlock opportunities to advance economic reconciliation for Indigenous Peoples across Canada.

To provide resources to meet the needs of their communities and deliver needed services and programs, the party proposes to:

- provide \$76.3 million in 2023-24 to Indigenous Services Canada to continue to support the administrative capacity of First Nations governments and tribal councils delivering critical programs and services to their members
- provide \$19.4 million over five years to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada for the Northern Participant Funding Program to increase the participation of Indigenous Peoples and other Northerners in environmental and regulatory assessments of major projects, with an additional \$1.6 million over two years to the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency for the Northern Projects Management Office to increase capacity for federal participation in environmental assessments and consultation with Indigenous communities on major projects in the territories

Tax Arrangements with Indigenous Governments

The party states that it remains committed to negotiating mutually beneficial tax agreements with interested Indigenous governments, including implementing the First Nations Goods and Services Tax within their settlement lands or reserves and, with interested self-governing Indigenous governments, to enable the implementation of personal income taxes within their settlement lands

- it is making progress with Indigenous communities and organizations on a voluntary fuel, alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco (FACT) sales tax framework. The FACT framework would provide a new, flexible option for interested Indigenous governments to exercise tax jurisdiction within their reserves or settlement lands. Since fall 2022, productive discussions have taken place with Indigenous partners, and Indigenous communities have expressed interest in moving forward collaboratively.
- it continues to encourage, and will help facilitate, taxation arrangements between interested provincial or territorial and Indigenous governments

Economic Proposals

To move forward toward prosperity and ensure removal of systemic barriers, the party proposes:

- to provide \$5 million to Indigenous Services Canada to support the co-development of an Economic Reconciliation Framework with Indigenous partners that will increase economic opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, communities, and businesses
- building on foundations set in recent Indigenous-led initiatives, such as the National Indigenous Economic Strategy and the First Nations Financial Management Board's RoadMap project

Major Projects

The party states that it is committed to further improving the quality and consistency of benefits that Indigenous communities derive from major projects in their territories, including through advancing opportunities for Indigenous communities to participate as partners in major projects. It proposes:

- providing \$8.7 million to Natural Resources Canada to support deeper engagements with Indigenous partners, including Indigenous rights-holders, towards the development of the National Benefits-Sharing Framework, including sourcing of loans through the Canada Infrastructure Bank's existing funding envelope

First Nations Lands

The party states that it is committed to supporting initiatives that return control and decision-making over the use of First Nations lands back to First Nations communities. It proposes:

- providing \$30 million over five years to Indigenous Services Canada to enhance the Reserve Land and Environment Management Program, ensuring First Nations can develop capacity to exercise increased responsibility over their lands, resources, and environment, including reaffirming its commitment to negotiate a renewed operating funding formula with the Lands Advisory Board to ensure the continued growth and success of First Nation Land Management
- providing \$35.3 million over three years to Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and Natural Resources Canada to co-develop, with the Lands Advisory Board, a new First Nations-led National Land Registry that will provide communities in First Nation Land Management with more opportunities to realize the economic benefits arising from local control over their lands

Indigenous Health Priorities

The party states that to ensure that Indigenous Peoples have access to high-quality and culturally safe health care services, no matter where they live:

- it is working with Indigenous partners, provinces, and territories to co-develop distinctions-based Indigenous health legislation
- it proposes to invest \$2 billion in new, additional funding over ten years for a distinctions-based Indigenous Health Equity Fund, in addition to new \$810.6 million over five years to support medical travel and to maintain medically necessary services through the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program, including mental health services, dental and vision care
- \$16.2 million over three years for interventions to reduce rates of tuberculosis in Inuit communities

Housing

The party states that:

- during its current term in office it has committed \$6.7 billion to support First Nations, Inuit, and Métis housing, including in self-governing and modern treaty communities
- this funding has supported over 13,000 housing-related projects and home improvement and repairs, and more than 4,600 new homes in Indigenous communities
- in addition, it provided \$300 million to support housing in urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

The party states that during its current term in office it has accelerated implementation of the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People. In addition to \$2.2 billion already allocated, the party proposes investments that acknowledge the leadership of families and survivors in this process, and the need to increase accountability and ensure that progress is made. It proposes allocating:

- \$20 million over four years to support Indigenous-led projects for safer communities through the Pathways to Safe Indigenous Communities Initiative
- \$95.8 million over five years and \$20.4 million ongoing to help Indigenous families access information about their missing and murdered loved ones, and to enhance victim

services to support their healing journeys, including renewal of existing programming and expansion to include support for families of 2SLGBTQI+ Indigenous victims who are men

- \$2.6 million over three years to support the National Family and Survivors Circle in keeping families and survivors at the centre of the implementation of the National Action Plan and the Federal Pathway
- \$2.2 million over five years to establish an oversight mechanism to monitor and report on the progress of implementation
- \$1.6 million over two years to support the Ministerial Special Representative appointed to provide recommendations on the creation of an Indigenous and Human Rights Ombudsperson
- \$2.5 million over five years to facilitate and coordinate work on advancing the National Action Plan by establishing a standing Federal-Provincial-Territorial-Indigenous table on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQI+ People

First Nations Children

The party states that:

- in order to ensure that First Nations children have the supports they need to flourish in accordance with Jordan's Principle, including appropriate health, social, and educational supports, it continues to work with First Nations partners to advance long-term reforms to ensure that First Nations children will continue to receive timely, high-quality services
- it also continues to work with First Nations partners on long-term reforms for child welfare, and to support community-led solutions to reduce the number of children in care and keep children and youth connected to their families, their communities, and their culture
- it proposes to provide \$171 million to Indigenous Services Canada to ensure First Nations children continue to receive the support through Jordan's Principle, in addition to \$444.2 million over three years to support Peguis First Nation in Manitoba and Louis Bull Tribe First Nation in Alberta to exercise jurisdiction over their child welfare systems and make decisions about what is best for their children and families

Band Class Settlement Agreement

The party states that to address harms that continue to affect First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children and their families due to residential schools, it signed an agreement to compensate 325 bands that opted in to the Gottfriedson Band Class litigation, which provides \$2.8 billion as part of the Band Class settlement, to establish a trust to support healing, wellness, education, heritage, language, and commemoration activities, and proposes legislative amendments to exclude the income and gains of the trust from taxation

Northern, Rural & Agricultural Communities

The party states that rural communities are a driver of economic growth, and home to a wide range of industries including agriculture, mining, and tourism.

In its mandate letter to the Ministers for of Rural Economic Development at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's immediate priority would be to pursue and advance initiatives that recognize the unique realities and challenges faced by rural communities, including measures to support economic recovery, growth and resilience, and that key among those initiatives would be access to fast and reliable high-speed Internet, which is essential to ensuring that Canadians in rural and remote communities have equal access to services, supports, and economic and job opportunities
- in addition, the Ministry should work to ensure the services delivered by government reflect the needs of rural Canadians, such as rural transit solutions, mental health services and housing, and that these services are more visible and easily accessible, and to ensure that Canada Post better reaches Canadians in rural and remote areas

In its mandate letter to the Ministers for Northern Affairs and for Economic Development of Northern Ontario at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister:

- to prioritize the delegation of authority to local and regional governments
- prioritize the delivery of support to small and medium-sized businesses and support job creation in communities recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic

To support those living and working in rural and remote communities, the party proposes to allocate:

- \$45.9 million to expand the reach of the Canada Student Loan Forgiveness program for eligible doctors and nurses who choose to practice in rural and remote communities
- \$368.4 million to renew and update forest sector programs, which will support jobs in the forestry sector in rural and remote communities
- significant investment tax credits and funding for clean electricity to build Canada's clean economy, which will support major projects that will create good jobs in rural and remote communities, and will help expand Canada's electrical grid to more rural and remote communities
- \$4 billion to implement a co-developed Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy
- \$250 million for an Oral Health Access Fund, which will complement the Canadian Dental Care Plan by reducing barriers to accessing care, including in rural and remote communities
- \$333 million over ten years to establish the Dairy Innovation and Investment Fund, which will help reduce the amount of solids non-fat that is sold for animal feed or disposed of, and ultimately increase revenues for dairy farmers
- \$108 million over 3 years to the Regional Development Agencies for projects and local events to increase local tourism opportunities for businesses and communities

- \$57.5 million over five years, with \$5.6 million ongoing, to the CFIA to establish a Foot-and-Mouth disease Vaccine Bank to ensure early vaccination of livestock, reduce border closures and protect the livelihoods of livestock farmers in the event of an outbreak
- \$34.1 million over three years for a top-up to the On-Farm Climate Action Fund to support Eastern Canadian farmers adopt nitrogen management practices that reduce fertilizer use and ultimately result in cost savings for these farmers
- \$13 million in 2023-24 to increase the interest-free limit of loans under the Advance Payments Program to provide additional cash flow to farmers in need
- \$10 million in 2023-24 to top up the Local Food Infrastructure Fund to strengthen food security in rural and Indigenous communities across Canada.

Atlantic Canada

The party states that:

- its Atlantic Growth Strategy was launched in 2016 to pave the way for a stronger economy in Atlantic Canada
- in July 2022, the federal and provincial governments reaffirmed their commitment to work together and build on the initiatives that are benefitting Atlantic Canadians through the Atlantic Growth Strategy. Renewed areas of focus will include infrastructure, trade and investment, broadband, innovation, labour and skills, and clean technology.

Northern, Indigenous, and Remote Food Infrastructure

The party states that through the Local Food Infrastructure Fund it is supporting community-led efforts to address food insecurity by helping invest in the infrastructure needed to produce, store, and deliver locally-sourced food in a sustainable manner. It proposes to provide \$10 million in 2023-24 to top up the Local Food Infrastructure Fund to strengthen food security in Northern, rural, and Indigenous communities across Canada.

Refugees & Newcomers

The party states that:

- by 2025, Canada will welcome 500,000 new permanent residents each year, the majority of whom will be skilled workers who will help address the labour shortages that so many Canadian businesses are experiencing today
- as Canada welcomes record numbers of newcomers, a safe and efficient immigration system is essential. Applications for citizenship currently rely on name-based searches for screening, rather than biometric tools, such as fingerprints, that are used in visa and permanent residence applications. Name-based searches are slower and less accurate, and lead to increased processing times
- it proposes to provide \$10 million over five years, starting in 2023-24, with \$14.6 million in remaining amortization for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to implement biometrics, which will help expedite the processing of citizenship applications

By Mandate Letter to the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry was to prioritize ongoing work to strengthen Canada's immigration and refugee system, including bringing in more newcomers to all regions of Canada who will support Canada's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic
- the Ministry was also to act with urgency to provide resettlement opportunities for people under threat, including Afghan citizens and human rights defenders
- as well, the Ministry was to continue to strengthen family reunification and reduce application processing times, especially those impacted by COVID-19.

Asylum Seekers

The party states that:

- access to legal representation, information, and advice ensures that Canada's asylum process is fair for everyone, and makes the process more efficient. For asylum seekers who are unable to pay for legal support, the federal government helps fund legal aid services in partnership with provinces and territories
- to that end, it proposes to provide \$43.5 million in 2023-24 to Justice Canada to maintain federal support for immigration and refugee legal aid services



The Marginalized & Vulnerable

Disabilities

The party states that:

- much more can be done to make Canada an inclusive and barrier-free place, starting with uphold the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and

- strengthening the Accessibility Act to cover all federal agencies equally, with the power to make and enforce accessibility standards in a timely manner
- to address the unacceptable rate of poverty among Canadians living with a disability and ensure that everyone has the chance to thrive and live in dignity, we will expand income security programs to ensure Canadians living with a disability have a guaranteed livable income
- to ensure that everyone has a fair shot at a good job that fits their unique abilities, the party advocates continued and expanded employment programs
- to assist those facing serious illness, it advocates extending Employment Insurance benefits to 50 weeks of coverage, and a pilot project to allow workers with episodic disabilities to access benefits as needed
- in addition to implementing a universal, publicly funded national pharmacare and dental care program, it advocates restoration of door-to-door mail delivery for those who lost it under previous governments, and creating affordable, accessible housing in communities across the country
- it advocates working with Autistic Canadians to develop and implement a national Autism strategy to coordinate research, ensure access to needs-based services, promote employment, and help expand housing options

Mental Health

The party states that:

- the Canada Health Act is supposed to fund all medically necessary services that Canadians might need. Many kinds of needed services are covered, however.
- more than one in five Canadians struggling with mental health challenges who have expressed a need for counselling weren't able to get it
- mental health care should be available at no cost for people who need it. As a first step, it advocates implementing mental health care for uninsured Canadians, and ensuring that pharmacare covers prescription medication
- mental health coverage should include a national perinatal mental health strategy to support growing families before and after birth

Opioid Crisis

The party states that:

- seventeen Canadians die every day from opioid-related causes. Tens of thousands of families have lost parents, partners, siblings, and children
- every part of the country has been impacted by these highly addictive and dangerous drugs, from the busiest downtown neighbourhoods to the most remote communities
- too often, impacts are even worse for the most vulnerable and marginalized people
- the federal government is lagging behind the urgent action being taken by provinces like British Columbia

The party advocates:

- declaring a public health emergency and working with all levels of government, health experts and Canadians to end the criminalization and stigma of drug addiction, so that people struggling with addiction can get help without fear of arrest, while getting tough on those who traffic in and profit from illegal drugs
- creating a safe supply of medically regulated alternatives to toxic street drugs, supporting overdose prevention sites and expand access to treatment on demand for people struggling with addiction
- an investigation into the role drug companies may have played in fueling the opioid crisis, and seeking meaningful financial for the public costs of this crisis

Indigenous Peoples

Rights & Self-Determination

The party states that:

- the government should not be able to pick and choose which Indigenous rights it will uphold, and which ones it will ignore. The proper framework for reconciliation is set out in the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which sets out minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous peoples
- it will fully implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, including ensuring that national laws, policies, and practices are consistent with human rights commitments – including cultural rights, land rights, and rights to self-determination and self-government, and establishment of a National Council for Reconciliation to provide oversight and accountability for this process, with regular reports to Parliament and the public
- replacing mere consultation with a standard of free, prior and informed consent for Indigenous communities affected by government policies – including for all decisions affecting constitutionally protected land rights, like energy project reviews, with a good-faith, consent based engagement and negotiations consistent with the Tsilhqot'in decision
- recognizing and respecting treaties
- respecting Inuit self-determination by co-developing the federal government's Arctic Policy Framework through shared governance within the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, including adoption of an Inuit Nunangat policy
- supporting economic and social self-reliance of Inuit by addressing the massive infrastructure deficit in Northern communities, including housing, access to high-speed broadband, and airports, and ensuring that federal election ballots include Indigenous languages like Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun

Residential Schools

The party states that:

- a vital part of reconciliation is fully acknowledging the horror and harm caused to Indigenous children, their families and communities by the residential school system. These institutions systemically removed children from their families and inflicted abuse, sickness and death
- the recent revelations of thousands of mass and unmarked graves at residential school sites across the country underlines the depth of horror that this genocidal policy inflicted for more than 160 years. It's time to find every child, and bring them home

The party advocates:

- fully funding a search for grave sites at former residential schools, as well as the maintenance, commemoration, reburial and protection of residential school cemeteries according to the wishes of Indigenous families, residential school Survivors and communities
- working with nations and Survivors to establish memorials to those lost to residential schools
- in pursuit of truth, accountability and justice, appointment of a special prosecutor to pursue those who inflicted great harm on Indigenous children in the residential school system, including require that churches and governments hand over any and all records that could be helpful in identifying buried in unmarked graves, or in finding individuals who were involved in their deaths
- recognizing the need for special supports to address the inter-generational impacts of colonialism and residential schools, supporting and fully funding community-driven solutions for healing, including projects similar to the former "Aboriginal Healing Foundation"

Indigenous Children

The party states that:

- despite apologies from political leaders for generations of colonialism and systemic racism, discrimination against Indigenous children continues today. Indigenous children and young people have the right to culture, language and to be raised in their own communities – all of which are vital to overall well-being
- by implementing the United Nations Declaration, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, it will ensure that all First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, young people and families are treated with justice, respect and care
- it will take immediate action to respect, support and resource Indigenous jurisdiction over child welfare systems, and will back this commitment with long-term, predictable funding guaranteed in legislation so that Indigenous peoples can exercise their jurisdiction and authority over matters involving their own children and families
- it also commits to ending discrimination against Indigenous children, young people and families by fully implementing the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders which ordered the Canadian government to stop chronically underfunding child welfare services on reserve, and working with the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society to implement the Spirit Bear Plan
- it will put an immediate end to government litigation against Indigenous children, and will fully implement Jordan's Principle, working with the provinces and territories to end the delays and ensure equitable access to health services and educational supports for Indigenous children, on and off-reserve
- it will create a Spirit Bear Day to promote awareness of Jordan's Principle and of the challenges faced by First Nations children when accessing government services

Housing

The party states that:

- decades of colonialism perpetrated by the federal government has resulted in a devastating housing crisis for many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis families
- communities face long waiting lists for housing, and overcrowded, dilapidated homes, including the mold crisis, which continues to harm people's health
- chronic overcrowding is hurting Indigenous communities across the country
- it will address the Indigenous housing crisis and put an end to chronic overcrowding and long-wait lists by working with Indigenous communities to implement co-developed, fully funded Indigenous National Housing Strategy
- it advocates immediate steps to tackle the mold crisis affecting tens of thousands of homes,
- it will also ensure that Indigenous communities have the resources to make homes greener and more energy efficient, working to keep the benefits of good jobs, training and investment close to home

Education

The party states that:

- successive governments have failed to provide core funding for on-reserve education, to adequately support Indigenous post-secondary students, or to deliver a plan for bringing schools on reserve up to provincial standards, despite Parliament committing to this when they passed the Shannen's Dream motion in 2012
- it will ensure that every child is provided a safe place to learn and an opportunity to succeed, whether on or off reserve, including implementation of Shannen's Dream of equitable access to education

- recognizing that barriers to post-secondary education and training continue, it help Indigenous youth seeking post-secondary education through expanded financial assistance and increased educational opportunities for children who grew up in care, and distance education for rural and remote students
- to ensure that all Canadians are aware of the contributions and history of Indigenous peoples and understand the legacy of residential schools, it will work with provinces to establish Indigenous history education programs based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action 62 and 63, and ensure that the development and implementation of these programs are led by Indigenous peoples.

Water & Community Services

The party states that:

- it is committed to making the full investments required to ensure clean water and lift all drinking water advisories immediately, and supporting Indigenous-led water management training programs and water system operations as an immediate priority, including funding for on-reserve emergency management and prevention, including firefighting training and equipment
- it advocates ensuring safe public transportation by resuming and expanding rural and remote bus routes and passenger rail service
- it advocates working with Indigenous communities to protect infrastructure from climate change and increase the use of renewable energy, including expansion of community-owned renewable energy projects and efforts to transition remote communities away from polluting diesel and harmful fumes, towards reliable and clean energy alternatives

Health Care

To close the health gap faced by Indigenous communities, the party advocates Indigenous health self-determination, including:

- applying Joyce's Principle as the basis for a new approach to systemic racism in health care
- investments in Indigenous health care infrastructure, medical supplies and diagnostic equipment
- working with Indigenous communities to improve access to mental health and addiction treatment services both on and off reserve, including an evidence-based action plan to prevent suicide, backed by dedicated federal resources, fully implementing the New Democrat motion on suicide prevention passed by the House of Commons
- Indigenous-led, culturally appropriate home care and long-term care for Elders, in their home communities and languages
- Indigenous food sovereignty, and reform the Nutrition North program to improve families' access to food, including country and traditional food and turning Nutrition North into a social program that benefits communities in the North directly, rather than simply subsidizing companies
- building a treatment centre for residents affected by long-term mercury exposure and compensating families affected by the inter-generational problem of mercury poisoning in Grassy Narrows

Employment and Economic Development

The party states that:

- for decades Indigenous peoples have sought a new fiscal relationship with the Crown that respects the existence of inherent title and rights, including secure funding to support programs and services and access to revenue streams to help close the socio-economic gap and support self-government
- to expand economic opportunities and create jobs in Indigenous communities, it advocates support for locally-driven economic development and creation of jobs through infrastructure and public service investments, and expanded access to broadband internet and cell service for rural and remote communities
- it commits to working with Indigenous entrepreneurs to find solutions for accessing capital and scaling up, investing in Indigenous social enterprise projects and entrepreneurship, and to ensure that the federal government prioritizes procurement from Indigenous companies where possible
- for smaller Indigenous communities, the party advocates dedicated regional economic development support to reflect local social and cultural values
- it supports creation of a Northern Infrastructure Fund to fast-track investment and focus on improving much-needed infrastructure like roads and broadband internet for communities in the north

National Inquiry on Missing & Murdered

The party states that:

- the mandate given to the National Inquiry on Missing & Murdered Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people is to limited to accomplish its proper purpose. The Inquiry's finding of a genocide against Indigenous women in Canada demands action from all Canadians
- to ensure that the report does not sit on a shelf, it advocates working in partnership with Indigenous women, the families of the missing and murdered, and communities to implement the Inquiry's Calls for Justice and the calls to action brought forward by communities, including establishment of a comprehensive, plan to address violence, ensuring that all those fleeing violence have access to culturally appropriate programming, emergency shelters and transitional housing
- ensuring that Indigenous women and their children have equal status rights, including the right to pass on the ability to qualify for Indian status registration

Rural Communities

The party advocates:

- focusing on improved in-person services in Northern and rural communities
- in order to make rural and Northern communities safer and recognize the work of our volunteer emergency responders, expanding the Volunteer Firefighters Tax Credit and ensure that federal funding for rural and First Nations policing is made available in a fair, predictable and sustainable way
- because almost 1,200 rural communities in Canada have a post office but no financial services, working with Canada Post to develop a model of postal banking that will provide more affordable, quality banking services for approximately 2 million people, where none are currently available
- to make travel to and from rural areas more affordable, working with the provinces, territories and Indigenous communities to create an affordable public transit service connecting rural areas, including restoring cancelled bus services, expanding into under-served areas, restarting the Ontario Northlander train, re-establishing vital regional air routes
- providing high-speed rural broadband internet services to all communities in Canada without delay, and ensuring that reliable cell phone service is expanded to every area of Canada, keeping rates affordable for families and businesses
- to support the approximately 1/3 of the Canadian economy driven by rural Canada, investing in regional economic development agencies and providing economic support for rural areas to invest in job creation in areas like tourism and community development
- to support growth of Northern, rural and remote communities, implementing a new tax credit for graduates to work in designated rural and Northern communities
- providing rural communities fair access to federal infrastructure and transit funds, and more help to prepare for and deal with the increasingly severe impacts of climate change, and increasing the amount of help the federal government provides to communities to adapt to climate change and rebuild after disasters, while ensuring that invested dollars create good local jobs

Immigrants & Newcomers

The party states that:

- the immigration system should be accountable to the public and rooted in the values of fairness, respect, and dignity
- to ensure that newcomers can rely on a fair process and find success when they arrive, without prolonged separation from loved ones, it will ensure that immigration policies and levels meet Canada's labour force needs and recognize people's experiences, contributions, and ties to Canada, by working with the provinces to address gaps in settlement services and improve foreign credentials recognition
- it advocates ending the unfair cap on applications to sponsor parents and grandparents, and addressing backlogs that keep families apart
- to protect newcomers from unscrupulous immigration consultants, it advocates regulation of the consultant industry
- it advocates treating caregivers brought to Canada with respect and dignity, providing them with status and allowing them to reunite with their families without delay
- to support people forced out of their homes by conflict, persecution and disasters, the party advocates eliminating the backlog in asylum applications



The party has published no official statement concerning its policies on:

- outreach to the marginalized and vulnerable, including those living with disabilities or addictions

Indigenous Peoples

The party states that:

- the indigenous population of Canada is extremely diversified, and accounts for about 5% of Canada's population and comprises First Nations, Inuit and Metis. There are more than 600 First Nations communities dispersed across the country. More than half of First Nations Canadians don't live on reserves
- Indigenous issues are also very complex. Some communities are prosperous, others much poorer than the Canadian average. Many suffer from acute social problems, including crime, domestic violence, substance abuse and suicide. Many don't have the basic services that we take for granted such as access to clean water
- additional issues facing Indigenous peoples include treaty negotiations, housing, and property rights on reserves, and residential schools
- it is not possible to address more than a few of these issues in the context of this election platform

The party advocates:

- prioritizing its response on the basis of its four key principles:

Respect

The party states that:

- many injustices were committed in the past by the Canadian government towards indigenous peoples. We cannot rewrite the past, but only seek the best way to live together harmoniously in the future. This relationship must be based on mutual respect and a balanced approach taking into account the needs of the Indigenous population and the interests of the Canadian population as a whole
- it advocates:
 - exploring options to replace the paternalistic Indian Act, which keeps indigenous peoples in a state of dependency and allows the federal government to control most aspects of their lives, with a new legal framework that guarantees equal rights and responsibilities to Indigenous people as Canadians, and promotes the self-reliance of communities
 - respecting our Constitution and treaties, reaffirming the federal government’s power to approve natural resources and infrastructure projects, after adequate consultations with affected indigenous groups, and in partnership with them to ensure they can benefit from these economic opportunities

Freedom

The party states that:

- lack of real private property on reserves is in part responsible for the poor state of housing and the social ills that derive from it, and is one of the greatest impediments to economic development.
- it advocates exploring further avenues to promote the establishment of individual property rights on reserves so as to empower their residents and give them increased control over their lives.

Fairness

The party states that:

- fairness demands that all Canadians benefit from roughly equivalent services wherever they live. It’s unacceptable that some Indigenous communities live in conditions that resemble those of third world countries. But the current model to solve these problems is based on top-down bureaucratic solutions imposed by Ottawa on dependent communities with no voice in the process.
- it advocates ensuring that Indigenous communities take more ownership of the services they receive in partnership with Ottawa and other levels of government.

Responsibility

The party states that:

- although federal spending on Indigenous programs has risen from \$11.4 billion in 2015 to about \$27 billion in budget 2022-23, there is little evidence that living conditions have been improving in indigenous communities. The federal government and Indigenous administrations have a responsibility to ensure that taxpayers’ money is well spent
- it advocates reviewing federal spending to ensure that programs are better targeted to benefit the Indigenous population, in particular the communities that have the greatest needs.

Immigrants & Newcomers

The party states that:

- the primary aim of Canada’s immigration policy should be to economically benefit Canadians and Canada as a whole, not to forcibly change the cultural character and social fabric of our country. And it should not put excessive financial burdens on the shoulders of Canadians in the pursuit of humanitarian goals
- In 2022, in addition to 437,000 immigrants (or permanent residents), there was a net increase in the number of non-permanent residents (temporary foreign workers, foreign students, and refugees) in Canada estimated at 608,000. Both of these numbers represent the highest levels on record. The UN’s Global Compact for Migration, which the current government signed in 2018, aims to normalize this kind of situation, and to make it easier for millions of people to move to Canada and other Western democracies at will
- high immigration in itself cannot solve the labour shortages that affect some sectors of the economy. Immigrants are not just workers but also consumers of goods and services, which creates demand for labour in other sectors and simply displaces the problem. Moreover, only about one quarter of all newcomers to Canada every year are directly chosen because they have the right qualifications and work experience to fulfill our economic needs. The rest are dependents (spouses and children) of economic immigrants, or come through the family reunification program or as refugees. They either do not work, or do not have the skills that are most in need even if they find work
- mass immigration partly explains why wages and productivity have been stagnant in Canada, as cheaper immigrant labour is often favoured by employers over capital investment and automation
- although a large increase in the number of workers makes our economy larger, it also makes it less productive and impedes GDP growth per capita. What’s important is not to have a larger economy, but to be richer
- mass immigration increases pressure on our infrastructures, health care system, and social programs. It also inflates housing prices. More than 41% of all immigrants to Canada settle in and around Toronto and Vancouver, which have some of the least affordable housing among big cities in the world
- finally, demographic studies have shown that newcomers are a bit younger on average than Canadians, but not enough to have a noticeable impact on the rate of aging. This is exacerbated by increasing the number of parents and grand-parents accepted under the family reunification program

– mass immigration also inflates housing prices. More than 41% of all immigrants to Canada settle in and around Toronto and Vancouver, which have some of the least affordable housing among big cities in the world

The party advocates:

- benefiting Canadians by welcoming the right kind of immigrants, to prioritize Canada’s economic interests in a way that does not jeopardize Canadian values and the maintenance of our national identity
- substantially lowering the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accept every year, from 500,000 to between 100,000 and 150,000, depending on economic and other circumstances
- reforming the immigration point system and related programs to accept a larger proportion of economic immigrants with the right skills
- accepting fewer resettled refugees (see Refugees policy) and limiting the number of immigrants accepted under the family reunification program, including abolishing the program for parents and grand-parents
- limiting the number of temporary foreign workers and making sure that they fulfil temporary positions and do not compete unfairly with Canadian workers
- making birth tourism illegal
- ensure that every candidate for immigration undergoes a face-to-face interview and answers a series of specific questions to assess the extent to which they align with Canadian values and societal norms (see Canadian Identity policy)
- increasing resources for CSIS, the RCMP and Canadian Immigration and Citizenship to do interviews and thorough background checks on all classes of immigrants
- accepting fewer refugees and giving priority to those belonging to persecuted groups who have nowhere to go in neighbouring countries. For example: Christians, Yazidis, and members of other minority religions in majority Muslim countries; members of the Ahmadi community, and other Muslims in these countries who are persecuted because they reject political Islam and adhere to Western values; and members of sexual minorities
- relying on private sponsorships instead of having the government pay for all the costs of resettling refugees in Canada
- taking Canada out of the UN’s Global Compact for Migration.

Points to Ponder: Solidarity

“It is always important,” as Archbishop Donald Bolen of Regina has said, “to listen to the voices of the suffering, to be guided by them in how we respond and to be ready to engage with them in moving forward.” (Catholic Register 18 July 2021)

- What does it mean – to the government, to social organizations, and to individual Canadians - to listen to, and to be guided by, the voice of someone who is suffering?
- Who, in Canada and around the world, is suffering now?
- How can such voices be gently and respectfully heard, and interpreted within the context of the moral framework of the listener, so that a healthy, positive, and loving response can be determined?

Consider asking your local candidates, elected representatives, and the parties the following questions, and discussing their answers with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

Indigenous Rights & Reconciliation

- How can all the levels of Canadian government and the Church work together to facilitate reconciliation of every level of Canadian society with Indigenous peoples, so that all Canadians can benefit from re-establishing right-relationship and growing wealthier as a society?

Mental Health & Addictions

Several parties have proposed decriminalization of drug sales and drug possession, in order to focus on the treatment of addiction as a health care issue.

- Is it possible, by decriminalizing drug sales and drug possession, to both relieve an overburdened criminal justice system and help more individuals heal and recover from addictions? If so, what might a helpful approach look like?
- Is it possible, through review of criminal legislation, education, and focused health care initiatives, to give individuals further freedom to “develop their potentialities, become aware of their dignity and prepare to face their unique and individual destiny?” (quoting *St. John Paul II, On the Hundredth Year (Centesimus Annus) #39*)
- Is there any way to ensure that such measures are accompanied by effective mechanisms to address the root causes of and eliminate drug abuse, for example through educational initiatives at all levels of society? To what extent can or should such measures be tailored to the individual human needs, desires, and weaknesses of those caught in cycles of abuse?

Refugees & Newcomers

- What is being done, and what, if anything, should further be done to ensure that refugees and newcomers are safe, healthy, and enabled to flourish in Canada?
- It seems possible that many immigrants are attracted by one or more features of Canadian life and culture. To what extent is it possible and proper to expose immigrants to Canadian culture and expect or invite them to embrace it? If it is possible and proper to any degree, how is Canadian life and culture to be defined, and by whom?

Northern & Rural Communities

- What is being done, and what, if anything, should further be done to ensure vibrant, healthy rural life in Canada? Of those measures, what should be done at the federal level? By the provinces? By businesses, residents, and civil associations in rural areas?
- Northern areas are also of concern. What special circumstances are faced by those living in the North, and how should their needs best be assessed?

Good Government: Democracy, Justice & Peace

Role & Purpose of Government | Stewardship & Reform | Provinces, Territories, Municipalities | Peace, International Relations | Defense & Public Safety

An authentic democracy is the fruit of a convinced acceptance of the values that inspire democratic procedures: the dignity of every human person, the respect of human rights, commitment to the common good as the purpose and guiding criterion for political life. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Catholic Teaching

The Proper Role of Government

It is impossible to understand the role and purpose of government and other social institutions without first appreciating the purpose of life.

If, as the Church believes, the purpose of life is for each soul to search for and find the truth which is God, and to seek to grow closer to God, and to ensure that all other souls are encouraged and enabled to find their own ways to God, it follows that the proper role of government is to provide, with the support of the Church and other moral, educational, and economic institutions, **a legal and economic framework in which the common good can flourish**, in order that the people may accomplish their mission, that is, so that the people may use the freedom God has given them to seek the truth and thereby return to Him.

An **authentic democracy** is not merely the result of a formal observation of a set of rules but is the fruit of **a convinced acceptance of the values that inspire democratic procedures**: the dignity of every human person, the respect of human rights, commitment to the common good as the purpose and guiding criterion for political life. **If there is no general consensus on these values, the deepest meaning of democracy is lost** and its stability is compromised.

The Church's social doctrine sees ethical relativism, which maintains that there are no



The Role of Government

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the role of government in the context of the meaning or purpose of life. The Bloc states that its fundamental values include hospitality, sharing and equality, values that make Quebec a land of opportunity for those who live in Quebec, and those who will come to live there

Stewardship & Reform

The Bloc advocates abolishment of the office of Governor General. The nomination of a person who does not speak French to this position is indicative of the loss of influence of the French language in Canada as well as the lack of credibility the federal government's desire to protect and promote French

Taxation & Budget

The Bloc states that:

- everyone must do their fair share in Quebec, including big business and the wealthy
- it will continue its efforts to put an end to corporate tax avoidance in tax havens, which is currently sanctioned by the federal government
- while public finances recorded colossal deficits during the pandemic, the wealthiest individuals became even richer
- it proposes creation of a special additional tax on large fortunes
- legislation to entrust Quebec with administration of a single tax return, thereby saving households and businesses money while ending administrative duplication, and giving Quebec additional powers to act against the use of tax havens

Ethics & Accountability

The Bloc states that:

- it has little tolerance for those who have the arrogance to assume that the rules don't apply to them, and who believe they are entitled to special treatment
- elected representatives are expected to demonstrate exemplary probity, but that doesn't always happen
- the practice of financing major parties through \$1,500 private parties, with privileged access to decision-makers, is still rife at the federal level
- even judicial appointments appear to be given disproportionately to donors and relatives of those in charge
- it alone among federal political parties accepted no money from the pandemic wage subsidies, which were intended for businesses and community organizations, not for bolstering the electoral coffers of politicians

To address accountability and ethics issues, the Bloc advocates:

- giving teeth and punitive power to the Office of the Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner
- introducing a bill to reinstate public financing of political parties, to eliminate any impression or possibility of cronyism
- continued work toward impartial judicial appointment process

Democratic Reform

The Bloc advocates:

- restoration of public funding of political parties with a limit for individuals of \$500, and eliminating corporate contributions
- establishing a higher reimbursement for political parties which elect a number of women corresponding to a parity criteria in order to promote the participation of women in politics.

objective or universal criteria for establishing the foundations of a correct hierarchy of values, **as one of the greatest threats** to modern-day democracies. – 407, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Responsibilities of the State include:

– ensuring that all individuals are enabled to achieve their full potential, by maintaining a framework capable of **providing all the material, moral, and spiritual goods necessary for the common good**

– harmonizing the different interests of sectors of society with the requirements of justice, including particularly the **reconciliation of private ownership of goods with the common good**

– **ordering society not only in accordance with the desires of the majority**, but the effective good of all the members of the community, including minorities

– 168, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Stewardship of Office

Public administration at any level — national, regional, community — is to be **oriented towards the service of citizens**, serving as steward of the people's resources, which it must administer **with a view to the common good**.

Tax revenues and public spending take on crucial economic importance for every civil and political community. The goal to be sought is public financing that is itself capable of becoming an instrument of development and solidarity. **Just, efficient and effective public financing will have very positive effects on the economy**, because it will encourage employment growth and sustain business and non-profit activities and help to increase the credibility of the State as the guarantor of systems of social insurance and protection that are designed above all to protect the weakest members of society.

Public spending is directed to the common good when certain fundamental principles are

Provinces, Territories, Municipalities

The Bloc states that:

- Quebec has recently made important societal choices aimed at reaffirming the secular nature of the Quebec state and promoting and protecting the French language
- it will force the federal Parliament to respect decisions that do not concern it; demand that no public money be invested in court challenges to Quebec laws; and reiterate that the Court Challenges Program of Canada must be entrusted to an organization other than the University of Ottawa, whose anti-Quebec institutional bias has been publicly demonstrated
- it will support Quebec's right of self-determination of the nation by demanding the repeal of the Referendum Clarity Act
- in order to allow Quebec to direct tax money collected within the province fairly, it will resubmit a bill ensuring Quebec an automatic right of compensation with full compensation when Ottawa creates federal programs in fields of exclusive jurisdiction within Quebec, or seeks to attach conditions to such money transfers.

Quebec Development

The Bloc states that it supports economic development in every region of Quebec. To that end, the Bloc advocates:

- support for a Quebec alternative to Air Canada outside the major centers and for requiring Air Canada to improve services in the meantime
- upgrading the rail network and increasing VIA Rail services
- demanding that Ottawa move ahead with the long-promised high-frequency train project
- decentralization of the federal public service with dispersal to regions, including Quebec regions
- to facilitate regional employment, tax credits for graduates and immigrants who choose to settle outside the major centers
- making the telework tax deduction introduced during the pandemic permanent
- regionalizing regional development programs by decentralizing Canada Economic Development and entrusting it with the responsibility of developing and implementing new programs
- distributing centralized control of funds to enable regions to manage their priorities autonomously

Peace & International Relations

The Bloc states that:

- Quebec's official policy on international relations is the Gérin-Lajoie doctrine, which states that everything that falls within Québec's jurisdiction on its territory comes under Québec's jurisdiction worldwide
- it will demand that Quebec be enabled to conduct all its own international relations, including treaty-making, within its areas of jurisdiction. To that end, it proposes an international representation process similar to the Belgian model, whereby Canada would have to obtain Quebec's consent before taking a position on an issue within its jurisdiction, such as UNESCO
- it will demand that Canada stop selling any military equipment to Saudi Arabia, since it is now known that the Saudi regime uses it against the civilian population, particularly in Yemen

Foreign Trade

The Bloc states that:

- the Quebec economy is open to the world and to foreign investment
- however, when a foreign multinational takes over a local company, Quebec loses a decision-making lever, as well as a pool of expertise and good jobs
- Québec's economic destiny cannot, and must not, be entirely at the mercy of decisions made abroad, particularly in our strategic and competitive sectors. our high-tech sectors
- the pandemic revealed the importance of preserving local companies and production capacity

The Bloc advocates economic nationalism in a perspective of resilience and autonomy, to ensure the maintenance and development of Quebec businesses, including:

- tightening controls on foreign investment to better protect the flagships of the Quebec economy against takeovers
- definitively abandoning plans to concentrate supervision of the financial sector in Toronto, which is essential to maintaining Montreal's financial position and preservation of the head offices that depend on it
- developing a procurement policy that favors SMEs and takes into account the environmental impacts of government purchases
- developing an industrial strategy that fosters a degree of self-sufficiency in essential and strategic areas

Trade with the United States

The Bloc states that:

- economic ties between Quebec, Canada and the United States form Quebec's closest trade, border and diplomatic relations, integrating the three economies
- the economic stimulus plan presented by US President offers interesting opportunities for our exporting companies, but the tightening of the provisions of the "Buy American" Act

observed: the payment of taxes as part of the duty of solidarity; a reasonable and fair application of taxes; precision and integrity in administering and distributing public resources.

In the redistribution of resources, public spending must observe the principles of solidarity, equality and making use of talents. It must also pay greater attention to families, designating an adequate amount of resources for this purpose. **In the democratic system, political authority is accountable to the people.** 355, 408, 412, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Democratic Reform

Representative bodies must be subjected to effective social control. This control can be carried out **above all in free elections which allow the selection and change of representatives.** The obligation on the part of those elected to give an accounting of their work — which is guaranteed by respecting electoral terms — is a constitutive element of democratic representation.

Among the deformities of the democratic system, political corruption is one of the most serious. If there is no ultimate truth to guide and direct political action, then ideas and convictions can easily be manipulated for reasons of power. **A democracy without values easily turns into totalitarianism.** – 406-412, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Cooperation and respect between parties

Political parties have the task of fostering widespread participation and making public responsibilities accessible to all. **Political parties are called to interpret the aspirations of civil society, orienting them towards the common good...** An authentic democracy is not merely the result of a formal observation of a set of rules but is the fruit of **a convinced acceptance of the values that inspire democratic procedures: the dignity of every**

could hinder Quebec ambitions

- it will expect the federal government to negotiate an exemption for Canadian companies in the field of green energy and low-carbon technologies
- the federal government must also stand up to the U.S. in any trade dispute involving Quebec agriculture, lumber, aluminum or any other undue burden on the Quebec economy

National Defense & Veterans

The Bloc states that:

- in addition to a growing backlog of veterans' claims, Francophones are systematically disadvantaged and must wait two to three years longer for benefits than English speakers. For example, the Veterans Ombudsman determined that the median treatment time for Francophones was 52 weeks, compared with 19 weeks for Anglophones
- to address this issue, it proposes that the Parliamentary Budget Officer's recommendations to hire sufficient staff to clear the backlog and ensure that French-speaking veterans receive their benefits be implemented as quickly as possible.

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Domestic Violence

The Bloc states that:

- it deplores and denounces violence against women, domestic violence and femicide, which were sadly and unacceptably on the rise during the pandemic
- it will propose more appropriate and harsher penalties for crimes related to domestic violence, and will include this type of crime as an aggravating factor in the Criminal Code, also amending the Young Offenders Act
- it will propose a commission of inquiry into the prevention, legislative framework and coercion of domestic violence described as "honor killings"
- it will demand that the federal government contribute financially to the Quebec government's efforts to prevent violence, particularly with regard to the study on setting up a specialized court for sexual crimes and domestic violence

Firearms Control

The Bloc states that the proliferation of firearms must be contained, with due respect for hunters and sportsmen, whose legitimate activities require safety, storage and transportation rules.

To that end, it proposes:

- demanding greater control over the circulation of illegal weapons and weapons parts across borders
- demanding that the Assault Weapons Buyback Program be mandatory, as otherwise it becomes useless, and amending the laws to define what constitutes an assault weapon, rather than banning models on a case-by-case basis
- in order to properly control handguns, it proposes that the federal government transfer all responsibility and associated funding to Quebec, in order to avoid overwhelming municipalities



Christian Heritage Party

The Role of Government

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the role of government in the context of the meaning and purpose of life.

Democratic Reform

The party advocates:

- ending tax-supported payments to political parties as campaign funds, or fair distribution among all parties
- ensuring that all political parties are included in debates and tax-funded media publications
- a referendum to allow taxpayers to change to the first-past-the-post system
- allowing only Canadian citizens to vote or hold office

human person, the respect of human rights, commitment to the common good as the purpose and guiding criterion for political life. If there is no general consensus on these values, the deepest meaning of democracy is lost and its stability is compromised. – 407, 413, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Peace & International relations

Because of the **new bonds of interdependence among global operators**, the traditional defensive measures of States appear to be destined to failure...

The centrality of the human person and the natural inclination of persons and peoples to establish relationships among themselves are the fundamental elements for building a true international community, the ordering of which must aim at guaranteeing the effective universal common good... [T]he unity of the human family is not yet becoming a reality. This is due to obstacles originating in materialistic and nationalistic ideologies that contradict the values of the person integrally considered in all his various dimensions, material and spiritual, individual and community. In particular, any theory or form whatsoever of racism and racial discrimination is morally unacceptable. **The coexistence among nations is based on the same values that should guide relations among human beings: truth, justice, active solidarity and freedom....** – 370, 433, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Global care for the environment

Responsibility for the environment should also find adequate expression on a juridical level. **It is important that the international community draw up uniform rules that will allow States to exercise more effective control over the various activities that have negative effects on the environment and to protect ecosystems** by preventing the risk of accidents... They must be accompanied by a growing sense of responsibility as well as an effective change of mentality and lifestyle. -

Judicial Activism

The party states that:

- in the constitutional division of powers, courts and judges were NOT given the authority to write laws, only to apply and enforce the law AS IT IS WRITTEN
- the courts have usurped the authority of Parliament and provincial legislatures; judicial activism has resulted in abortion-on-demand, same-sex marriage and assisted suicide
- the courts have misused their power to limit free speech, a Charter Right which they should be protecting
- it would use Section 33 of the Charter (the Notwithstanding Clause) to protect freedom of speech and Canada's moral foundations

Senate

The party states that the Senate was originally created to be a chamber of "sober second thought", not a partisan rubber-stamp for the government in power.

The party advocates:

- election of Senators by the provinces in which they reside
- for better representation of the provinces, allocation of an equal number of Senators to each province, rather than to "regions"

Role of Media

The party states that:

- most major media in Canada—including state-funded CBC—are biased against a Christian worldview and policies
- the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation receives over \$1.5 billion directly from the government annually
- the current government has given \$595 million in subsidies directed only to those media outlets which support his policies, further influencing public opinion against a Christian worldview
- it CHP would defund or privatize CBC and would confront the issue of unfair media bias

Stewardship & Reform

Taxation & Budget

The party states that:

- Canada currently borrows operating and investment capital from other nations and from international bankers and pays interest on the debt incurred—around \$70 million every single day
- it would restore the Bank of Canada to its proper function of creating and providing Canada's money supply and low-interest or interest-free loans to Provinces, crown corporations and municipalities for urgently needed infrastructure
- current governments, through incorrect use of the Bank of Canada, have created a blight over the futures of our children as they will be forced to repay the debt plus interest
- the national debt is over \$690 billion, and is funded by borrowing at a cost of approximately \$70 million per day in interest
- although governments must use some form of taxation to generate revenues to cover the cost of basic services, the income Tax, and especially the Progressive Income Tax, is unfair. As private property, earnings should not be taken, and the government should not take what workers earn and it should not take a bigger share when individuals work harder

The party advocates:

- paying off the national debt and introducing mandatory balancing of the national budget
- replacing the unfair federal income tax with a Fair Tax on purchases; this would be a rate applied to all purchases of finished products and would leave all citizens with more money to spend, save and invest

Accountability

The party advocates:

- opening all government expenditures to public scrutiny
- public listing of all government salaries over \$100,000 should be listed for the public
- public recall mechanism for all politicians and high-level bureaucrats, for crimes in office

Peace & International Relations

The party states that Canada is recognized as a world leader, and must act responsibly to maintain that reputation.

The party advocates:

467, 468 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Peacekeeping & Embargoes

States do not always possess adequate means to provide effectively for their own defence. From this derives **the need and importance of international and regional organizations**, which should be in a position to work together to resolve conflicts and promote peace, re-establishing relationships of mutual trust that make recourse to war unthinkable. **The purpose of sanctions** must be clearly defined and the measures adopted must from time to time be objectively evaluated by the competent bodies of the international community as to their effectiveness and their real impact on the civilian population. **The true objective of such measures is open to the way to negotiation and dialogue.** Sanctions must never be used as a means for the direct punishment of an entire population. Economic sanctions in particular are **an instrument to be used with great discernment** and must be subjected to strict legal and ethical criteria. An economic embargo must be of limited duration and cannot be justified when the resulting effects are indiscriminate. – 499, 507, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Displaced Persons & Humanitarian Aid

A particular category of war victim is formed by refugees, forced by combat to flee the places where they habitually live and to seek refuge in foreign countries. **The Church is close to them** not only with her pastoral presence and material support, but also with her commitment to defend their human dignity: Concern for refugees must lead us to **reaffirm and highlight universally recognized human rights**, and to ask that the effective recognition of these rights be guaranteed to refugees.” **It is therefore essential to seek out the causes underlying bellicose conflicts**, especially those connected with structural situations of injustice, poverty and exploitation, which require intervention so that they may be removed. For this reason, another name for

- Canadian leadership in good things: clean water, energy and justice, NOT abortion, gender confusion and debt
- defending freedom around the world, beginning at home
- Canada must stand firmly against terrorism at home and abroad.
- Canadians who participate in terrorism must not be allowed to return to Canada OR they must face criminal terrorist charges. They must not be allowed to become public martyrs for their cause
- the \$10 million award to Omar Khadr was an insult to our soldiers, our allies and all Canadian taxpayers.

Middle East

The party states that:

- radical Islam has proven to be a threat to Western democracy
 - Sharia Law is incompatible with Canada’s culture and heritage and with Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- The party rejects Islamic cultural practices such as “honour-killings”, Female Genital Mutilation, forced marriages, forced conversion and inhumane animal slaughter (Halal slaughter)

Israel

The party states that:

- Israel occupies a unique place in history and in current world affairs
- Israel stands alone in the Middle East as a democratic nation, surrounded by hostile nations
- it stands with Israel and supports her right to exist and to defend herself

Displaced Persons & Humanitarian Aid

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on displaced persons or humanitarian aid.

International Finance

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on International finance.

Foreign Trade & Tariffs

The party states that

- tariffs are taxes imposed on imported commodities or products, usually intended to protect domestic producers from unfair foreign competition
- unless bound by contracts, treaties and trade agreements which they have voluntarily signed, all nations have the right to restrict imports or to apply tariffs which may have the effect of restricting imports
- for the purpose of mutual growth and cooperative enterprise, allied nations, particularly nations sharing a border, should seek to avoid unnecessary tariffs and trade restrictions between them
- careless or punitive use of tariffs often result in trade wars which may harm producers and should be avoided if possible.

National Defense & Veterans

The party states that:

- Canada must have armed forces capable of defending our borders and national interests
- our armed forces must be properly trained and equipped
- our veterans deserve our gratitude and our duty of care, especially the injured and the families of those we have lost

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

The party states that:

- the Canadian government MUST protect Canadian citizens
- Canadians deserve a justice system designed to protect their lives and property
- all Canadians deserve equal treatment under the law
- justice delayed is justice denied; it is essential that justice be applied as quickly as possible to save costs and to deter wrongdoing
- its justice platform stands on two pillars: Restitution and Public Safety

peace is development. Just as there is a collective responsibility for avoiding war, so too there is a collective responsibility for promoting development. – 158, 498, 515, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Finance

...in the presence of new areas of competition, **the very notion of a national market recedes into the background.** If the creation of what is called the “global capital market” has brought benefits... on the other hand **it has also increased the risk of financial crises.** The financial sector, which has seen the volume of financial transactions far surpass that of real transactions, runs the risk of developing according to a mentality that has only itself as a point of reference, without being connected to the real foundations of the economy.

The more the worldwide economic-financial system reaches high levels of organizational and functional complexity, **all the more priority must be given to the task of regulating** these processes, directing them towards the goal of attaining the common good of the human family. 368-371 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Trade

The Church has time and again called attention to aberrations in the system of international trade, which often, owing to protectionist policies, **discriminates against products coming from poorer countries** and hinders the growth of industrial activity in and the transfer of technology to these countries. The continuing deterioration in terms of the exchange of raw materials and the widening of the gap between rich and poor countries has prompted the Church to point out **the importance of ethical criteria** that should form the basis of international economic relations: the pursuit of the common good and the universal destination of goods; equity in trade relationships; and attention to the rights and needs of the poor in policies concerning trade and international cooperation.

Firearms

The party states that:
– when guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns
– violent crime is the problem, not firearms



The Role of Government

The party's policies state that the role of government is to:
– protect the lives and property of its citizens
– ensure equality of opportunity
– foster an environment where individuals and private initiative can prosper
– ensure the security of the nation's borders and of citizens at home and abroad
– provide services that cannot be provided more efficiently or effectively by the private sector
– maintain and enhance national infrastructure

The party further states that its goals are:

- the common good of all Canadians: a society where everyone can fulfill his or her potential
- to release the human spirit and potential of individuals, families and groups
- to nurture, mobilize, and encourage generosity, individual talent, patriotism, and a sense of community; and
- to provide a framework for more sensitive and powerful means of protecting and supporting the deprived and vulnerable

Stewardship & Reform

Taxation & Budget

The party states that spending to protect Canadians during the pandemic was the right thing to do, however unsustainable debt cannot be passed to future generations. Once recovery starts, spending must be brought under control.

The party advocates:

- winding down emergency support programs in responsible ways as vaccines increase and the economy re-opens
- ensuring that stimulus measures are targeted and time-limited in order to avoid structural deficit
- encouraging economic growth to ensure revenue for services is available

Tax Reform

The party states that:

- working and middle-class Canadians, New Canadians, small businesspersons have been hit doubly hard by the COVID crisis, suffering disproportionately, far more than those with greater means
- helping them rebuild and get back on their feet will require that those who have been largely insulated from the economic damage of the pandemic do more

The party advocates:

- ensuring that the burden of getting the economy back on track and delivering essential public services does not fall upon those who have been hurt the most
- providing more funding to the Canada Revenue Agency, increasing to \$750 million per year, to fund stronger enforcement of taxation for multinational firms, taxation of large corporations, international taxation, and other tax evasion. This cost will be more than made up for by the increase in compliance, leading to an increase in how much the government collects of what it is owed

Tax Cheats

Economic and social imbalances in the world of work must be addressed by restoring a just hierarchy of values and placing **the human dignity of workers before all else**. – 370, 321, 364 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Disarmament

The Church proposes the goal of “general, balanced and controlled disarmament”. **The enormous increase in arms represents a grave threat** to stability and peace. The principle of sufficiency, by virtue of which each State may possess only the means necessary for its legitimate defence, must be applied both by States that buy arms and by those that produce and furnish them. Any excessive stockpiling or indiscriminate trading in arms cannot be morally justified.

The doctrine of deterrence gives rise to strong moral reservations. The arms race does not ensure peace. The principle of the non-proliferation of nuclear arms, together with measures of nuclear disarmament and the prohibition of nuclear tests, are intimately interconnected objectives that **must be met as soon as possible** by means of effective controls at the international level. – 508, 509 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Arms Sales

War is a scourge and is never an appropriate way to resolve problems that arise between nations. Appropriate measures are needed to control the production, sale, importation and exportation of small arms and light weapons, armaments that facilitate many outbreaks of violence to occur. The sale and trafficking of such weapons constitute **a serious threat to peace**: these arms kill and are used for the most part in internal and regional conflicts; their ready availability increases both the risk of new conflicts and the intensity of those already underway. The position of States that apply severe controls on the international transfer of heavy arms while they never, or only very rarely, restrict the sale and trafficking of small arms and light weapons is **an unacceptable contradiction**. – 497,

The party states that:

- the current government recently admitted that their high-net-worth compliance program had failed to prosecute even one person over the last six years
- the Canada Revenue Agency continues to go after small businesses while ignoring those rich enough to pay for expensive lawyers and accountants
- it undertakes to fix this program and ensure that the wealthy pay their fair share

Foreign Multinationals and Big Tech Companies Pay Their Fair Share

The party advocates:

- ensuring that foreign tech companies pay their fair share of taxes, including sales tax and a digital services tax representing 3% of their gross revenue in Canada if they don't pay corporate income tax here
- working with the US Administration and other international partners to crack down on multinational tax avoiders to ensure they pay their fair share

The party states that it opposes giving up sovereignty over our tax system, and strongly disagrees with the current government's signing onto a global minimum tax rate at the G-7

Budget Recovery

The party states that:

- while spending to protect Canadians during the pandemic was the right thing to do, we can't leave unsustainable debt for future generations
- with recovery started, it's time to wind down emergency support programs responsibly, with targeted and time-limited stimulus measures to avoid a structural deficit
- restoring national finance and government service levels requires getting back to robust economic growth of 3% or more per year, which is the goal of its jobs plan
- the deficit soared to \$354 billion in 2020-21, which seems daunting. However, it's easier to develop a road back to balance when we consider the three components of the deficit: (i) \$30 billion of pre-existing deficit: the amount by which spending exceeds revenues in a “normal” economy growing at 1.6%, (ii) \$70 billion from automatic stabilizers: government revenues dropped due to the recession, as companies and individuals saw their income drop and therefore paid less tax. At the same time, government expenses for Employment Insurance and other social support programs increased, and (iii) \$250 billion in COVID-19 emergency spending, including \$80 billion for CERB and \$82.3 billion for the wage subsidy (CEWS), the GST and Canada Child Benefit top-ups, funding for provinces and healthcare and approximately 70 other spending measures
- implementation of the party's jobs plan will get Canadians back to work, meaning lower unemployment and higher tax revenues for the government. It will also wind down the emergency spending in a responsible way
- its plan for Secure Jobs and Economic Growth will reduce the deficit by almost 90% by repairing the economy. There will be some costs along the way - incentives and other spending to get Canadians back to work, but that spending will be time-limited and designed to kickstart the economy. The highest level of spending will be in year one, with spending on these stimulus measures winding down over five years. This short-term spending represents most of the cost of our plan and will directly reduce the deficit by reversing the automatic stabilizers
- a crucial part of its plan is a set of new investments in Research & Development, high-speed internet access, and tax measures such as the patent box, which are intended to have long-term benefits to the economy,
- because of the severity of the financial situation faced by Canada, it has limited the significant ongoing spending measures in its plan to a few critical priorities:
 - * Help for Seniors: Providing ongoing support to seniors to help them stay in their own homes or live with their family members, to deal with the crisis in Long-Term Care
 - * Help for Working Families: Doubling the Canada Workers Benefit to make work pay and help those most in need

Accountability

The party states that despite passage of the 2006 Federal Accountability Act, scandals have persisted, including abuse of charities law and acceptance of gifts from lobbyists.

To curb corruption, the party advocates:

- toughening the Conflict of Interest Act by expanding monetary penalties to cover all violations of the Act, and increasing the monetary penalties from a maximum of \$500 to a maximum of \$50,000, with the fine to be proportionate to the severity of the offence and the offender's history and personal net worth
- amending the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament to prevent Members of Parliament from collecting speaking fees while serving in the House of Commons, since speaking to Canadians is a part of the job
- amending lobbying laws to address loopholes provided originally to avoid undue burdens for organizations that had minimal contacts with government, so that that laws mandate full transparency by requiring all corporations and other organizations that lobby to register and report their meetings, and banning lobbying by individuals or entities on matters which are the subject of a criminal proceedings
- conducting long-overdue reviews of the Lobbying Act and Access to Information Act to ensure that they are up to date and as strong as needed to earn the trust of the people
- to address transparency issues highlighted by the SNC-Lavalin scandal, prohibit application of non-disclosure agreements in circumstances where an individual is disclosing information to a lawful authority or seeking medical assistance or legal advice
- amending the Canada Evidence Act to ensure that Cabinet Confidence can no longer be used to shield government insiders from criminal investigation

511 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

National Defense & Security

The requirements of legitimate defence justify the existence in States of armed forces, the activity of which should be at the service of peace. Those who defend the security and freedom of a country, in such a spirit, make an authentic contribution to peace.

Everyone who serves in the armed forces is concretely called **to defend good, truth and justice in the world**. Many are those who, in such circumstances, have sacrificed their lives for these values and in defence of innocent lives. Very significant in this regard is the increasing number of military personnel serving in **multinational forces on humanitarian or peace-keeping missions** promoted by the United Nations.

A war of aggression is intrinsically immoral. In the tragic case where such a war breaks out, leaders of the State that has been attacked have the right and the duty to organize a defence even using the force of arms. If this responsibility justifies the possession of sufficient means to exercise this right to defence, **States still have the obligation to do everything possible to ensure that the conditions of peace exist**, not only within their own territory but throughout the world. -500-502 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

In order to protect the common good, the lawful public authority must exercise the right and the duty to inflict punishments according to the seriousness of the crimes committed. The State has the **twofold responsibility** to discourage behaviour that is harmful to human rights and the fundamental norms of civil life, and to repair, through the penal system, the disorder created by criminal activity... Punishment does not serve merely the purpose of defending the public order and guaranteeing the safety of persons; it becomes as well **an instrument for the correction of the offender**. There is a **twofold purpose** here. On

- giving the Commissioner of Information the power to make orders to departments to release information promptly, to bring an end the recent practice of endless delays that makes a mockery of the law
- strengthening whistleblower protection through a strong federal legislative framework
- through use of prevailing open standards, mandating that government departments, Crown Corporations, and those receiving public funds publish more data in machine-readable formats
- to prevent foreign interference, requiring individuals and companies acting as agents of designated foreign principals (country, corporation, entity or individual) in a political or quasi-political capacity including lobbying, policy development, advertising, and grassroots mobilization to register, and requiring that registration requires disclosure of amounts of payments, the nature of relationships, and activities performed

The party states advocates:

- putting the country first, by enacting the toughest accountability and transparency laws in Canada's history
- toughen the Conflict of Interest Act and impose higher penalties
- toughen the Lobbying Act to end abuse by government insiders; and
- increase transparency to end cover-ups

Senate Reform

The party advocates:

If a province chooses to hold Senate elections, appointing the victors as Senators

Provinces, Territories, Municipalities

The party states that it:

- believes that the federal government should work with the provinces as partners instead of dictating to them. As the Alberta Court of Appeal recently opined, "The federal government is not the parent; and the provincial governments are not its children."
- it is the party of the Constitution, and understands that the division of powers means that the provinces and the federal government are co-equals in their own spheres and that each deserves the latitude to make its own decisions about policy in its own areas of competence, and respect their autonomy in areas of provincial jurisdiction

Quebec

The party states that Quebecers want and deserve a federal government that wants to collaborate with them. To that end, it advocates a new pact based in particular on respect for the Québec nation and the French language, the economic development of our regions and the security of our communities.

In particular, the party advocates:

- building on its historic recognition of the Québec Nation
- remaining open to the development of new administrative agreements with the government of Québec to promote decentralized federalism
- negotiating with the Québec government to simplify tax preparation and work towards a single income tax return for Québec taxpayers while protecting Canada Revenue Agency jobs in the regions
- giving greater autonomy to Québec over immigration, including: revisiting the Canada-Québec Immigration Accord to give more powers to Québec over immigration to ensure that a higher proportion of immigrants settling in Quebec speak French, including in the family reunification category; providing full compensation for the housing of asylum seekers who crossed into Québec illegally at border passages like Roxham Road and Lacolle and enforcing the Safe Third Country Agreement to put an end to such crossings; and giving Québec more input into the assignment of temporary foreign workers to particular regions and their pathways to permanent residency to address critical labour shortages
- respecting the jurisdiction of the Québec National Assembly by neither intervening in nor providing federal funding to support legal challenges to Law 21
- limiting federal spending powers in Quebec's fields of jurisdiction and ensuring that provinces can opt out of new federal programs and initiatives in the area of health with full, matching compensation
- making annual federal transfers for social programs unencumbered by restrictive conditions and developing a plan for a return to balanced budgets without cutting transfers to the provinces
- respecting the Constitution Act of 1867 by applying a non-intervention approach to internal affairs within Québec's fields of jurisdiction
- ensuring that Québec will never be under-represented in the House of Commons when new parliamentary ridings are created
- giving Radio-Canada a separate and distinct legal and administrative structure to reflect its distinct mandate of promoting francophone language and culture, including a power of appointment for the province for members of the Board of Directors in addition to ensuring representation of francophone minority communities outside Québec

the one hand, encouraging the reinsertion of the condemned person into society; on the other, fostering a justice that reconciles, a **justice capable of restoring harmony** in social relationships disrupted by the criminal act committed. – 402 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*

To support the regions of Quebec, the party advocates:

- building digital infrastructure to connect all of Québec to high-speed internet by 2025, including coordination of federal investments with the program recently announced by the Government of Québec; speeding up the spectrum auction process to get more spectrum into use and apply “use it or lose it” provisions to ensure that spectrum (particularly in rural areas) is actually developed, with auction revenue dedicated to our digital infrastructure plan; and requiring that Huawei equipment not be used, to protect national security
- working in partnership with the Government of Québec in promoting the Saint-Laurent Project, a maritime strategy for Quebec’s economic development comprising the creation of ten innovation zones
- adopt a government purchasing policy on low carbon footprint materials, including low-carbon aluminum
- deploying new autonomous vehicles for Arctic surveillance operations in the air and at sea as part of a new Canadian sovereignty, deterrence, and detection strategy, with Bagotville as the main site to host the Government of Canada’s remotely piloted aircraft
- renewing Canada’s fleet of icebreakers in partnership with the Davie shipyard, and designating Davie as a full partner within the National Shipbuilding Strategy
- providing financial assistance to ensure that smaller regional airports remain open and that routes to remote and rural areas continue to operate
- investing \$100m in a specific regional development funding program to support the economic transition of former mining communities
- implementing a Critical Minerals Strategy to take advantage of Canada’s abundant resources of the minerals needed to power our clean energy future, creating jobs, and reduce global reliance on critical minerals from China, including adoption of policies to facilitate the responsible mining of lithium

Western Canada

The party states that:

- Alberta has contributed more than \$600 billion to the rest of the country since 1967, and an average of more than \$20 billion a year over the last decade. Even as their economy has suffered over the last seven years, Albertans have continued to be net contributors to the national economy
- it is only fair that the rest of Canada be there for Alberta, just as Alberta has always been there for them. Now that Alberta is hurting, Albertans quite reasonably expect the rest of the country, including the federal government, to be there for them financially and help them get a fair price for their energy products on global markets.

To promote fiscal fairness, the party advocates:

- adopting the Equalization and Transfers Fairness Act as a government bill and passing it as quickly as possible
- implementing a unanimously endorsed proposal by provincial premiers to reform the Fiscal Stabilization Program, including by lifting the cap on payments, reducing the revenue reduction thresholds to qualify, and applying the changes retroactively

To support employment in the Western provinces, the party advocates:

- eliminating unfairness in the Impact Assessment process of Bill C-69, basing our changes on the bipartisan recommendations made by the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources, seeking an assessment process that upholds best-in-class environmental standards and sets clear expectations and timelines for environmental reviews so that investors have the confidence and certainty they need to commit to major projects in Canada; removing political interference from the review process and setting clear timelines so that investors get a timely yes or no; and not letting critical GHG-reducing projects be held up by red tape and lengthy reviews
- ending the ban on shipment of Canadian Oil on the North Coast of British Columbia by repealing C-48 and improving access to international markets.
- working with First Nations and other Indigenous groups to ensure they are partners in prosperity and the development of our natural resources by creating a Canadian Indigenous Enterprise Corporation
- implementing a hydrogen energy strategy that rapidly increases the use of hydrogen – especially green hydrogen - in Canada and builds our export capacity
- ensuring adequate pipeline capacity by Getting Trans Mountain built
- making pipelines that bring Canadian oil to export markets a priority
- making increased energy export opportunities a diplomatic priority in dealings with the U.S. Government
- implementing a federal LNG Export Strategy. With much of the world still reliant on coal-generated electricity, the nation should be boosting exports to grow our economy and contribute to a cleaner world
- introduction of a tax credit to rapidly accelerate the deployment of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage technology in the energy sector and in important industries that have few alternatives to burning fossil fuels, like fertilizer and chemical production

Peace, International Relations

The party states that:

- it will pursue a foreign policy that seeks new and strengthened alliances with democratic allies and economic partners who share our values
- it will face down the threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party, standing with the Chinese people and promoting greater freedom for them
- it will aggressively champion human rights, dignity, and transparency

- it will advance the national interests of Canada, with every decision on the world stage prioritizing the security and sovereignty of Canadians; the prosperity of our people and our partners; and the democratic values that define us.

To that end, the party advocates:

- establishing a Canadian National Interest Council to implement national long-term security and economic priorities and grow Canadian strategic and economic influence
- making difficult, delayed decisions including updating the 2017 defence policy to the realities of a disrupted international order, investing in Canadian leadership in the Five Eyes alliance, and strengthening ties with new and traditional allies
- in cooperation with our Five Eyes allies, building Canadian capabilities to contribute to foreign intelligence - focused on closing present gaps in understanding international threats of economic coercion, digital threats, and foreign interference

Arctic

The party states that shifting strategic interests and climate change are transforming issues related to the Arctic

- Russia has expanded its claim over the Canadian North and is building its military presence in the Arctic
- China has developed significant Arctic marine capacity and aims to secure critical mineral interests

The party advocates making capacity building, economic reconciliation, and sovereignty expression core priorities of the political approach to the North, by:

- making significant investments in strengthening our presence, an economic, development plan that will develop our northern resources and the jobs that go with them, and a vision for northern infrastructure that will connect our north to the rest of Canada and the world
- partnering with the US and NATO to prevent Russia and China from dominating our Arctic, and developing our presence in the Arctic, including establishment of a NATO Centre of Excellence for Arctic Operations, conducting Arctic exercises alongside our allies, and securing the Canadian North from the seas to space.

United States

The party states that the indispensable alliance with the United States should be refreshed, and the economic and security partnership updated. It proposes working with the US on critical issues, including North American energy security and energy transition leadership, shared infrastructure on the border and the environmentally responsible pipelines beneath it, and a North American approach to accomplish health security and economic recovery together.

To that end, the party advocates bringing a renewed and visible ambition to the success of a united Canadian-American partnership in the world, including:

- deepening our strategic partnership with the United States in the sovereignty of our northern borders and shores, rising to the challenge posed by Russia and China's Arctic military and economic ambitions by pursuing a shared agenda of prosperity for the people of the north, environmental stewardship, and peace
- modernizing NORAD to contend with shared threats from the seas to space, advance our shared interests across the Transatlantic alliance, and more closely partner in the world's strategic competition
- working with the United States to provide leadership across the Americas - promoting our interests and shared values in pandemic management, economic recovery, and resistance to global authoritarians

International Communities

The party states that in order to replace virtue-signalling with an international agenda dedicated to advancing freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, it advocates:

- working with allies to address efforts by China, Russia, Iran, and others actively undermining democratic norms, institutions, and the rule of law
- advancing the idea of an International Corruption Court to prosecute the world's worst offenders who deny progress and democracy on the backs of the world's most vulnerable
- passing legislation mandating an Office of Religious Freedom and Conscience to elevate Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and provide advice to Canadian ministers on threats to international security, engage in diplomacy to religious communities, and inform Canadian international development programs to promote freedom, pluralism, religious co-existence, and tolerance
- renewing Canadian diplomacy at the Community of Democracies, establishing priorities that enhance democratic cooperation against rising authoritarians
- build new partners across Eurasia through the historic diplomatic relationship achieved in the Canada-Ismaili Imamat Protocol of Understanding

La Francophonie

The party states that:

- by mid-century, more than 700 million people worldwide will have French as their first language
- as a founding member of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), Canada can play a leading role there

To that end, the party advocates:

- fostering greater economic cooperation among democratic member countries of the OIF to help it contribute to the realignment of global trade patterns following COVID-19
- facilitating trade and investment between Canadian companies and OIF countries to grow economic ties, particularly between Canada and Africa

Commonwealth

With respect to the Commonwealth, which is an association of 54 countries, most with historic links to the United Kingdom and home to over 2.4 billion citizens over five continents, the party advocates continuing support for the Commonwealth of Learning, which is located in Burnaby, British Columbia and focuses on empowering women and children, and reducing poverty and inequality, by strengthening education in Commonwealth countries to provide affordable education to larger numbers of people using open, distance and technology-based learning

United Nations

The party advocates prioritizing Canadian interests and values at the United Nations, not pandering to the priorities of dictators and despots, including:

- opposing the world's dictators, advocating for the most marginalized, and being a powerful voice for universal values
- mandating an audit of all Canadian positions in multilateral institutions, clearly assessing the national interests of Canada
- working with the US and other international allies to efforts to turn the International Criminal Court into a political body
- pursuing reform of the UN Human Rights Council to prohibit gross human rights abusers from becoming members, engaging regular emergency sessions to address human rights crises worldwide, and stopping the Council from unjustly singling out Israel

International Human Rights

The party states that:

- it has a long history of passion for human rights, dating at least back to Prime Minister John George Diefenbaker
- it's commitment to fundamental human rights is central to its values.

To advance human rights and democracy, the party advocates:

- dramatic revision of supply chain legislation to meaningfully enforce Canada's commitment not to import products made with slave labour
- making it a criminal offence for Canadians to go abroad to benefit from serious violations of human rights, such as becoming complicit in organ trafficking through receiving an organ that has been forcibly harvested
- placing limits on the ability of the Government of Canada to grant waivers permitting those complicit in or responsible for serious human rights violations to come to Canada
- requiring the Minister of Foreign Affairs to table an annual report in Parliament outlining the work of the government to protect and promote human rights and democracy
- requiring the Government of Canada to maintain a public list of prisoners of conscience of particular concern, and creating mechanisms by which citizens can petition to add names to that list
- creating an International Human Rights Advisory Committee, with representation from a broad range of cultural and religious communities in Canada, advising the government on international human rights issues
- amending the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act to prevent Canadian development assistance that undermines international peace and security
- updating the Sergei Magnitsky Law to allow Parliament and groups of citizens to directly petition the Minister to list officials under the law and require the Minister to respond in writing to petitions that have achieved a certain threshold of support
- restoring Canadian leadership in advocating for persecuted sexual minorities in the face of repression, including speaking clearly and confidently for the inalienable human dignity of LGBTQ people and deploy resources to help their activists

China & Pacific

The party states that:

- Canada must stand up to the Communist government of China. Our quarrel is not with the people of China – part of an ancient civilization that has contributed much to humanity
- it is particularly concerned to support Chinese Canadians whose contributions to Canada are immeasurable and who are enduring an appalling rise in anti-Asian hate and discrimination
- it stands also with Uyghur Muslims, Tibetans, Falun Gong practitioners, Hong Kongers, and Chinese Christians
- instead, its issue is with China's communist government and leadership. The communist leadership represents a clear and rising threat to Canadian interests – and our values. They've abducted our citizens, targeted our economy, and intimidated members of the Chinese Canadian community.

The party advocates:

- working with allies to build a “coalition of democracies” with the goal of decoupling critical parts of our supply chains from China
- recognition by the Government of Canada of the Uyghur genocide, and encouraging our allies to do the same; and banning imports that have been produced using forced and enslaved Uyghur labour
- ending policies that grant special treatment to Hong Kong, recognizing that Beijing’s decision to crack down on its autonomy eliminates the rationale for the special treatment
- supporting the people of Hong Kong fighting for freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law by supporting a “Young Talents” program to encourage young people from Hong Kong to study in Canada; waiving records of arrest, charge or conviction related to pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong when processing visas; providing documentation for those fleeing Hong Kong and seeking asylum in Canada who cannot obtain documentation from Hong Kong authorities
- withdrawing from the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- banning Huawei from Canada’s 5G infrastructure and further investigating the company’s role in providing surveillance capabilities that have been used against the Uyghur people and other persecuted minorities in China
- advising universities against partnerships with China’s state-controlled companies and organizations and prohibiting federal grant councils from participating in such partnerships.
- joining the UK proposition for a Digital 10 to protect free societies’ data and cyber sovereignty
- cracking down on China’s foreign influence operations on Canadian soil by making it clear to China’s diplomats that any involvement in intimidation or threats to anyone in Canada provides grounds to be declared persona non grata and expelled from Canada; revoking visas of Chinese nationals identified by national security agencies as conducting espionage or stealing intellectual property; revoking the licenses of China’s state-run and state-controlled broadcasters that spread disinformation
- banning senior public office holders for five years after leaving office (including former Prime Ministers, Ministers, Clerks of the Privy Council, Deputy/Assistant Deputy Ministers and Ambassadors) from employment or contracts with China’s government or an entity controlled by China’s government. The ban would include doing work through a consulting or law firm
- using Canada’s Magnitsky sanctions law to sanction China’s worst human rights offenders, and granting asylum to mainland Chinese proponents of freedom and persecuted minorities, including Tibetans, Falun Gong practitioners and others

Indo-Pacific

The party states that Indo-Pacific’s importance in the next century is clear, but little action has been taken to build relationships

The party advocates:

- taking steps to join the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), a growing operational network promoting regional security and protecting the rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific

To advance the prosperity and security of Canadians through engagement with the Indo-Pacific region, including the ASEAN nations, the party advocates five pillars of engagement:

- trade and technology, including promoting the development of rules of free and open digital trade, advancing economic opportunities with trusted partners, and removing barriers for Canadian companies
- diplomacy, including ensuring that senior ministers regularly engage Canada’s Indo-Pacific partners with clear goals, and establishing Vancouver as a hub for Quad economic cooperation
- strategic cooperation, including adopting trade and investment policies that give democracies priority in the Canadian trade strategy, including greater practical cooperation with Taiwan, elevating Canada’s diplomatic mission in Taipei to the “Canada House” and supporting Taiwan’s participation in multilateral fora, and working with the US-Japan-Australia “Blue Dot Network” to advance Canadian economic and infrastructure partnerships for the region’s development
- Canadian energy and climate solutions, including supporting Canadian energy and energy transition leadership and a climate-conscious, clean alternative to the Belt and Road Initiative
- security, including participating alongside our allies on freedom of navigation patrols, enhancing information sharing, and pursuing joint training with Indo-Pacific partners

India

The party states that Canada and India share strong, historical bilateral relations, and that Canada is home to a large and vibrant multi-ethnic and multi-religious Indo-Canadian community over a million strong

To repair and restore ambition in Canada’s relationship with India, the party advocates:

- resuming free trade talks derailed by the current government, and concurrently pursuing an investment treaty
- proposing regular joint security exercises with India as a critical partner in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue
- pursuing a long-term strategic nuclear energy and energy transition partnership
- launching initiatives in technology, medicine, energy, and infrastructure to strengthen economic security, with clearly articulated objectives.

South Asia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka

The party advocates:

- promoting economic growth and partnerships
- promoting regional security and economic cooperation
- supporting financial transparency for all infrastructure and technological investments
- strengthening democratic resilience and civil society

Middle East

The party states that significant change has brought several nations in the region discovering common cause in peace and prosperity through the Abraham Accords

The party advocates:

- building and advancing a coherent agenda across the region, advancing Canadians' security, prosperity, and values
- holding the Iranian regime accountable for its reckless nuclear ambitions, malevolent state support of international terrorism, and human rights violations
- imposing Magnitsky sanctions on gross human rights violators, including fulfilling the motion adopted by Parliament and designating the IRGC as a terrorist entity
- engaging with Iranians promoting women's rights, human rights, and democracy
- establishing an international Cyrus Trust supporting good relations between the peoples of the region in the areas of art, culture, academia, and civil society.
- demanding justice and compensation for families of victims of downed Ukrainian Airlines flight PS752, applying Magnitsky sanctions and pursuing legal avenues against those responsible
- building on a record of engaging the world's Muslim-majority nations that includes appointing Canada's first Muslim Ambassador and first Ambassador to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
- expanding support for the region's vulnerable women, children and minorities with economic and democratic empowerment, education, and health as the basis for long term peace and security
- establishing strategic relations with the United Arab Emirates and across the Red Sea region

Israel

The party advocates:

- confirming support for Israel's existence as a sovereign democratic Jewish state with the right to self-determination and to live in peace and security, including, in order to enhance the bilateral relationship and support Israel in the region, Canada's Conservatives setting clear objectives to enhance economic, political, and security cooperation to benefit both countries; recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moving the Canadian embassy to Jerusalem; returning Canada to its longstanding policy of not singling out Israel for criticism at the United Nations and international for a
- combatting the delegitimization of Israel, including opposing the denial of the 5,000 years of indigenous Jewish history throughout the Middle East
- opposing the International Criminal Court's politicization and intrusion into bilateral Israeli-Palestinian negotiations
- promoting and supporting regional initiatives that foster peace between Israel and its neighbours

Palestine

To support the aspirations of the Palestinian people and a two-state solution leading to a Palestinian state, the party advocate:

- supporting the current religious status quo surrounding Al-Aqsa / Temple Mount and recognize the special role that Jordan plays in the safeguarding of Holy Sites in Jerusalem
- enhancing aid in a targeted manner in the areas of governance and institutional capacity building in support of eventual Palestinian statehood
- establishing a Canada-Palestinian Territories Trust Account at the International Monetary Fund, with the objective of providing training and economic instruments upon the arrival of a two-state solution
- investing in the economic empowerment of Palestinian women and support economic and civil society projects and an International Fund for Israeli-Palestinian Peace
- expanding trade initiatives and encourage economic cooperation between Canada and the Palestinian territories and, following the establishment of a Palestinian state, negotiating a separate free-trade agreement
- following the successful negotiation of a final status agreement, upgrading Canada's representation to an embassy to a future Palestinian state

Transatlantic Alliance

The party states that:

- as a founding member of the transatlantic alliance, Canada needs to show leadership in securing the rules-based international order, defending shared interests, and updating the alliance

- with new threats to Canadians emerging, Canada cannot act alone and must be an engaged partner in an alliance of nations determined to succeed against emboldened authoritarians

To that end, it advocates:

- expanding and deepening economic, political, intelligence, and security relations with the Baltic states and Ukraine
- restoring Canadian eastern flank leadership within NATO on cybersecurity, energy security, and combating disinformation
- supporting Belarusian and Russian civil society in their advocacy for freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law

Ukraine

The party states that bonds between Canadians and Ukrainians can never be broken. Canada was the first Western nation to recognize Ukraine's independence after the fall of the Soviet Union.

The party advocates:

- allowing visa-free travel for Ukrainians visiting Canada
- expanding Operation UNIFIER in Ukraine, Canada's military training operation
- extending Operation REASSURANCE in Eastern Europe, Canada's largest current international military operation
- restoring provision of RADARSAT-2 data to Ukraine, denied by the current government
- providing Ukraine with defensive military aid, including enhanced Canadian assistance to NATO training for Ukrainian armed forces
- provide support for Ukrainian democratic reforms to increase transparency and accountability
- greater use of Canada's Magnitsky sanctions law to hold Vladimir Putin's regime accountable

The Americas

The party advocates:

- working across the Americas in cooperation with the United States and the Organization of American States to restore principled leadership for development and stability
- following the global pandemic, working to rebuild economic opportunities and strengthen democracy, human rights, and the rule of law

Specifically, the party advocates:

- working with and for the people of Central America against corruption, developing pathways for more significant economic opportunities, and supporting their democratic and geopolitical resilience
- nurturing partnerships in the Caribbean, supporting disaster risk protection and emergency management, establishing health security relationships, and strengthening cooperation on anti-money laundering and anti-piracy initiatives
- establishing strong ties with key allies across the region, including the Pacific Alliance, to build trade opportunities for Canadian businesses, with stronger Pacific partnerships for economic growth
- confronting encroaching authoritarianism threatening the peace and stability of our hemisphere, including by supporting the peaceful restoration of democracy and human rights in Venezuela and Nicaragua
- continuing Canada's longstanding commitment to stability and economic development in Haiti
- supporting the people of Cuba in their push for the democracy and freedom they deserve

Africa

The party advocates responding to Africa's increasing strategic importance and economic potential by implementing a strategy for long-term engagement based on partnership, not condescension, stating that the continent's demographic vibrancy, economic growth, and strategic relevance demand a clear-eyed plan to advance Canadian interests

Specifically, the party advocates:

- fully engaging the African Continental Free Trade Agreement's opportunities, particularly in infrastructure, energy transition, technology, minerals, and food security partnerships
- working with partners in supporting East Africa with data and infrastructure development
- pursuing a security partnership with the African Union, focussed on delivering stability and intelligence sharing in the Sahel
- establishing a long-term strategic outlook with key African nations like Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, Algeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire and Morocco

International Development

The party advocates introducing accountability to the nation's international development assistance, prioritizing the economic performance and growth of Canada's development partners. It advocates reforming, not reducing, international development assistance - maintaining current aid levels while increasing the effectiveness of Canadian aid and expanding engagement with the Canadian development sector, the private sector, and diaspora communities.

To promote peace and security, the party advocates:

- while maintaining a clear commitment to delivering untied aid, ensuring that national aid policy advances Canada's national interests and values and delivers concrete results, prioritizing regimes and states that confront corruption
- aligning international development with Canadian peace and security priorities, by ensuring that Canadian development assistance will not advance the Communist Party of China's Belt and Road Initiative; amending the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act so that aid dollars do not support the interests of hostile regimes
- supporting young people at risk of radicalization through Canadian leadership that prioritizes justice, democracy, and pro-pluralism education, as a defining feature of promoting development outcomes and improving global security, including proactively advocating for and invest in education programs that emphasize inclusion, pluralism, and human rights, inspired by local narratives and traditions; defunding programs aligned against Canadian values (including those delivered by UNRWA unless it is significantly reformed) and replacing them with new education initiatives that uphold universal human dignity, pluralism, and peaceful coexistence; partnering with and scaling local civil society to deliver leadership, integrity, and teamwork skills to young people and supporting reforms in policing and justice systems that strengthen the rule of law, ensure the provision of justice to the world's most marginalized, and provide the most vulnerable with the security they require to better their conditions
- as a part of efforts to advance justice, placing a significant focus on combating extremism, human trafficking and the use of child soldiers, and abolishing all forms of modern-day slavery
- launching strategic partnerships in international development with regional allies where combined efforts and complementary strengths multiply impact, including engagement with the Blue Dot and Clean networks in real and digital infrastructure
- legislating a \$250 million allocation from Canada's annual International Assistance Envelope to build resilience in fragile democracies, including endowments for bilateral democracy programs, offering training, resources, and support to those confronting authoritarians and fighting for the success of their democracies

Global Food Security

The party states that:

- addressing the food security needs of people worldwide is a critical part of international development and security, requiring both short and long-term approaches
- Canada's agricultural producers can be indispensable partners for developing countries in humanitarian assistance, experience, and technologies
- it will prioritize establishing resilient and sustainable food supplies for the most vulnerable

To that end, the party advocates:

- strengthening national support for long-term agricultural development through partnerships, technology and information sharing, and training with producers in emerging economies
- identifying, establishing, and building coalitions in strategic locations worldwide that can cooperate on developing a global network of food security infrastructure which Canadian organizations can contribute to building and stocking

Removing Regulatory Barriers

The party advocates reform of onerous "Direction and Control" regulation, ensuring accountability for spending without requiring projects in developing countries to be directly controlled by Canadian charities, thereby allowing Canadian organizations to develop respectful partnerships with organizations working on the ground in developing countries and reduce aid dependency by transferring administrative and control functions to empower local people and organizations.

Emergency Humanitarian Assistance

To meet short-term needs during disasters, the party advocates support for innovation in humanitarian assistance, delivering the greatest quantity of life-saving goods at the lowest possible cost-per-unit, and intelligently supporting long-term recovery and growth, including deployment of a "Canadian Innovation Relief" program to utilize Made in Canada solutions during international disaster response operations.

Development Finance, Innovation & Sustainable Growth

The party believes that job creation is the best antidote to poverty and that economic prosperity reduces international conflict. To that end, the party advocates, while maintaining a strong and clear commitment to international development, partnering with Canadians to create new tools that maximize economic growth, including:

- building markets and diaspora partnerships for poverty alleviation and economic development
- partnering with diaspora communities in Canada in financing and improving development impact, including scaling of the developmental impact of remittances, and the greater use of market-based financing vehicles

- ending the fragmented manner in which national development finance institutions are managed, and instead consolidating efforts in a Canada Development Finance Corporation
- implementing a “Post-Pandemic Compact for Growth Plan.” As the world emerges from the pandemic, now is the time to leverage investment, innovation and infrastructure around vaccine distribution and long-term health security in the poorest, most disadvantaged regions of the world

Arctic Sovereignty

The party states that the Canadian arctic is subject to both territorial threat from Russia and environmental damage from increased commercial traffic

To defend national arctic sovereignty, the party advocates:

- expanding the Canadian Rangers in number and mandate while making investments in their preparedness, equipment, and training
- refurbishing and expanding RCAF Forward Operation Locations and allowing civil airport authorities to co-locate and utilize runways
- completing the Nanisivik Naval Facility on Baffin Island and developing a new Arctic naval base at Churchill, Manitoba
- deploying new autonomous vehicles for Arctic surveillance operations in the air and at sea as part of a new Canadian sovereignty, deterrence, and detection strategy, with Bagotville as the main site to host the Government of Canada’s Remotely Piloted Aircraft
- expanding the RadarSat constellation and launch more low earth orbit satellites for telecommunications and defence in the Arctic

Foreign Trade

Free Trade Agreements

To build jobs and promote the Canada’s commitment to human rights, the rule of law, protection of the environment, and respect for Indigenous Peoples, the party advocates:

- negotiation of new trade agreements with free countries that safeguard workers’ rights and the environment, rebalancing our trade priorities away from countries like China and towards the Indo-Pacific and Africa
- ensuring that new agreements - both bilateral and multilateral - provide Canada with the ability to protect and grow critical industries
- reform national procurement rules to create a vital national interest category that must be sourced in Canada
- develop a strategy to repatriate and diversify supply chains to move them away from China
- protect Canadian intellectual property with a strengthened Investment Canada Act that includes: presumption against allowing the takeover of Canadian companies by China’s designated state-owned entities
- automatic review of transactions involving sensitive sectors such as defence, artificial intelligence, and rare earth minerals
- mandatory national security reviews
- withdrawal from the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank
- pursuing a Canada-Australia-New Zealand-United Kingdom (“CANZUK”) agreement that could include free trade and flow of capital investment between the partners; reciprocal freedom to study, live and work for citizens under expanded areas of labour coordination as agreed upon by all parties; enhanced defence and security partnerships
- building deeper ties with India as part of an Indo-Pacific strategy, including: continuing to pursue free trade with India while concurrently pursuing an investment treaty to expand upon Canadian strengths as one of the world’s largest investors in India
- pursuing a partnership with Africa’s Continental Free Trade in infrastructure, energy, and technology
- to create jobs by expanding export sales, launch a historic trade promotion effort connecting all aspects of Canadian industries with international opportunities; establishing a trade accelerator connecting all sectors of the Canadian economy with EU commercial opportunities, measuring progress in job creation and long-term economic projects
- pursuing sales of Canadian nuclear technology to help other countries reduce their GHG emissions
- engaging countries in the Middle East, including by pursuing opportunities created by a warm Emirati-Israeli peace

Emissions Reduction Technologies

The party states that although leadership begins at home, the truth remains that Canada only accounts for less than 2% of global emissions. Canada should do its part to help other countries cut their emissions - particularly those not blessed with our wealth or resources. To that end, the party advocates:

- implementing a Liquefied Natural Gas export strategy to displace coal in electricity generation, cutting emissions in half
- developing export markets for Canadian nuclear technology and uranium, to help countries generate more electricity with this zero emission energy source
- increasing exports of our cleanest resources and products to replace items made with higher pollution. For example, Canada produces aluminum more efficiently than the rest of the world and it will get even cleaner as Canadian producers continue to innovate
- exporting xport Canadian emissions reduction technology around the world.

National Defense

Security and Public Safety

To address national threats arising from global pandemics, great power rivalries, transnational criminal organizations, terrorism, disinformation campaigns and cyber-attacks, the party advocates:

- mandating a Minister of National Security & Public Safety with addressing data and cybersecurity, information operations, threats from foreign actors against Canadian residents, extremist financing, space and surveillance, and industry and critical infrastructure
- to prevent foreign dissemination of disinformation and influence in elections, recognizing that information warfare and influence operations do not simply target our election cycles but are a persistent threat to our entire democratic system, including establishing a permanent task force to address foreign interference that will: monitor disinformation and influence operations online and on our streets and bring together National Defence, Global Affairs, CSIS, CSE, provincial and municipal agencies, civil society, social media platforms and media
- assessing addressing threats from foreign actors against Canadian residents, including recently reported operations against diaspora communities in Canada
- working with allies and other democracies to monitor, detect, and expose foreign disinformation attacks and threats from foreign actors
- passing a Foreign Agents Registry Act requiring individuals and companies acting as agents of designated foreign principals (country, corporation, entity or individual) in a political or quasi-political capacity including lobbying, policy development, advertising, and grassroots mobilization to register. Requirements for disclosure would include the amount of payment, the nature of the relationship, and the activities performed
- making it an offence for any entity that has spent more than \$100,000 in a calendar year on political activity of any kind (federal, provincial, or municipal) to receive foreign donations of any amount
- amending the Elections Act to: prohibit any entity that receives more than 2.5% of its total donations from foreign sources during the year before the writ period from advertising during the writ period or during the pre-election period; creating a positive obligation to trace all funds expended by an entity during a writ period to Canadian sources

Support for Canadian Forces Members

The party states that:

- national defensive posture must account for increasing threats in the Arctic, along our coasts, in the sea, in the air and in the cyber domain
- we have a moral duty to stand firmly behind them and give them the tools and support they need

To support CAF members, the party advocates:

- ending harassment and discrimination and making the CAF a better workplace by enhancing the participation of women, Indigenous people, and visible minorities through proactive, targeted recruitment at the community level; calling a public inquiry into harassment and discrimination in the Canadian Armed Forces and make immediate changes such as removing commanders' access to their subordinates' medical files; ordering a service-wide independent investigation into sexual misconduct in the military
- introducing policies to ensure future complaints are made to an external, independent body outside the chain of command, and making the CF and DND Ombudsperson an independent Officer of Parliament
- to address challenges associated with deployments and postings, being conscious of the heavy operational toll that tears military families apart and depletes Canada's ability to deploy, only deploy our forces when they have clear and achievable missions along with the appropriate resources needed to achieve them; lengthening postings where possible to enable families to put down root; working with the provinces to help ensure that the process of moving between provinces is as seamless as possible for military families
- prioritizing recruitment and retention, including an emphasis on retraining and skills development to allow those willing to serve to continue to do so
- working with provincial governments to develop comprehensive job protection legislation that shields reservists who leave their day job to deploy
- reviving the Regular Officer Training Program (ROTP) at civilian universities to provide educational opportunities for youth serving their country
- harmonizing trade training in the Armed Forces with Red Seal Qualifications so that military service becomes an incubator for skilled workers who can transition easily and productively to the civilian economy

Defense Against Cyber Attacks

To ensure that Canada is prepared to defend against cyber warfare threats we face, the party advocates:

- finishing a properly funded, equipped, and staffed Canadian Armed Forces Cyber Command to defend Canada from cyber-attacks, with emphasis on reserve participation
- establishing closer collaboration between the private sector cyber industry and CAF Cyber Command
- developing capabilities for cyber operations

Alliances

To maintain alliances, the party advocates:

- updating and enhancing the North Warning System as part of NORAD and extending it to protect the entire Canadian Arctic, including our Arctic archipelagos
- reinforcing the cornerstone of Canada's defence policy by renewing national commitment to NATO; increasing spending on national defence to move closer to 2% aspirations; expanding Canada's contribution to NATO Baltic Sea Air Policing and NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence in Latvia
- intensifying Operation UNIFIER, Canadian Armed Forces' military training and capacity-building mission in Ukraine, supplying Ukraine with lethal weapons, and reinstating the

provision of RadarSat imagery

- creating a NATO Centre of Excellence for Arctic Defence at the Resolute Bay CAF Training Centre to enhance cooperation and interoperability with allies
- ensuring active Canadian participation in NATO training missions and NATO Centers of Excellence in the areas of Cybersecurity, Strategic Communications, and Energy Security
- expanding current regional defence participation in the Indo-Pacific area by joining the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), an informal strategic alliance between the United States, Japan, Australia, and India, frequently referred to as the 'Pacific NATO,' in order to secure a voice in decision making.

Military Equipment & Procurement

The party states that successful military procurement requires focused leadership at the highest levels of government

To streamline defence procurement and expedite the acquisition of military equipment desperately needed by the Canadian Armed Forces, the party advocates:

- appointing a Minister for Defence Procurement with real power to make decisions
- taking politics out of procurement and working across party lines by using the Standing Committee of National Defence for advice and input on future military procurement projects
- prioritizing procurement of a new fighter jet to replace aging CF-18s through the current open competition and getting the new fighter fleet into service as quickly as possible;
- remaining committed to the National Shipbuilding Strategy by proceeding with the Canadian Surface Combatants, icebreakers, Joint Supply Ships, and Coast Guard vessels; pending completion of the two Joint Supply Ships, ordering the Obelisk from Chantier Davie to complement the Asterix and make Davie a full participant in the National Shipbuilding Strategy; beginning the process to replace our aging Victoria-class submarines; and procuring two armed, heavy icebreakers for the Royal Canadian Navy to contribute to our efforts to "own our north" in the face of increased Russian and Chinese Arctic activity

Veterans

To honor the sacred trust between Canadian citizens and veterans, the party advocates:

- streamlining and coordinating the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) benefits systems, which currently do not work together well, by replacing them with a single streamlined system of benefits from enlistment through service and retirement
- ensuring financial security & transition support for injured Veterans and their families
- streamlining benefit adjudication & setting performance targets to ensure that the benefits system is focused on helping our veterans
- allowing veterans and their families to direct their care and rehabilitation
- insisting on care, compassion, and respect in every aspect of veteran services
- ensuring that the benefits system is focused not only on compensation but on helping veterans build meaningful careers through partnerships with universities, colleges, and businesses
- empowering military doctors, who know the demands of service and the impact of injuries, to determine a service-related injury for all CAF and VAC purposes
- making fitness categories job-specific, and ensuring that those who wish to continue to serve after injury will have the opportunity to retrain in an area where they can serve
- ensuring a smooth transition for any CAF members who have to be medically released, including retaining them in the CAF until all the benefits and services from the CAF, VAC, and Service Income Security Insurance Plan have been confirmed and put in place
- implementing the Lifelong Disability Benefit for moderately to severely injured veterans
- making transfer to the reserves a practical and easy option and adjusting service requirements to balance the need for training with the reality of adapting to the civilian workforce
- ensuring that military families, especially spouses, are provided with sufficient support
- implementing a strategy to combat homelessness among veterans and exploring the potential for using surplus military housing to provide housing for homeless veterans
- covering the cost of PTSD service dogs for veterans and creating training standards for them
- empowering frontline VAC employees to adjudicate claims
- completing the Afghanistan War Memorial
- funding educational initiatives that teach Canadians about veterans' service and Canada's place in the world

Defence Industries

The party states that in view of lessons learned during the pandemic about the importance of domestic manufacturing capabilities, and noting that Canadian workers are world leaders at developing software, mobile hospitals, and other technologies and equipment for our armed forces and those of our allies, it advocates:

- identifying key defence industry capabilities and investing in them
- re-evaluating risk management measures in defence contracts that shift risk and therefore control to contractors at the expense of selecting Canadian components

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

The party states that:

- the most important job of any government is to keep its citizens safe
- Canadians have a right to be free from crimes of violence and exploitation
- Canadians demand that in addition to serving as a means to separate offenders from society, the correctional system also serve to correct, offering a pathway to a life beyond crime
- it believes both in deterrence that decisively separates those who have committed crimes from their victims and potential victims and in the potential of those who choose to permanently turn from a criminal past and work towards a future respectful of the rights of fellow citizens

Domestic Violence

The party states that

- treating those who commit domestic violence too lightly not only does a massive disservice to their innocent victims, but also puts the broader community at risk. It has been shown that criminals who commit acts of violence frequently start by abusing their spouse or partner
- it believes that the justice system should both impose tough sentences on those who assault their spouse or partner and make it easier for victims to escape their abusers and rebuild their lives

In order to protect victims, the party advocates:

- amending the Criminal Code to make it an aggravating factor at sentencing for assault where the victim is in a domestic or dependent relationship with the perpetrator
- adding a provision to the Criminal Code that specifies the offence is an indictable offence and provides for a mandatory minimum penalty of two years where the Crown can show that an offence of assault, assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm, or aggravated assault is part of a pattern of conduct with the victim, with the Crown required to give notice before trial of its intention to seek this elevated sentence
- prohibiting those under peace bond or the subject of a protective order from possessing a “firearm, crossbow, prohibited weapon, restricted weapon, prohibited device, ammunition, prohibited ammunition or explosive substance, or all such thing”
- enacting Clare’s Law so that when police investigate a complaint of alleged domestic violence, they are required to notify the victim of the suspect’s relevant criminal history

To support victims of domestic violence, the party advocates:

- making it easier for women fleeing domestic violence to hide their new location from their abusers
- expanding the Canada Child Benefit by \$500 per month per child for the first year and \$250 per month per child for the second year for women with children living in women’s shelters to help them transition to more long-term housing
- creating a fund to incentivize educational institutions and private sector organizations to partner with women’s shelters to provide career training for the women they serve

Gang Violence

To address gang violence, the party advocates

- hiring an additional 200 RCMP officers to combat gangs and the smuggling of guns and drugs, the officers to be based in the GTA and the Lower Mainland
- eliminating the requirement for Crown Attorneys to prove that an organization is a criminal organization and requiring that the Crown to prove only that the accused is a member of such an organization, by establishing an entities list for criminal gangs
- amending the automatic detention provisions of the Criminal Code by adding: “with an offence in the commission of which violence was allegedly used, threatened or attempted and the accused had previously been convicted of for the benefit of, at the direction of, or in association with, a criminal organization”
- amending the Criminal Code so that usage of the same firearm by two separate individuals in the commission of a crime would create a rebuttable presumption that a criminal organization committed the offences
- partnering with the private sector to create a Gang Exit Strategy program that will see the power of the private sector harnessed to give offenders the opportunity to escape a cycle of violence and start fresh in a new location with gainful employment and the support needed to leave behind a life of crime
- working with partner organizations across the country to develop and expand programs to keep youth out of gangs

Gun Violence

To keeping guns out of the hands of criminals, the party advocates pursuing smugglers, by:

- cracking down on “straw purchasing” of firearms, by amending the Firearms Act so that an individual who, on three separate occasions during a calendar year, transfers a firearm for financial consideration must have a firearms business license; amending the Criminal Code to add the following aggravating factors on sentencing: the number of firearms transferred, whether financial consideration was exchanged, and the amount of monetary consideration

- amending the Criminal Code provisions on unauthorized importing so that: it is an aggravating factor on sentencing if more than one firearm is imported otherwise than under the authority of the Firearms Act; a mandatory minimum penalty of three years applies where the unauthorized importing occurs for financial consideration
- supporting specialized enforcement against illegal firearms, including instructing CBSA and RCMP, working closely with American authorities in the United States, to target smuggling operations before illegal firearms reach the border, including by improving and expanding the RCMP contribution to the Integrated Border Enforcement Teams

To combat criminal use of firearms, the party advocates:

- amending the Criminal Code provisions on possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose to make it an aggravating factor on sentencing where an individual commits the offence while the subject of a prohibition order under the Firearms Act and had previously been convicted of an offence under that section or an offence against the person while in possession of a firearm, and to impose a sentence of from two to ten years
- amending the Criminal Code provisions on the unauthorized possession of a firearm by imposing a mandatory minimum sentence of two years if the person was the subject of a prohibition order at the time of the events giving rise to the conviction or had been previously convicted of an offence involving a firearm
- partnering with the Ontario Provincial Police to expand the Firearms Tracing and Enforcement database nationally and taking steps to ensure that all crime guns are submitted for testing and analysis and inclusion in this database, with a focus of keeping firearms out of the hands of criminals
- repealing C-71 and the May 2020 Order in Council and conducting a review of the Firearms Act with participation by law enforcement, firearms owners, manufacturers, and members of the public, and updating legislation by introducing a simplified classification system and codifying it in law so that it is clear what types of firearms fit into each category and classification decisions can be made quickly, and with the public and firearms owners having confidence that they are not arbitrary
- mandating the automatic surrender to law enforcement of firearms where an individual has been charged with an offence against the person while requiring law enforcement to return the firearms if the charge is dismissed
- amending the Firearms Act to authorize a hospital, mental institute, psychiatric clinic, or medical professional to give notice to the Chief Firearms Officer if they provide treatment for a mental illness to a person whom they reasonably believe possesses a firearm and may pose a danger to himself or others
- developing a suicide prevention strategy that encourages people – including legal firearms owners – to seek help when they need it
- amending firearms laws to ensure that no administrative expiry could lead to criminal charges or the seizure of a licence holder's firearm(s). ° Until an expired licence is renewed, it would remain illegal for licence holders to acquire, by any means, new firearms or ammunition

Serious Crimes

The party advocates continuing against the Quebec Court of Appeal decision reducing the sentence for the Quebec City Mosque murderer and, if the law under which he was sentenced is eventually struck down, introducing new legislation to ensure that multiple murderers face more severe sentences

Human trafficking & slavery

The party advocates:

- strengthening human trafficking laws by making them consistent with the Palermo Protocol and removing the requirement to prove that a trafficker exercised fear or intimidation over a victim
- eliminating Preliminary Inquiries in cases of sexual assault to prevent the revictimization of individual victims, including children, who deserve our protection
- amending the Criminal Code to clarify that an offence takes place in Canada where, at the time of the offence, the victim was present in Canada
- implementing legislation to ensure human traffickers serve consecutive sentences for multiple human trafficking offences
- amending the Criminal Code by adding procuring offences to the list of designated offences that may be subject to the forfeiture of proceeds of crime. This will ensure that those who profit off sexual exploitation can have their profits seized, the same as drug dealers or criminal organizations
- providing \$100 million over five years to support training for non-provincial police forces in the areas of: sexual exploitation; cyber-security and online offences; and investigation of sexual offences

Critical Infrastructure

- In order to protect critical infrastructure from intentional stoppage, the party advocates amending the Criminal Code to create an offence of interference with an infrastructure facility or a public transportation system punishable by either summary conviction or indictment, depending upon the severity of the crime.

Online Incitement

The party recognizes a connection between incitement to violence, especially online, and acts of violence in Canada and other countries. To fight such incitement, the party advocates:

- amending the Criminal Code to clearly criminalizing statements that encourage violence against other people or identifiable groups, while protecting forms of speech, criticism, and argument that do not encourage violence

Natural Disasters

The party states that climate change increases the risks of fires, droughts, flooding, and extreme weather events. Canada is already demonstrably feeling the impact of this given the fact that insurance payouts due to environmental events – particularly flooding – have dramatically increased in the last 12 years. As a result, homes are becoming harder to insure, costs for insurance are going up, and maximum payouts are going down.

To build resiliency and better prepare Canada for the impacts of a changing climate, the party advocates:

- appointing a national disaster resilience advisor to the Privy Council Office, analogous to the National Security and Intelligence Advisor established after 9/11, to advise Cabinet and the Prime Minister's Office, helping ensure that the government is prepared for future risks
- implementing a national action plan on floods, including establishing a residential high risk flood insurance program to ensure all Canadians are financially protected while avoiding future government bailouts
- devising and implementing a national climate adaptation strategy based on measurable targets; addressing provincial concerns on flood readiness while leveraging private sector solutions to reduce government exposure and spending; and addressing wildfire and drought exposure in collaboration with farmers, ranchers, and foresters
- incorporating a mitigation and adaptation lens to the government's infrastructure investments.
- working with provinces and territories to develop a natural infrastructure plan including development of a national standard to assess the value of natural infrastructure; requiring that public sector accounting practices be updated to include a proper valuation of existing natural infrastructure; requiring incorporation of natural infrastructure into community design; and Incentives for farmers and landowners to protect and restore natural infrastructure
- investing in technology that can improve the early detection of wildfires and better predict their behaviour



The Role of Government

The party states that it is the responsibility of political leadership to build cohesion within our society through seeking common ground, celebrating diverse identities, and discouraging polarisation.

Stewardship & Reform

Taxation & Budget

Corporations

The party advocates:

- applying a corporate tax on transnational e-commerce companies doing business in Canada by requiring the foreign vendor to register, collect and remit taxes where the product or service is consumed. The e-commerce sector – giants like Netflix, Facebook, Amazon, and Google - command a significant share of the Canadian market but pay virtually no tax
- imposing a financial transactions tax of 0.5 per cent in the finance sector as France has done since 2012
- increasing the federal corporate tax rate from 15 to 21 per cent to bring it into line with the federal rate in the United States, our biggest trading partner. A former Governor of the Bank of Canada, has said that corporations are holding “hundreds of billions of dollars in their bank accounts,” rather than reinvesting in the economy. This dead money needs to be mobilized for the transition to a green, renewable economy
- charging a five per cent surtax on commercial bank profits. Commercial banks accumulate huge profits – \$43.15 billion for the five largest banks in 2018 alone. Credit unions, *caisses populaires* and co-ops will be exempt.
- working with international partners to implement a global minimum tax so that the biggest companies in the world are not able to escape the taxes they owe here in Canada
- prohibiting Canadian businesses from deducting the cost of advertising on foreign-owned sites such as Google and Facebook which now account for 80 per cent of all spending on advertising Canada
- eliminating the 50 per cent corporate meals and entertainment expense deduction, which includes season tickets and private boxes at sporting events

Wealthy Individuals

They party advocates:

- apply a one per cent tax on net (family) wealth above \$20 million
- closing stock option tax loopholes that benefit the wealthy. Executives with stock options as part of their remuneration package only pay half the rate of income tax on this portion of their income

- closing capital gains tax loopholes. The capital gains loophole allows people and corporations to only add half of their capital gains to their taxable income, while those with only employment income pay taxes on their entire income. Over 90 per cent of the value of this tax break goes to the richest 10 per cent, and about 85 per cent goes to the top one per cent
- ending offshore tax evasion by taxing funds hidden in offshore havens and requiring companies to prove that their foreign affiliates are actual functioning businesses for tax purposes
- focusing the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) on identifying people who hide vast wealth, rather than conduct random audits of ordinary Canadians, as recommended by several Auditor Generals
- providing adequate funding to the CRA to collect tax revenue hiding in offshore tax havens
- applying a tax on luxury goods, such as planes, and luxury cars

Real Estate

The party advocates:

- creating an “empty home” tax for foreign and corporate residential property owners who leave buildings and units vacant
- closing tax haven loopholes that allow foreign investors to hide the names of beneficial owners of properties in Canada

Tax Reform

The party advocates:

- establishing an arm’s length Federal Tax Commission to analyze the tax system for fairness and accessibility, based on the principle of progressive taxation. The last Tax Commission was in the 1960s, so reform is long overdue. This will include recommending an appropriate way to tax cryptocurrencies
- eliminating all fossil fuel subsidies, including payments and tax write-offs, valued at several billion dollars annually. These include the accelerated capital cost allowance on liquefied natural gas (LNG) and tax write-offs for oil and gas wells, coal mining exploration and development, flow-through share deductions for coal, oil and gas projects, and oil and gas properties

Government Programs and Services

To support transition to a green economy, the party advocates:

- promoting green procurement practices (procuring goods and services that have a reduced environmental impact), as recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme

Democratic Reform

The party states that:

- the strength of Canada’s democracy is consistently rated amongst the highest in the world - but better is always possible
- there are abundant signs that the nation needs democratic revitalisation: many people feel like their votes and their voice don’t make a difference, and share a sense that corporations and the wealthiest individuals have more control than the rest of us
- trust in democracy has been declining, both in Canada, and worldwide. Cynicism and political polarization are increasing. Even Canada’s strongest allies, longstanding liberal democracies, have faced serious threats to their democratic processes
- in the same way that we renovate our historic buildings, it’s time to renovate the 19th-century foundations of our democracy: retaining the strongest parts of our traditions, while bringing our democratic systems up to date, ready to face the many challenges of the modern era
- the newest emerging threat to our democratic practices is the rapid spread of misinformation and disinformation through online echo-chambers. Diversity of values and perspectives leads to productive and democratic dialogue, only in the presence of an agreed set of verifiable, evidence-based facts. Distinguishing facts from misinformation will be one of the key challenges of our digital era
- Canadians want, and deserve, policy that is developed deliberately, in the light of evidence, and through respectful discussion across party lines. We can develop tools to deal with this growing challenge, to protect our democracy from the polarization and fracturing that we have seen internationally
- with the right policies, Canada can strengthen and modernize our democracy, fit for the 21st century, and inspire increased public participation and trust in our democratic institutions. We can improve on our historic democratic strength, and become a country where truly all citizens - no matter how much money you have, what part of the country you live in, or your identity or occupation – feel that their voices are being heard, and that they have equal opportunity to influence the government policy, and the future of our nation

The party advocates:

- requiring political parties to publicly report on their plans to recruit candidates from under-represented groups, in every fixed-date election year, and to publicly report on the success of those plans after every federal election

- requiring political parties to tell the truth: Giving power to the Commissioner of Canada Elections to oversee political advertising during elections and referenda, to ensure that political advertising is subject to the same type of 'truth in advertising' regulation that already applies to businesses
- restoring the "per-vote subsidy" model for funding political parties, which was scrapped in the Harper years and has not been restored under the Liberal government. The current system of political donations and tax rebates heavily favours the wealthiest citizens. Restoring the subsidy, and reducing personal donation limits, will ensure that every citizen has an equal voice in politics, regardless of their personal wealth
- always supporting modernising our electoral system, to be based on Proportional Representation. The evidence of the benefits for citizens, and for parliamentary outcomes, are overwhelmingly clear
- establishment of a Citizens' Assembly on Democratic Renewal to be convened as early as possible. Recognizing the conflict of interest in having politicians re-design the system that elected them, the Assembly would be a diverse and randomly selected body of citizens, brought together with a mandate to consider and to provide a set of recommendations to our Parliament on four interrelated issues: Modernizing Canada's electoral system, Lowering the Voting Age to 16, Online Voting, and Mandatory Voting. The process would be supported by a public service secretariat, and facilitated by an independent and non-partisan organization, who would bring in expert witnesses, as well as individuals and groups directly affected by the issue
- strengthen the Conflict of Interest Act to include financial and other penalties for politicians who break Conflict of Interest laws
- imposing strict conflict of interest screening criteria for appointments to federal regulatory boards and agencies, minimizing the potential for bias and preferential access by the regulated industry
- allowing an independent oversight committee to review MPs' salaries, expenses and office budgets, replacing the secretive Board of Internal Economy
- strengthening the Lobbying Act to require greater transparency and prevent "revolving doors" between political life, the public service and lobbying
- strengthening whistle-blower protections for public service employees and reaffirm the independence and integrity of the public service
- expanding the Access to Information Act to include the Prime Minister's Office, minister's offices, and administration of parliament

Provinces, Territories, & Municipalities

The party states that:

- municipal governments are often the ones that people turn to in their hour of need. In Canada, cities have taken leadership roles on critical issues such as climate change, the pandemic, and social programs.
- however, Canadian municipalities are limited in their ability to provide services because the 1867 constitutional designation of the municipal order of government as creations of the provinces severely limits their autonomy and authority. With only 10 cents out of every tax dollar flowing to municipalities, and no direct powers of taxation, vast inequities in our governance structures and financial stability have been created

In order to provide a greater share of tax revenues to municipalities for development of long-range transit and housing plans, the party advocates the charter city movement, including:

- supporting the use of city charters to give greater autonomy to cities
- making changes to the Canada Infrastructure Bank to reduce interest rates to municipalities on loans for infrastructure project
- institutionalizing federal transfers to municipalities through the creation of a Municipal Fund, renaming the Gas Tax funds, which were delinked from gas tax revenue years ago, and retaining the same eligibility as the Gas Tax funds
- ensuring a permanent doubling of current funding to ensure predictable and reliable funding to municipalities
- allocating one per cent of GST to housing and other municipal infrastructure on an ongoing basis to provide a consistent baseline of funding
- answering the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' and Vancouver Mayor's Council's call for a permanent, dedicated federal public transit fund of \$3.4 billion annually starting in 2026-2027, once the existing transit program expires
- committing to a multi-year solution to transit operating shortfalls in order to protect and secure shared investments in building out Canada's transit networks

Peace, International Relations

The party states that:

- Canadians want to be proud of their international reputation, to be responsible international neighbours who can offer our support and resources to their allies
- this requires the government of Canada to live up to its commitments, to be a reliable partner on the international stage, and to demonstrate leadership in areas that matter the most
- during the pandemic, the government did not live up to its responsibilities as a member of the international community: it took vaccines from the international COVAX facility, designed to ensure that low and middle-income countries had access to vaccine supply
- even as it insisted that it was committed to tackling the climate emergency, it was increasing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions through its policies, leaving those least responsible for the causes of climate change to bear the burden of its impact
- even as the government promised to protect Afghans who supported the Canadian mission in Afghanistan, fighting and dying alongside Canadian soldiers, it made the decision to

- call an election, rather than to focus on how to rescue the thousands of Afghan support staff behind with little hope of safety or rescue
- climate change-induced natural disasters, infectious diseases, forced displacement, and the weaponization of information have become the world's leading international security risks. They can be confronted through new forms of cooperation and collaboration
- Canada must engage in more egalitarian forms of collaboration with a more diverse set of international partners. This requires re-tooling and preparing our military to support disaster preparedness and response, while maintaining combat readiness. It requires that Canada reconsider trade and diplomatic alliances that have made us overly dependent upon traditional allies and authoritarian states, while restraining our ability to take principled stands in defence of our values
- in an increasingly multi-polar world, Canada must stand for the promotion of human security and global goods, giving precedence to political support first, and military support as a final resort
- Canada must live up to its commitments, and demonstrate renewed leadership and reliability on issues like the climate

The party advocates:

- pursuing a foreign policy centred on the promotion of human security and respect for the rule of law in dealing with state and non-state actors
- signing and ratifying the Treaty to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and pressing urgently for global nuclear disarmament and the conversion of military industries in Canada into peaceful and restorative industries
- leading national and international discussions to define 'environmental refugee' and its inclusion as a refugee category in Canada, and accepting an appropriate share of the world's environmental refugees into Canada
- strongly condemning and raising international awareness of the evidence regarding violations of international law, and leading discussions with international allies to explore all options for bringing perpetrators into compliance

International Trade

The party advocates:

- pursuing an international fair trade policy centred on the promotion of environmental, social and governance principles, a more egalitarian regime for the exchange of intellectual property and clean technologies, and a narrowing of the equality gap between high- and low-income countries
- shifting the direction of international trade away from "free trade" to "fair trade" in order to prioritize the protection of human rights, labour standards, cultural diversity, and ecosystems around the world
- supporting global calls for the reform of the World Trade Organization to ensure more equitable international mechanisms that can effectively tackle pandemics and climate crises
- strengthening the mandate and tools available to the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE) to independently investigate Canadian companies operating abroad and report publicly on its findings
- ceasing all federal support to Canadian exporters of arms and fossil fuels, with the exception of potential necessary sales of peacekeeping equipment in cooperation with the United Nations
- developing and implementing carbon border adjustments to ensure Canadian businesses do not face unfair competition from polluting jurisdictions
- leading international discussions to reform TRIPS (The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) to ensure that intellectual property rights are not barriers to the achievement and furtherance of international human rights and clean development
- removing the current model of Investor State Dispute Settlement mechanisms (ISDS) in all existing trade agreements and prohibit its use in any new agreements
- mandating and equipping Canadian missions abroad to expand partnerships among civil society organizations centred on the promotion of human rights, resilience, scientific cooperation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals

The party advocates an international development policy centred on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, while emphasizing support for the development of carbon-free economies, and emergency and disaster relief, including:

- to address pandemics everywhere, investing in stronger global health systems that will prevent future outbreaks
- ensuring a COVID-19 recovery plan that addresses the growing gap in the care economy, particularly magnified through the pandemic, and that provides more resources to women and girls around the world so they are able to access education, health care, proper nutrition and maintain autonomy over their sexual and reproductive rights
- mobilizing Canada's fair share of international climate finance, calculated at approximately \$1.84 billion per year to 2025,³⁶ and leading negotiations towards the achievement of a post-2025 international climate finance target
- enhancing Canada's development aid efforts and economic investment in specific key areas that: 1. Foster alternative fuels and energy sources that dramatically reduce the need to import oil and natural gas and further allow the growth of recipient nation independent and/or majority ownership of these sectors and/or businesses as they develop; 2. Focus on agriculture sectors that provide for adaptation and food sovereignty through both subsistence farming and domestic commercial farming methods that are in keeping with green environmentally sound and gender equality principles; 3. Increase bilateral trade, where possible, to facilitate the export of value added products from small island economies; 4.

Support and strengthen cooperation with regional organizations to further the goal of regional independence and sovereignty

- mandating and equipping Canadian missions abroad to expand partnerships among civil society organizations centred on the promotion of human rights, resilience, scientific cooperation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals
- fulfilling Canada's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity by providing new and substantial funding for nature conservation in developing countries and by implementing policies aimed at protecting biodiversity throughout the world

International Development & Climate

The party advocates:

- shaping all climate change policies in order to fulfill existing commitments to international climate change efforts, as policies to mitigate climate change will only be effective through international collaboration and coordination
- submitting a revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement that reflects Canada's fair share of emissions reductions (60% reduction below 2005 by 2030) in meeting the 1.5°C warming target
- ramping up climate finance to \$USD 4 billion per year to support climate mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage in developing countries
- participating actively in future international efforts, positioning Canada as a leader on global climate change initiatives
- investing in green infrastructure in developing countries to offset energy poverty. As one of the world's highest per capita emitters of GHGs, Canada has a responsibility to support the climate action efforts of other countries and Indigenous communities. We will do so by supporting local green infrastructure in developing countries to offset energy poverty
- banning the export of thermal coal from Canada, thereby ending the export of millions of tons of US coal from Canadian ports
- mobilizing Canada's fair share of international climate finance, calculated at approximately \$1.84 billion per year to 2025, and leading negotiations towards the achievement of a post-2025 international climate finance target.

National Defense

The party advocates a defence policy centred on the pursuit of disarmament, support for disaster preparedness and relief, defending Canada's Arctic sovereignty, and adherence to the Geneva Conventions, including:

- urgently implementing the recommendations of the 2015 External Review into Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment in the Canadian Armed Forces (the Deschamps report)
- signing and ratifying the Treaty to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and pressing urgently for global nuclear disarmament and the conversion of military industries in Canada and worldwide into peaceful and restorative industries
- realignment of defence spending to increase national capacity and speed in delivering disaster assistance (e.g. through the DART – Disaster Assistance Rapid Response Team), responding to domestic crises (e.g. pandemic outbreaks in long-term care homes), our contributions to UN peace forces and missions, and cyber defence initiatives
- reinforcing Canada's Arctic sovereignty through expanded patrols, and funding for community infrastructure development, regional sustainability projects, northern research, northern culture, and other regional socioeconomic activities
- assessing Canada's membership in military alliances including NATO and NORAD to ensure they are meeting Canada's priorities of diplomacy, development, and defence, and enhancing Canada's contributions to promote the advancement of cyber defence capabilities

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Criminal Justice

The party states that:

- the criminal justice system is in dire need of transformative change. For the most part, crimes are a result of gaps and failures in our socio-economic structures. Systemic racism, the criminalization of poverty and serious mental health issues are endemic in our system. We have a harmful over-reliance on the outdated and inhumane prison system.
- prisons are not the solution. Prisons have proven themselves to be an ineffective and harmful response to the societal problem of criminal conduct. In most cases, there are alternative responses that better serve victims, society, and offenders.
- prisons are often used to warehouse people with serious mental health issues -- mental health disorders are estimated to be 2-3 times more prevalent in the prison population, compared to the general population
- prisons have also been shown to result in increased recidivism, render rehabilitation and reintegration more difficult, and they are extremely expensive, with often inhumane conditions
- solitary confinement continues to be overused and inappropriately used in Canadian institutions, with little transparency.
- the number of legally innocent persons held in pre-trial detention has increased, in some cases outnumbering the number of people actually convicted and serving a sentence
- while the national incarceration rate has been decreasing over the past few years, this decrease is not consistent across the provinces and territories
- the incarceration rate of Indigenous Peoples continues to increase at an unconscionable rate. The over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in correctional institutions

means that Indigenous inmates are not only more disproportionately the subject of victimization in prisons, but they also face greater health risks as a result of their incarceration. Indigenous inmates were particularly vulnerable to Covid-19 -- just over 57% of inmates infected in the pandemic's second wave were Indigenous

- Black persons are more likely to be arrested and taken to police stations for processing after arrest, more likely to be held overnight, even once age and criminal history are taken into account, and are more likely to have more conditions imposed upon release.
- studies show that restorative justice is an alternative model that can improve healing for PTSD victims, increase accountability for offenders, and reduce recidivism

The party advocates development of a restorative justice model that will allow for transformative justice, meaningful accountability and rehabilitation of those who cause harm, greater healing for those who are victimized and those who are criminalized and imprisoned, and ultimately decreased involvement in the traditional criminal legal system, including:

- revitalizing and resourcing social, economic, physical and mental health supports, particularly in light of the mass incarceration of Indigenous, Black and other racialized people
- ensuring that prison is a last resort, where public safety necessitates imprisonment
- implementing laws that reduce the incarceration of those with mental health issues through preventative measures
- bolstering laws and policies aimed at decolonizing, decriminalizing and decarcerating, by expanding on and codifying the requirement for sentencing judges to take into account systemic and historical racism when dealing with Indigenous persons, and the requirement that they act to reduce the impact of systemic racism
- developing clear laws and guidelines aligned with the principles set out by the Supreme Court in R. v. Ipeelee and R. v. Gladue, and implementing additional laws to reduce incarceration of Indigenous Peoples in provincial and federal prisons
- implementing the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that deal with justice (sections 25-40)
- developing laws and policies aimed at providing social, housing, health, economic and educational support in order to reduce the over-policing and over-incarceration of Black and Indigenous peoples

Criminal Sentencing & Incarceration

The party advocates:

- eliminating mandatory minimum sentences and enabling courts to determine appropriate sentences based on the circumstances of each individual case and established sentencing laws and principles
- taking steps to ensure that, where some form of incarceration is necessary, individuals are, as quickly as possible, held close to their community to allow for more effective reintegration and rehabilitation
- eliminating solitary confinement, in accordance with Bill C-83, including ensuring that the Federal Advisory Committee on Prisoner Isolation receives access to all required information to monitor the state of "structured intervention units" (solitary confinement) within Canada's prisons, ensuring that the recommendations of the Office of the Correctional Investigator with respect to SIUs are implemented
- revisiting and developing clearer laws to reduce the number of people held in pre-trial detention

Youth in the Criminal Justice System

The party states that:

- when young people engage in criminal acts, it is most often a reflection of inadequate social interactions, family life, mental health, and other essential supports and systems
- despite efforts to reduce the number of youth detained in Canadian jails, youth numbers in pre-trial detention are consistently high
- while the proportion of white youth in secure custody decreased overall since the enactment of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, that has not been the case for Black and Indigenous youth, who remain overrepresented in the criminal justice system

The party advocates investing resources in youth mental health, and in social and educational supports, including:

- collaborating with provincial partners and communities to invest in youth mental health, education, opportunities, and success, in order to decrease the involvement of youth in the criminal justice system, with a particular focus on communities that have traditionally been either at greater risk or a greater target of law enforcement
- reviewing the treatment of young persons in the criminal justice system, and assessing the use of diversion and alternative measures across the country, with a particular focus on when and to whom these alternatives are offered, and the impact of diversionary programs versus full involvement in the criminal justice system
- examining and assessing the online threat to young and vulnerable persons, and taking steps to address this situation through education and updated laws, as needed

Disaster relief

To help municipalities limit the impact of climate change on their communities, the party advocates support for the request of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for increased funding through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, covering wildfires, rehabilitation of storm water systems, and restoration of wetlands, shorelines and other natural infrastructure.

Decriminalization of Drugs

The party states that:

- Canada is experiencing a deadly drug overdose epidemic. Between 2016 and 2020, there were close to 20,000 reported drug toxicity deaths
- Canada now averages 17 deaths per day from drug poisoning, and, in some parts of the country, deaths have more than doubled during the pandemic
- the rising rates of drug-related deaths have become a pressing public health issue and safety emergency
- the overdose crisis must be treated as a health-care issue rather than a criminal one. Personal possession and use of illicit drugs must be decriminalized to allow for more accessible medical and social support for those who need it
- no one should be in jail for the possession of small amounts of drugs
- Canadians who need them must have access to a safe supply of government-regulated drugs. The toxic supply of illicit drugs must be replaced, greatly reducing the risks of fentanyl poisonings and overdoses

The party advocates:

- declaring the drug poisoning crisis a national public health emergency
- decriminalizing possession of illicit drugs for personal use, including removing criminal penalties for the personal possession and use of all drugs under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act
- legislating this change rather than relying on informal, incremental, and discretionary measures that fall short of real decriminalization
- creating a national safe supply of drugs of choice
- creating a programme through the federal government so people can access pharmaceutical alternatives of drugs of choice safely
- investing in an integrated system of decriminalization and access to meaningful services for those persons who are seeking treatment, including increased funding to community-based organizations to test drugs and support those who use drugs, implementing a national education and distribution program for Naloxone, so Naloxone kits are widely available to treat overdoses and every Canadian knows what it is and how to use it; creating a legal and policy environment that funds and advances evidence-based programmes, in order to facilitate the development and scaling up of harm reduction services across all of Canada, including in rural communities and prisons; and expanding support for mental health services and addiction services for those who are seeking these services
- amnesty for those convicted of simple possession of cannabis by providing automatic pardons to anyone convicted in the past of simple possession of cannabis and ensure that any records of such offences and circumstances are expunged from police records
- moving to legally regulate currently illegal drugs based on the best available evidence regarding harms and benefits as a step towards treating problematic drug use as a health issue, including regulations with a public health focus, as is the case with alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis in Canada currently, to provide safer access while protecting individuals and populations. Depending on the substance and potential harms and benefits, regulation could range from prescriptions to regulated outlets to licensed premises, with the aim of providing safer access for adults, while protecting children and youth.

Systemic Discrimination

To eliminate systemic discrimination among the police, the party advocates:

- reviewing the operations and decision-making process of the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission and making changes to ensure that the CRCC is more accountable, effective, responsive, and transparent in its review of RCMP conduct
- ending the practice of allowing the RCMP to review and handle complaints made against it
- creating a national standard for independent and accountable oversight of policing, in cooperation with the provinces, including urging provincial and municipal bodies to implement those standards to ensure fairness and accountability in policing across the country
- developing a national standard for police use-of-force, and working with other jurisdictions to ban certain kinds of force, such as chokeholds and neck restraints
- creating a mandatory national database on the collection of police use of force data, disaggregated by race, ethnic background, national origin, age, and other identities to track victims of incidents of use-of-force by police and better understand the extent of systemic racism in Canadian policing

Sex Workers

The party states that:

- sex workers still live and work under a criminal regime. In March 2021, The Canadian Alliance for Sex Work Law Reform, which represents 25 groups that work with members of the sex trade, launched a constitutional challenge in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. They argue the laws violate provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and have launched a constitutional challenge to most of the sex-work provisions that were implemented in 2014 under the Protection for Communities and Exploited Persons Act
- despite voting against a previous government's Bill C-36, and after two terms, the Liberals have yet to take action regarding Bill C-36 or the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act

The party advocates:

- reforming sex work laws in Canada with a clear focus on harm reduction, given the dangers that sex trade workers face
- increased funding for community organizations providing services to those driven to sex work by economic deprivation



The Role and Purpose of Government

During its current term in office the Party has developed a Quality of Life Framework to be used as a guide in making policy decisions. In Annex 4 of its 2021 Budget, the party stated that:

- the framework is inspired by the Better Life Initiative of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), an intergovernmental organization based in France the grew from the rebuilding of Europe following the Second World War
- in December 2019 it directed the Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance to better integrate quality of life measurements into decision-making and budgeting
- guided by conversations with experts, nations that are advanced in their thinking about well-being, provinces and territories, Indigenous partners, and feedback from Canadians themselves, officials across the government have teamed up to create a draft “made-in-Canada” approach
- the initial Canadian was publicly announced in the 2021 Federal Budget, and comprises five factors:
 - * Prosperity
 - * Health
 - * Society
 - * Environment
 - * Good Governance

The party further states that the Quality of Life Framework consists of a set of 84 indicators, organized into a series of domains: prosperity, health, society, environment and good governance. The Framework also includes two cross-cutting lenses which are applied across all of its domains: the Fairness and inclusion lens and the Sustainability and resilience lens.

Government Services

Among recent actions to improve the delivery of government services, the party identifies:

- accelerating claims processing and reducing backlogs for Employment Insurance (EI) and Old Age Security (OAS) through allocation of \$1.02 billion to Service Canada
- reducing call centre wait times through allocation of \$574 million to Service Canada and \$400 million to the Canada Revenue Agency
- improving services at the border with a \$137 million investment in the Canada Border Services Agency
- speeding up immigration application processing by hiring 1,250 new staff and investing in more efficient technology
- providing faster services to veterans through \$115 million for Veterans Affairs Canada to reduce backlogs and retain case managers

Passport and Immigration Services

The party states that during its current term in office, in order to reduce wait times for passport and immigration services:

- it has adopted new technologies, streamlined processing, and made significant new investments, including \$135 million in 2022-23 to address immigration application backlogs
- these investments have resulted in elimination of passport application backlogs and the return to pre-pandemic processing times of 10 days for in-person applications at specialized passport offices, and 20 days for applications received by mail or dropped off at a Service Canada Centre
- it has processed 5.2 million applications for permanent residence, temporary residence, and citizenship in 2022—double the number of applications processed in 2021
- it has moved more key services online, including the confirmation of permanent residence status and the introduction of online citizenship testing and ceremonies, as well as addressing backlogs of paper-based applications through digitization

Canada.ca and 1 800 O-Canada

The party states that in order to ensure quick and easy access to information on government programs and services, whether requested by telephone or internet, including more-accessible websites, it proposes to allocate \$17.7 million over four years to Employment and Social Development Canada to increase capacity at 1 800 O-Canada call centres, improve Canada.ca.

Old Age Security IT Modernization

The party states that the federal government delivers more than \$60 billion in Old Age Security benefits to more than seven million seniors each year, and that to ensure timely and reliable delivery of these critical benefits, it proposes allocate \$123.9 million over seven years to Employment and Social Development Canada for completion of Old Age Security IT modernization

COVID 19 Emergency Benefits

The party states that:

- in view of the need to deliver emergency pandemic benefits quickly, it was inevitable that some overpayments occurred
- moreover, in some cases the the emergency support system was abused
- it proposes allocating \$53.8 million in 2022-23 to Employment and Social Development Canada to support integrity activities relating to overpayments of COVID19 emergency income supports
- it is committed to working with Canadians to recover overpayments. Those struggling with the repayment process are able to work with Canada Revenue Agency to develop a flexible repayment plan that works with their individual life circumstances

Stewardship of Office

Deficits and Debt

During its prior term in office, the party stated that:

- it anticipated annual budget deficits starting at \$398.7 billion in 2020-2021, decreasing to a deficit of \$33.4 billion in 2025-26, with a return to balanced budgets thereafter
- it anticipated that federal debt will remain above 50% of GDP until at least 2026, and considers that this is a relatively low national debt, with annual interest not exceeding 1.2 percent before 2026

The party reports that:

- it anticipates budget deficits of \$36.4 billion in 2022-23; \$30.6 billion in 2023-24; \$25.4 billion in 2024-25; \$14.5 billion in 2025-26; \$3.4 billion in 2026-27: and a surplus of \$4.5 billion in 2027-2028
- it forecasts federal debt ratios of 42.4% of GDP in 2022-23; 43.5% of GDP in 2023-24; 43.2% of GDP in 2024-25; 41.2% of GDP in 2025-26; 41.1% of GDP in 2026-27; and 39.9% of GDP in 2027-28
- Canada's net debt as a share of the economy is currently lower than in any other G7 country prior to the pandemic, and is forecasted to remain so

Procurement

In its Mandate Letter to the Minister of Public Services & Procurement at the beginning of its current mandate, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry should leverage the government's purchasing power to increase access to economic opportunity for a greater diversity of Canadians
- in addition, it should ensure that federal procurement practices support Canada's transition to a green economy, including through ongoing greening of government operations and procurement of Canadian clean technology

Tax Reform

The party states that:

- up to 12 per cent of Canadians currently do not file their tax returns—the majority of whom are low-income, and would pay little to no income tax
- in fact, many of these low-income Canadians are missing out on valuable benefits and support to which they are entitled, such as the Canada Child Benefit and the Guaranteed Income Supplement
- since
- since 2018, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has delivered a free and simple File My Return service, which allows eligible Canadians to auto-file their tax return over the phone after answering a series of short questions. Canadians with simple tax situations and lower or fixed income receive an invitation letter from the CRA to use File My Return, and in the 2022 tax filing season, approximately 53,000 returns were filed using this service

To ensure more low-income Canadians have the ability to quickly and easily auto-file their tax returns, the party plans:

- to increase the number of eligible Canadians for File My Return to two million by 2025—almost triple the current number
- starting in 2024, piloting a new CRA automatic filing service that will help vulnerable Canadians who currently do not file their taxes receive the benefits to which they are entitled

The party states that in order to promote fairness within the tax system, during its current term in office it previously:

- raised taxes on the wealthiest one per cent to cut taxes for the middle class
- permanently increased the corporate income tax rate of the largest, most profitable banks and insurance companies in Canada
- introduced a one-time, 15 per cent tax on the taxable income above \$1 billion of banking and life insurer groups to help pay for the COVID recovery
- introduced a new luxury tax on private jets, yachts, and luxury vehicles
- increased to \$15,000 the amount of income that Canadians can earn before paying any federal income tax
- prevented wealthy Canadians from using foreign shell companies to avoid paying Canadian tax
- limited excessive interest deductions to ensure that large companies pay their fair share.

Alternative Minimum Tax

The party states that:

- through the significant use of deductions, credits, and other tax preferences, some of the wealthiest Canadians pay little to no personal income tax in a given year
- the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) is intended to ensure that the highest-income Canadians cannot disproportionately lower their tax bill through advantages in the tax system
- the AMT has not been significantly reformed since its implementation in 1986

The party proposes:

- legislative amendments to raise the AMT rate from 15 per cent to 20.5 per cent and further limit the excessive use of tax preferences. These amendments would generate an estimated \$3.0 billion in revenues over five years, beginning in the 2024 taxation year
- under these reforms, the basic AMT exemption would increase more than fourfold, from \$40,000 to \$173,000, significantly increasing the income level necessary to pay the AMT, resulting in a tax cut for tens of thousands of middle-class Canadians, while more precisely target the very wealthy
- under these reforms, more than 99 per cent of the AMT paid by individual Canadians would be paid by those who earn more than \$300,000 per year, and about 80 per cent of the AMT paid would be by those who earn more than \$1 million per year

Corporate Taxes

The party states that in order to ensure that corporations are fairly taxed, and to put Canadian workers and businesses on a level playing field with global competitors, it continues to strongly support the two-pillar international tax reform plan agreed by 138 members of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting

Pillar One (Reallocation of Taxing Rights)

The party states that Pillar One will ensure that the largest and most profitable global corporations, including large digital corporations, pay their fair share of tax in the jurisdictions where their users and customers are located. Rules for taxation have been developed through an OECD-led process, and countries are working towards completing multilateral negotiations so that the treaty to implement Pillar One can be signed by mid-2023

To ensure that Canadians' interests are protected in any circumstance, it proposes to advance legislation for a Digital Services Tax. It is Canada's hope and expectation that the timely implementation of the new multilateral system will make a Digital Services Tax unnecessary

Pillar Two (Global Minimum Tax)

The party states that:

- Pillar Two, a global minimum tax regime, will ensure that large multinational corporations are subject to a minimum effective tax rate of 15 per cent on their profits wherever they do business
- to function effectively, Pillar Two requires coordinated implementation by countries around the world. Recent steps taken by a number of countries to implement Pillar Two in 2024, including the members of the European Union, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, mean the multilateral framework for the global minimum tax regime is now being put in place
- it reaffirms its intention to introduce legislation implementing the Pillar Two global minimum tax. The primary charging rule of Pillar Two and a domestic minimum top-up tax would be effective for fiscal years of multinational corporations that begin on or after December 31, 2023. The secondary charging rule would be effective for fiscal years that begin on or after December 31, 2024. The government will continue to monitor international developments as it moves forward with the implementation of Pillar Two.

Share Buybacks

The party states that during its current term in office:

- it intends to introduce a two per cent tax on share buybacks by public corporations in Canada

- the proposed tax would apply as of January 1, 2024 to the annual net value of repurchases of equity by public corporations and certain publicly traded trusts and partnerships in Canada. A business would not be subject to the tax in a year if its gross repurchases of equity were less than \$1 million
- it is estimated that this measure would increase federal revenues by \$2.5 billion over five year. Importantly, it would also encourage firms to re-invest in their workers and businesses.

Fair Taxation of Dividends Received by Financial Institutions

The party states that:

- dividends that financial institutions receive on Canadian shares are not treated as business income and are effectively exempt from tax
- financial institutions rely on this treatment to lower their tax burden, which reduces tax revenues that are important to delivering benefits and services to Canadians
- it proposes to amend the Income Tax Act to treat dividends received on Canadian shares held by financial institutions in the ordinary course of their business as business income. This measure would apply to dividends received after 2023, which would increase federal revenues by \$3.15 billion over five years, and by \$790 million ongoing

General Anti-Avoidance Rule

The party states that:

- the General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR) was added to the Income Tax Act in 1988 to prevent abusive tax avoidance. If abusive tax avoidance is established, the GAAR applies to deny the tax benefit that was unfairly created. The GAAR has helped to tackle abusive tax avoidance but it requires modernizing to ensure its continued effectiveness
- it proposes to develop draft legislative proposals to strengthen the GAAR, for consultation

Accountability

To promote accountability while improving outcomes in health care, the party states that it has asked provinces to:

- ensure that new federal investments are used in addition to provincial spending, and that provinces and territories do not divert away health care funding of their own
- uphold the Canada Health Act and use new federal spending to strengthen Canada's public health care system
- streamline foreign credential recognition for internationally educated health professionals and advance multi-jurisdictional credential recognition so that well-trained health care professionals can work wherever there is need
- improve the ways in which health information is collected, shared, used, and reported to Canadians, and adopt common data standards
- develop action plans to measure and report progress to the public, including: improved access to family health services, mental health and substance use services, supporting health care workers, and reducing backlogs and wait lists
- commit to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, including fair and equitable access to quality and culturally safe health care services

Democratic Reform

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on democratic reform.

Following the 2015 election, the party reversed a stated party and declined to enact any form of electoral reform.

Wisdom, Humility, and Respect in Politics

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on wisdom, humility, and respect in politics.

Provinces, Territories, & Municipalities

Equalization Payments

The party states that following consultations with provinces and territories, it proposes to renew the Equalization and Territorial Formula Financing programs for a five-year period, beginning April 1, 2024, with technical changes to improve the accuracy and transparency of the programs.

Quebec

In its Mandate Letter to the Minister responsible for the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister to continue to prioritize the delivery of support to small and medium-sized businesses and support job creation in communities recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Peace, International Relations

The party states that:

- as a member of the G7, G20, the Commonwealth, and La Francophonie, an important contributor to NATO, and a global supporter of democracy, equality, and human rights,

Canada is a steadfast defender of the rules-based international order in an increasingly dangerous and competitive world

- Russia's illegal and barbaric invasion of Ukraine is the most significant threat to the rules-based international order since its creation following the Second World War. Thousands of Ukrainians have been murdered, and many millions more have been displaced. The conflict has accelerated longstanding issues of poverty, income inequality, and food insecurity in the Global South
- in response, Canada has provided critical financial and military assistance to Ukraine, worked to implement unprecedented sanctions on those responsible for the war, and the Russian economy, stepped up to support vulnerable people around the world who are feeling the effects of Putin's barbaric invasion, and welcomed tens of thousands of Ukrainians to Canada
- with democracy under threat from countries like China and Russia, with global progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals slowing, and with climate change contributing to instability around the world, Canada must continue to take action on pressing humanitarian, development, and security challenges—both here at home and around the world
- over the past year this has meant responding to the hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa, providing critical humanitarian and disaster assistance in Pakistan, Türkiye, and Syria, supporting women in Iran fighting for political and human rights, and providing assistance to restore security for the Haitian people

The party further states that it has announced the following key investments to enhance the nation's security and leadership around the world:

- \$38.6 billion over 20 years to invest in the defence of North America and the modernization of NORAD
- more than \$5.4 billion in assistance for Ukraine, including critical financial, military, and humanitarian support
- more than \$545 million in emergency food and nutrition assistance in 2022-23 to help address the global food security crisis and respond to urgent hunger and nutrition needs
- \$2.3 billion over the next five years to launch Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy, including the further global capitalization of FinDev Canada, which will deepen Canada's engagement with our partners, support economic growth and regional security, and strengthen our ties with people in the Indo-Pacific
- \$350 million over three years in international biodiversity financing, in addition to Canada's commitment to provide \$5.3 billion in climate financing over five years, to support developing countries' efforts to protect nature
- \$875 million over five years, and \$238 million ongoing, to enhance Canada's cybersecurity capabilities
- delivering on a commitment to spend \$1.4 billion each year on global health, of which \$700 million will be dedicated to sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls
- channeling almost 30 per cent of Canada's newly allocated International Monetary Fund (IMF) Special Drawing Rights to support low-income and vulnerable countries, surpassing the G7's 20 per cent target

International Finance

The party states that:

- outside of Canada, the rapid tightening in monetary policy has revealed pockets of vulnerabilities in the global banking system. In March 2023, three medium-sized regional U.S. banks—Silicon Valley Bank, Signature Bank, and Silvergate Bank—failed. In Europe, one large and systemically important bank, Credit Suisse, was also nearing failure before UBS agreed to acquire it
- while the global banking system remains well capitalized, uncertainty over the extent and magnitude of additional credit-related losses that could accrue as economies slow remains elevated. In response, financial authorities have taken a series of steps to stabilize the financial system, maintain confidence in the banking system, and limit further negative feedback into the global economy
- among its key accomplishments during its current term in office, it includes channeling almost 30 per cent of Canada's newly allocated International Monetary Fund (IMF) Special Drawing Rights to support low-income and vulnerable countries, surpassing the G7's 20 per cent target.

Economic Security

The party states that:

- dependence on dictatorships for key goods and resources is a major strategic and economic vulnerability, as seen following Russia's attempts to break European resolve by cutting off natural gas supplies. Our allies are moving quickly to protect themselves from economic extortion, which includes friendshoring their economies by building their critical supply chains through other democracies
- it proposes to do the same, working together with allies and partners to will ensure that national supply chains are not vulnerable to exploitation, and that hostile foreign powers cannot buy up Canadian industries and natural resources
- as this process continues across the world's democracies, it can make our economies more resilient and national our supply chains with national values while protecting workers from unfair competition created by coercive states and race-to-the-bottom business practices

Foreign Trade

In its Mandate letter to the Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development at the beginning of its present term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's immediate priority should be to strengthen and secure critical supply chains and advance Canada's export diversification strategy
- the Ministry should prioritize efforts to ensure that small businesses and communities in every region of the country have the tools and supports they need to recover, to innovate and grow, to create new jobs, and to seize the opportunities afforded by economic diversification
- the Ministry should also work to design and launch the Futures Fund for Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador, as a key element of our plan to support a Just Transition for workers communities and industry

The party states that:

- Canada must navigate a fundamental shift in the patterns of global trade. For much of the past three decades, the global economy has become increasingly interconnected
- while economic integration lowered costs for many goods, it also built a system of global trade that was vulnerable to the disruption of critical supply chains
- for Canada and our democratic partners, the vulnerability created by dependence on authoritarian regimes for critical goods is no longer tenable. Russia's weaponization of energy exports has forced the world's democracies to fundamentally rethink their supply chain vulnerabilities. China currently dominates key portions of supply chains for clean technologies, including batteries
- mitigation of these vulnerabilities by the world's democracies will require a realignment of global trade, and the shifting of critical supply chains away from dictatorships and towards democracies like our own. This process, which has been referred to as "friendshoring," represents a significant economic opportunity for Canada and for Canadian workers

Foreign Interference

The party states that:

- Canada's democracy and diverse population make the nation a target for hostile states seeking to acquire information and technology, intelligence, and influence to advance their own interests
- examples include foreign actors working to steal information from Canadian companies to benefit their domestic industries, hostile proxies intimidating diaspora communities in Canada because of their beliefs and values, or intelligence officers seeking to infiltrate Canada's public and research institutions
- to protect Canadian residents from threats by foreign actors, and Canadian businesses public institutions from foreign interference, it proposes allocating \$48.9 million over three to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, both for protection and for more proactive engagement with communities at greater risk of being targeted; and \$13.5 million over five years, to Public Safety Canada to establish a National Counter-Foreign Interference Office

Ukraine

The party states that:

- it has supported Ukraine since the Russian invasion, and intends to stand with them for as long as it takes
- during its current term in office Canada has provided more than \$5.4 billion in total aid, including financial assistance to the government and significant military support
- financial aid includes \$2.45 billion in loans to the Government of Ukraine to help deliver essential services; leadership in creation of the IMF Administered Account for Ukraine, which has facilitated more than \$3.8 billion in financial assistance from Canada and its international partners; €36.5 million (approximately \$50 million) loan guarantee through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to facilitate support to Ukraine's state-owned energy company, Naftogaz; and, \$115 million in grant assistance to repair Kyiv's power grid
- military contributions include more than \$1 billion in military aid and equipment donations, including armoured vehicles; a National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System; 39 armoured combat support vehicles; four M777 howitzers; anti-tank weapons and small arms; and, continuation of Operation UNIFIER, which has trained more than 35,000 members of Ukraine's security forces since 2015
- other support has included \$320 million in humanitarian assistance; \$96 million in development assistance for Ukraine's government institutions and civil society organizations, and to provide grain storage solutions for farmers; more than \$81 million in support for demining operations, securing Ukraine's nuclear storage facilities, and other peace and stability initiatives; and, temporarily waiving all duties on Ukrainian imports
- it is also playing a leading role in efforts to cut Russia off from the global economy and hold Putin and his hangers-on accountable for their illegal war on Ukraine. Canada's sanctions efforts include: sanctioning more than 1,800 individuals and entities since February 2022; working with our partners in the Russian Elites, Proxies, and Oligarchs (REPO) Task Force to block or freeze more than \$58 billion worth of assets from sanctioned individuals and entities; playing a key role in the development of price caps on Russian oil and petroleum products to deprive the Kremlin of revenues to fund its illegal war; being the first country to revoke Russia's and Belarus's Most-Favoured-Nation status, which reduced imports from these two countries by more than 97 per cent; implementing a new, world-leading regime to enable the federal government to pursue the forfeiture and sale of sanctioned Russian assets in Canada; playing a leading role in international efforts to ban Russian banks from the global SWIFT financial transaction processing system; prohibiting the importation of aluminum and steel products and other key goods from Russia; and, banning the exportation of a broad range of products to Russia and Belarus, including goods that could be used in the manufacture of weapons
- since the beginning of the invasion of Ukraine, it has offered Canada as a safe haven for nearly 200,000 Ukrainian citizens and returning Canadian permanent residents of Ukrainian origin, including through the temporary Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel, including commitments for allocation of an additional \$171.4 million over three years

Foreign Assistance

The party states that:

- with human rights and the rule of law under threat from authoritarian regimes around the world, Canada has an important role to play in fighting for the values we cherish
- as a democracy, Canada has an obligation to take steps to protect the most vulnerable and help to build a safer and more prosperous world for people everywhere
- Canada is committed to improving the lives of women, girls, and vulnerable populations around the world, and to increasing international development assistance every year towards 2030. Through our Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada has delivered high levels of international assistance

With respect to economic growth in developing countries, the party states that:

- Canada has offered preferential tariff programs to developing countries since the 1970s, to support these countries in growing their economies through the export of goods to Canada
- it proposes to update and renew the General Preferential Tariff and the Least Developed Country Tariff until 2034, and create a new General Preferential Tariff Plus. This new program will build on Canada's progressive trade agenda and incentivize countries to adhere to international standards on human rights, labour conditions, gender equality, and climate change
- its proposal is estimated to reduce federal tariff revenues by \$130 million over six years
- it is gravely concerned by the ongoing human rights violations against Uyghurs and Muslim minorities in China, as well as by the use of forced labour around the world. Given these concerns, it is important that importers address their supply chain vulnerabilities and ensure their production promotes our shared Canadian values around the world. It proposes to introduce legislation by 2024 to eradicate forced labour from Canadian supply chains to strengthen the import ban on goods produced using forced labour

Veterans & Defense

The party states that:

- to ensure those who serve our country in uniform continue to have the resources they need, Budget 2022 took significant action to reinforce the Canadian Armed Forces
- it also proposes decisive action to defend Canada and our public institutions from foreign threats and interference
- its defence policy, Strong, Secure, Engaged, is committed to ensuring the Department of National Defence (DND) has stable, predictable funding. TAs a result of Strong, Secure, Engaged and subsequent funding increases, DND's annual budget is expected to more than double over ten years, from \$18.6 billion in 2016-17 to \$39.7 billion

National Defence

By Mandate Letter addressed to the Minister of National Defence at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's immediate priority was to take concrete steps to build an inclusive and diverse Defence Team, characterized by a healthy workplace free from harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct and violence, including bringing forward the necessary reforms on a priority basis to create the foundation for meaningful and lasting change in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), a vital national institution.
- it was also to continue to advance the party's vision as set out in Strong, Secure, Engaged: Canada's Defence Policy and enhance the nation's capabilities to anticipate and respond to threats at home and abroad. As part of Canada's engagement with allies and partners, the ministry was to maintain Canada's strong contribution to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), ensure continued support for United Nations peace operations, and work with the United States to modernize the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD).

The party states that investments in Canada's national defence have totaled more than \$55 billion over 20 years, including:

- \$38.6 billion over 20 years to strengthen the defence of North America, reinforce Canada's support of our partnership with the United States under NORAD, and protect our sovereignty in the North
- \$2.1 billion, and \$706.0 million ongoing for Canada's contribution to increasing NATO's common budget
- \$1.4 billion to acquire new critical weapons systems needed to protect the Canadian Armed Forces in case of high intensity conflict, including air defence, anti-tank, and anti-drone capabilities
- \$605.8 million to replenish the Canadian Armed Forces' stocks of ammunition and explosives, and to replace materiel donated to Ukraine
- \$562.2 million to improve the digital systems of the Canadian Armed Forces
- up to \$90.4 million to further support initiatives to increase the capabilities of the Canadian Armed Forces
- \$30.1 million over four years to establish the new North American regional office in Halifax for NATO's Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic
- \$1.4 billion to upgrade the facilities of Joint Task Force 2, Canada's elite counterterrorism unit

Fighter Aircraft

The party states that:

- it intends to acquire 88 F-35 fighter aircraft, at a cost of \$19 billion, to play an essential role in defending Canada's sovereignty, protecting North America, and supporting the nation's allies around the world, with the first scheduled for delivery by 2026
- it also intends to invest \$7.3 billion to modernize, replace, and build new infrastructure to support the arrival of the new F-35s. This is the first project approved under Canada's plan to modernize NORAD

NATO Climate Change and Security Centre in Montreal

The party states that:

- at the 2022 NATO Summit in Madrid, Montreal was announced as the host city for NATO's new Climate Change and Security Centre, to bring together NATO allies to mitigate the impact of climate change on military activities and analyze new climate change-driven security challenges, such as the implications for Canada's Arctic
- it proposes provide \$40.4 million over five years, with \$7 million ongoing, to Global Affairs Canada and the Department of National Defence to establish the Centre

Veterans' Services

The party states that in order to serve provide veterans benefits and services in a timely manner, it has, during its current term in office:

- invested more than \$11 billion to enhance benefits and services, and that applications for benefits have increased by 47 per cent
- in addition, it proposes to allocate \$156.7 million over five years to Veterans Affairs Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board to reduce backlogs and support service delivery across several programs and services

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

By Mandate Letter to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada at the beginning of its current term in office, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry's top priority was to ensure that all Canadians have access to fair and just treatment before the law, including reforming and modernizing the criminal justice system, which will include work to advance strategies to address systemic racism and the disproportionate representation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as Black Canadians and members of marginalized communities
- the Ministry should also prioritize implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and appointment of a Special Interlocutor to further advance justice on unmarked graves and address the legacy of residential schools.

Officer Well-Being

To help public safety officers deal with traumatic events and decrease their risk of post-traumatic stress injuries, the party proposes providing \$16.7 million over five years to the Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment at the University of Regina.

Wrongful Convictions

The party believes that under the current system, it can be too difficult, and take too long, for people who believe they have been wrongfully convicted to have their cases reviewed. The party states that it has introduced legislation to establish an independent Miscarriage of Justice Review Commission to replace the current ministerial review process and make the process more efficient and accessible, and proposes to provide \$83.9 million over five years Justice Canada for the independent Miscarriage of Justice Review Commission.

Financial Crimes

The party states that:

- serious financial crimes, such as money laundering, terrorist financing, and the evasion of financial sanctions, threaten the safety of Canadians and the integrity of our financial system. Canada requires a comprehensive, responsive, and modern system to counter these sophisticated and rapidly evolving threats
- it does not support Canada acting as a financial haven for oligarchs or the kleptocratic apparatchiks of authoritarian, corrupt, or theocratic regimes such as Russia, China, Iran, and Haiti, and will not allow the Canadian financial system to be used to clandestinely and illegally move money to fund foreign interference inside Canada
- during its current term in office the federal government has modernized Canada's Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing (AML/ATF) Regime to address risks posed by new technologies and sectors, and made investments to strengthen Canada's financial intelligence, information sharing, and investigative capacity
- the national AML/ATF Regime must continue to be strengthened in order to combat the complex and evolving threats our democracy faces

The party proposes amendments to the Criminal Code and the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA) to strengthen the investigative, enforcement, and information sharing tools of Canada's AML/ATF Regime, including:

- giving law enforcement the ability to freeze and seize virtual assets with suspected links to crime

- improving financial intelligence information sharing between law enforcement and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), and law enforcement and the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
- introducing a new offence for structuring financial transactions to avoid FINTRAC reporting
- strengthening the registration framework, including through criminal record checks, for currency dealers and other money services businesses to prevent their abuse
- criminalizing operation of unregistered money services businesses
- establishing powers for FINTRAC to disseminate strategic analysis related to the financing of threats to the safety of Canada
- provide whistleblowing protections for employees who report information to FINTRAC and broaden the use of non-compliance reports by FINTRAC in criminal investigations
- setting up obligations for the financial sector to report sanctions-related information to FINTRAC

In keeping with the requirements of the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA), the party further proposes:

- a public consultation that will examine ways to improve Canada's Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (AML/ATF), including ways in which governments can better use existing tools to seize the proceeds of crime, and the potential need for new measures, such as unexplained wealth orders
- to counteract use of anonymous Canadian shell companies to conceal the true ownership of property, businesses, and other valuable assets, implementation of a public, searchable beneficial ownership registry of federal corporations by the end of 2023
- amendments to the Canada Business Corporations Act and other laws, including the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act and the Income Tax Act, to implement a publicly accessible beneficial ownership registry through Bill C-42

The party also proposes:

- reviewing the mandate of FINTRAC to determine whether it should be expanded to counter sanctions evasion and will provide an update in the 2023 fall economic and fiscal update, and whether FINTRAC's mandate should evolve to include the financing of threats to Canada's national and economic security as part of the parliamentary review
- to strengthen Canada's ability to respond to complex cases of financial crime, establish a new Canada Financial Crimes Agency (CFCA), and provide \$2 million to Public Safety Canada to undertake this work. The CFCA will become Canada's lead enforcement agency against financial crime. It will bring together expertise necessary to increase money laundering charges, prosecutions and convictions, and asset forfeiture results in Canada. These actions will address the key operational challenges identified in both domestic and international reviews of Canada's AML/ATF Regime.

Public Safety

In its mandate letter to the Minister of Public Safety at the beginning of its current term in government, the party instructed the Minister that:

- the Ministry should prioritize efforts to keep cities and communities safe, notably by investing in crime prevention programming and implementing the party's firearms commitments
- while continuing to support the important work of law enforcement, the Ministry should likewise prioritize policing reform to address systemic racism and ensure the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) meets the needs of the communities it serves, and to ensure the RCMP continues its work to transform its culture and create a culture of accountability, equity, diversity and inclusion
- the Ministry should also take action to modernize and maintain the integrity of Canada's borders and address complex and evolving threats, including to our economy, and protect our national security interest

Pandemics & Health Emergencies

The party states that during its current term in government:

- it has committed significant funding towards the revitalization of Canada's biomanufacturing sector through a Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy, including up to 2023 more than \$1.8 billion in 32 vaccine, therapeutic, and biomanufacturing projects across Canada, alongside \$127 million for upgrades to specialized labs at universities across the country
- the life sciences ecosystem it is building is attracting major investments from leading global companies, including Moderna, AstraZeneca, and Sanofi

To continue its efforts, the party proposes:

- exploring new ways to be more efficient and effective in the development and production of the vaccines, therapies, and diagnostic tools that would be required for future health emergencies, beginning with consultation of Canadian and international experts on how to best organize our readiness efforts for years to come

Coast Guard

The party states that in order to carry out duties such as search and rescue and icebreaking operations, the Canadian Coast Guard operates 117 vessels and 22 helicopters

In order to support expansion of the Coast Guard fleet in coming decades, the party proposes to provide \$119.6 million over five years, with \$102.1 million in remaining

amortization and \$17.4 million ongoing, to Fisheries and Oceans Canada to reinforce the integrity of its helicopter fleet and ensure the Canadian Coast Guard has the necessary infrastructure and support to hire and train staff

Natural Disaster Response

The party states that:

- as a result of climate change, extreme weather is on the rise, often leaving behind severe damage to homes and communities
- the unique realities of natural disasters make them difficult to insure, leaving some Canadians financially vulnerable

The party proposes:

- launching, in partnership with provinces and territories, a new approach to address gaps in natural disaster insurance protection, including as a first step providing \$31.7 million over three years to Public Safety Canada and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to work with the Department of Finance Canada to stand-up a low-cost flood insurance program, aimed at protecting households at high risk of flooding and without access to adequate insurance. This would include offering reinsurance through a federal Crown corporation and a separate insurance subsidy program
- engaging provinces and territories on the development and implementation of such a program, as well as the requirements for its long-term fiscal sustainability, including cost-sharing and risk mitigation. In parallel, the Department of Finance and Public Safety Canada will engage with industry on solutions to earthquake insurance and other evolving climate-related insurance market challenges
- to raise awareness of flood potentials, providing \$15.3 million over three years to Public Safety Canada to create a publicly accessible online portal where Canadians can access information on their exposure to flooding.

Crypto Assets

The party states that:

- ongoing turbulence in crypto-asset markets, and the recent high-profile failures of crypto trading platform FTX, and of Signature Bank, have demonstrated that crypto-assets can threaten the financial well-being of people, national security, and the stability and integrity of the global financial system
- to protect Canadians from the risks that come with crypto-assets, there is a clear need for different orders of government to take an active role in addressing consumer protection gaps and risks to our financial system
- it is working closely with regulators and provincial and territorial partners to protect Canadians from crypto-currency risks, including with respect to their ownership by pension plans

Border Security

The party states that:

- to promote international tourism, it proposes to expand eligibility for the Electronic Travel Authorization Program to low-risk, trusted travellers from additional visa-required countries—a service which is currently available only in Brazil. This will help make Canada a more attractive destination for trusted travellers, while allowing the government to focus resources where it matters most, such as on screening higher-risk travellers. The cost of this measure is \$50.8 million over four years in forgone revenue

Asylum Seekers

The party states that:

- access to legal representation, information, and advice ensures that Canada's asylum process is fair for everyone, and makes the process more efficient. For asylum seekers who are unable to pay for legal support, the federal government helps fund legal aid services in partnership with provinces and territories
- to that end, it proposes to provide \$43.5 million in 2023-24 to Justice Canada to maintain federal support for immigration and refugee legal aid services



The Role of Government

The party has released no official statement concerning its policies on the role of government in the context of the meaning and purpose of life.

Stewardship & Accountability

Fiscal Plan

The party states that:

- recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will be challenging. Canadians have scarified enough, and ordinary people shouldn't have to pay for the recovery
- thanks to policies of prior governments, good jobs, a clean environment, quality health care, and a dignified retirement are further away than ever for many Canadians
- it is proud to have a fiscal plan that will jump-start rebuilding, while making life easier for ordinary people.
- Jagmeet and the New Democrat team are ready to make the richest pay their fair share towards the recovery, while delivering the help that people need now

Economic Recovery

The party states that:

- to build back from COVID-19, it's essential to make investments that pay off where it counts – in communities and families. Its plan will make historic investments to jump-start economic growth, get people back to work, and make life better for everyone
- strengthening public services, creating good jobs in every community, and delivering help to those who need it most are core to its recovery plan
- its progressive revenue and spending measures will reduce inequality and help make life more affordable for ordinary people
- in all cases, it will manage debt and deficits responsibly, borrowing when required to rebuild and defend the services that Canadians and their families rely on, and moving to balance when it is prudent to do so. Canada's long-run finances will be fiscally sustainable according to the PBO's fiscal sustainability measures
- by assisting the provinces in pharmacare, health care and child care, it will help to relieve the fiscal sustainability squeeze impacting the vast majority of Canadian provinces

Revenues

The party states that:

- its approach to raising revenues will put people first, tackle the inequality crisis facing our country, strengthen the integrity of the tax system, and ensure that large, profitable corporations and the very richest pay a little bit more
- while profitable corporations benefit tax breaks, Canadian families are falling behind. It proposes to roll corporate tax cuts back to their 2010 levels, or 18%, while maintaining the small business tax rate at its current level
- for the highest income individuals in Canada (those making over \$210,000), it will increase the top marginal tax rate by two points to 35 percent
- those at the very top – super-rich multi-millionaires with over \$10 million in wealth – will be asked to pay more towards our shared services with a 1% wealth tax
- to make the tax system fairer and more progressive, it also propose to increase the amount of investment profits subject to capital gains taxation to 75%, the rate that was in place in 2000: 88 per cent of this billion-dollar benefit currently goes to the richest 1% of Canadians
- it will also strengthen enforcement to stop tax evaders and others who have benefited from offshore tax havens for too long, including forcing corporations to prove the economic substance of their offshore transactions, closing tax loopholes like the CEO stock option deduction, and reviewing and reprofiling tax expenditures that don't benefit everyday Canadians
- to help address housing speculation, it advocates a 20% foreign buyers tax on purchases of residential property by foreign corporations or people who are not citizens or permanent residents

Tax Reform

The party states that:

- important government services need to be funded sustainably
- the COVID-19 pandemic has driven tax and service inequalities even deeper than before. While millions of families and small businesses have been pushed to the brink during the pandemic, Canadian billionaires are \$78 billion richer since the first lockdown in 2020 – and counting

The party advocates:

- to protect family budgets and force big corporations and big polluters to start paying what they owe, raising revenues through new, fair and progressive taxation sources to make the investments Canadians need to thrive
- to prevent profiteering during the pandemic, a temporary COVID-19 excess profit tax that puts an additional 15% tax on large corporate windfall profits during the pandemic, targeting large corporations that took publicly-funded COVID-19 wage subsidies and turned around and paid out executive bonuses, executed stock buy-backs, or paid shareholder dividends
- to make the tax system fairer and ensure that the wealthiest individuals are paying their fair share, increasing the capital gains inclusion rate to 75 percent
- boosting the top marginal tax rate two points, implementing a luxury goods tax on things like yachts and private jets, and a new wealth tax
- to ensure that large, profitable corporations are contributing to important services and infrastructure, rolling back corporate income tax cuts by three percentage points to 2010 levels
- ensuring that internet giants like Facebook, Google and Amazon pay their fair share of taxes, like other companies

- to boost the integrity of our tax system and combat tax evasion, taking measures to close loopholes that include eliminating bearer shares, compelling companies to prove the economic reason for their offshore transactions, and improving transparency on taxes paid by large corporations
- boosting compliance funding to Canada Revenue Agency's enforcement section dealing with international and corporate taxation, to ensure that companies can't evade new measures
- making investments to manage debt and deficits responsibly, borrowing when required to defend important services, and moving towards balance in the future when it's prudent to do so

Electoral Reform

The party states that:

- generations of Canadians have built strong democratic institutions, but the first-past-the-post voting system is out of date and not working as well as it should. Too often, majority governments are elected with only a minority of support, leaving many people disillusioned feeling that their voice is not being heard
- the party currently in power promised to deliver reform that would ensure that every vote, and to make 2015 the very last federal election to be held under the first-past-the-post electoral system; but once in power, it broke that promise and turned its back on progressive democratic reforms.
- to make the voting system fairer and ensure that everyone's vote counts, it is committed to implementing mixed-member proportional representation, including establishment of an independent citizen's assembly to recommend the best way to implement it for the next election, to ensure both local representation and a federal government that reflects the voters' choice of parties and a referendum once voters have had an opportunity to experience the new system, to confirm their choice
- young people are increasingly engaged in the world, and many are worried about facing a future with rising inequality and catastrophic climate change: often they can see themselves paying the biggest price for the decisions governments are making today. They should have a say in their future: if they are old enough to work and pay taxes, they are old enough to vote. It's time to lower the voting age to 16
- to address the threat of outside interference in elections, it advocates action to combat the publication of disinformation and "fake news" online, the party advocates holding social media platforms to their responsibility to flag and remove fraudulent accounts, and to respond promptly to harassment, threats, and hate speech

Government Accountability

The party states that:

- ethical government is essential for a healthy democracy, and when people lose that trust, everyone suffers. It undermines democracy
- it advocates immediate steps to boost accountability, end insider benefits and take the influence of big money out of government
- the conflict of interest regime needs to be strong, comprehensive and impose real penalties when politicians break the rules. It advocates tougher penalties, and a ban on cash-for-access events to prohibit government officials from accepting donations from anyone whose private interest could be benefited by their decisions
- in view of recent events, it advocates formally prohibiting corporations facing criminal charges from lobbying elected officials. Prosecutions of corporate crime must be thorough and completely independent of political interference
- it advocates working the provinces towards abolishing the Senate the Senate, which is undemocratic, unaccountable, and does not represent the people, and in the meantime preventing Senators from holding up legislation that has already been adopted by the elected Members of Parliament
- it advocates introduction of an ethical, social and environmental screen on government procurement, so that Canadians can be confident that their tax dollars are not going to pay for bribes in foreign countries, or pollution that will have to be cleaned later
- it also advocates empowering the Auditor General to review taxpayer-funded government advertising to ensure it is non-partisan

Services

The party advocates:

- restoration of door-to-door mail delivery to all communities that lost it under prior governments, and protect it against future cuts as an important service
- implementation of a service guarantee, requiring departments to establish and publish binding service standards for Employment Insurance, veterans support, Indigenous services, passports, CRA call centers, and other services

Peace and International Relations

The party believes that Canadian interests are best served by a strong and principled foreign policy based on human rights, multilateralism, and the best interests of global peace and security.

The party states that:

- it advocates standing up to China with a strong and coherent strategy to defend Canadian interests at home and abroad, including working with the nation's allies to lead a robust and coordinated international response to China's disregard of the rule of law, calling out human rights abuses by China, standing with Hong Kong pro-democracy asylum seekers, and providing coordinated support for those facing threats by Chinese entities in Canada

- it believes that Canada has an important role to play in helping the world's most vulnerable. Under the current government, international assistance spending has fallen to the lowest levels in 50. It is committed to boosting international development assistance to 0.7 percent of Gross National Income
- Canada must also do its fair share to help achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030, including alleviating poverty, ensuring decent work, protecting the rights of Indigenous communities and supporting global peace and justice
- Canada has an important role to play in ensuring that long-term strategies are in place to strengthen health systems in developing countries, including contributing more to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to end these epidemics and support health care systems in developing countries
- it is committed to upholding the rights of women and girls as a central purpose of foreign policy, and we will step up efforts to promote gender equality abroad with a strong international agenda to promote rights and security and access to education for women and girls, including ensuring that women have a seat at the peace table
- it advocates holding Canadian companies to a high standard of corporate social responsibility at home and abroad
- it advocates making Canada a force for peace, including support for nuclear disarmament, recommitting to peacekeeping, and make sure that Canadian-made weapons are not fuelling conflict and human rights abuses abroad
- recognizing that both Palestinians and Israelis have the right to live in safety and security, it proposes working towards a just and lasting two-state solution between Israel and Palestine that respects human rights and upholds international law.
- Canada must play an active and constructive role in advancing peace, beginning by suspending arms sales to Israel until the end of the illegal occupation
- Canada must also take a global leadership role in helping low-income countries deal with the impacts of climate change, including financing to help protect the people who are most vulnerable to climate change, as well as living up to new, robust emissions reductions targets here at home

Foreign Trade

The party states that:

- that trade is essential for national economic success
- however, trade deals should be fair, respect human rights, protect the environment, and put the interests of Canadian workers and communities first
- it supports fair trade that broadens opportunity in all areas of the country, while protecting our industries and upholding labour standards, environmental protections and human rights around the world
- it will always defend Canadian workers, protect supply management, stand up against unfair tariffs

The party advocates:

- transparency in trade negotiations, so that Canadians can clearly understand the costs and benefits of any proposed agreement and have their say before it's signed
- direct public engagement on the expected costs and benefits of potential trade deals, as well as ensuring that all trade agreements are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- evaluating all potential trade deals for their social, environmental and gendered impact on Canadians
- ensuring that trade agreements should have enforceable labour, human rights and environmental protections, including protection against measures that could increase the cost of pharmaceuticals, weaken cultural protections, or undermine privacy rights
- protecting Canadian businesses working to transition to low-carbon processes, and border carbon adjustments to level the playing field on imports from areas without a carbon price
- modernizing trade remedy systems and, and ensuring that trade unions have full standing in trade cases and the ability to initiate trade disputes, as is the case in other countries

National Defense & Veterans

Veterans

The party states that:

- in honour of the service they provided, Canadian veterans should be offered the best care and support possible when they come home
- previous governments have denied and clawed back benefits, taken veterans to court, and cut access to basic care, failing to improve long wait lists and leaving billions in earmarked money unspent. Years of court cases and broken promises have deepened disappointment and mistrust among veterans

The party advocates:

- working with veterans to design a system that provides fair benefits to all veterans, including equal access to lifetime pensions
- ending backlogs and implementing high-quality, personalized service delivery by providing one caseworker for every twenty-five veterans, hiring more disability adjudicators, implementing automatic approvals for the most common injuries, and improving services that are delivered by phone and online
- providing care and support at the time of separation, and ensuring that benefits are in place prior to release from service

- to support disabled veterans and their families, expanding the caregiver allowance to include more people
- working with partners in community services and the veterans community to end veteran homelessness
- ensuring that taxes earmarked for veterans care actually gets spent on it, and automatically carrying forward all annual lapsed spending in Veterans Affairs
- making the Veterans Ombudsman fully independent so they can report transparently and directly to the public

Defense

The party states that:

- Canada's military is responsible for three important roles – defending the nation, protecting Canadians at home, and contributing to a more stable, peaceful world through operations abroad
- during the pandemic, members of the military took on the critical role of providing care to our seniors in long term care, exposing terrible conditions that led to thousands of COVID-19 deaths
- the military currently has outdated equipment, inadequate support and an unclear strategic mandate
- it advocates ensuring that our troops have the equipment, training, and support they need to do the difficult and dangerous work they are asked to do, including ensuring that funding is adequate to support national defence and international commitments, with a renewed priority of advancing multilateral peacekeeping initiatives around the world
- it advocates bringing search and rescue response times up to international standards, and ensuring that capabilities are sufficient to meet the needs of the North
- in contracting for new military equipment, including ships and fighter jets, it will ensure maximum industrial benefits and jobs, to help ensure the survival of healthy shipbuilding and aerospace industries
- it opposes privatization of services on Canadian Forces bases
- it envisions a military where Canadian Armed Forces members can work safely, get the support they need, and count on fair policies to govern their work, including making mental health support for members and their families a priority
- it is also committed to ending sexual harassment and assault in the military. To support survivors of sexual misconduct and address a culture of silence and impunity that extends right to the top of the chain of command, it will immediately implement the recommendations of the Deschamps Report, including establishing independent oversight and accountability for sexual harassment and assault in the military
- it will also ensure that recruitment and retention efforts of the Canadian Armed Forces reflect the diversity of Canada
- finally, it will reform the universality of service principle to make sure that ill and injured Canadian Armed Forces members are not unfairly pushed out of service

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Public Safety & Reconciliation

The party states that:

- it believes government must work to end systemic discrimination against Indigenous peoples in the justice system
- in accordance with Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action 30, 31 and 32, it proposes to remove most mandatory minimums, increase the discretion of judges during sentencing, ensure bail programs are culturally appropriate, bolster funding for community justice programs that focus on healing and restorative justice rather than incarceration, and upholding the use of Gladue principles in court proceedings
- it will work with Indigenous communities to enhance community safety and develop a First Nations justice and policing strategy including making First Nations Policing an essential service with long term, sufficient and equitable funding, while taking steps to end discriminatory policing practices like carding
- it believes that Inuit should have control over policing in their own communities, and advocates allowing the Inuit to independently oversee policing in Nunavut, while working with the Inuit to develop a long-term strategy for recruiting and retaining Inuit and Inuktitut speakers to work in community safety roles
- it advocates upholding and strengthening the Directive on Civil Litigation Involving Indigenous Peoples, to end to costly and adversarial legal battles with Indigenous communities

Public Safety

The party states that:

- building a sense of community safety is not just about the absence of crime – It's about making sure that everyone matters, that we address the root causes of crime, and that the justice system treats everyone fairly
- focusing on increasing social inclusion, promoting public health, ensuring food security, access to education, affordable housing and increasing youth engagement, reduces the risk of crime. But when crime threatens and safety is at risk, there's much more that the federal government can do to protect Canadians and foster safer communities for the long term
- police accountability is an important way to make our communities safer. It's past time to put in place robust and independent civilian oversight of the RCMP

The party advocates:

- review of the RCMP's budget and the RCMP Act in order to ensure public accountability
- release of all use-of-force incidents by the RCMP a full review of these practices
- to end police violence, implementation of a federal use-of-force standard with a zero-tolerance policy for inappropriate use-of-force, and overhauling federal police training to ensure that every officer receives robust and ongoing de-escalation, implicit-bias and cross-cultural training throughout their career
- increased investment in non-police interventions, such as mental health and addiction supports
- victims should have access to services and supports such as counselling, referrals, police and court-related services, and a voice in decisions that may impact their safety
- to deal with to national security, including foreign interference and espionage, terrorism and cybercrime, by working with international allies, enhancing real-time oversight of security services, and fully respecting the privacy and Charter rights of all Canadians, and strengthening protection for Canadians who are victims of foreign interference and threats

White Supremacism

The party states that:

- it's time for the federal government to tackle white supremacy, terrorism and the growing threat of hate crimes targeting communities
- it advocates immediate work to ensure that all major cities have dedicated hate crime units within local police forces, and to convene a national working group to counter online hate
- to reduce the number of lives lost to gun crime, it advocates keeping assault weapons and illegal handguns off our streets, and tackling gun smuggling and organized crime
- to protect communities against gangs, it advocates ensuring community access to funding for anti-gang projects that help deter at-risk youth from joining gangs
- to address radicalization, focusing on preventing youth from falling prey to violent extremism, including through support for community-led initiatives

Crimes & Courts

The party states that:

- Canada continues to face a justice system that is overburdened, slow and doesn't treat everyone fairly
- it advocates restoring the independence of the judiciary by reducing reliance on mandatory minimums and allowing trial judges to have greater discretion in sentencing
- to advance reconciliation, it advocates ensuring that Gladue principles are consistently applied in court proceedings, and uphold the importance of community-based and restorative justice approaches
- it will proactively expunge criminal records for Canadians convicted of minor cannabis possession. Too many people are still burdened with criminal records for simple possession
- records that affect their employment opportunities and their ability to travel
- to ensure that the most vulnerable have access to legal, it advocates increased federal funding for legal aid programs across the country



Role of Government

The party states that:

- a nation must be based on a sense of belonging, of participating in a common national project, and sharing the same values. It's only when these sentiments are widely shared that we can develop the trust and common understanding necessary for our society and institutions to function
- over the past decades, the government of Canada has pursued a policy of official multiculturalism that encourages immigrants to keep the values and culture they left behind instead of integrating into Canadian society and adopting Canadian values and culture
- the current government has pushed this ideology even further into a form of extreme multiculturalism, the prime minister describing Canada as the first post-national state, with no core identity
- in a free society, immigrants have the right to cherish and maintain their cultural heritage. However, that doesn't mean we have any obligation to help them preserve it, with government programs and taxpayers' money. The vast majority of Canadians rightly expect them to learn about our history and culture, master one of our official languages, and adopt widely shared Canadian values
- our distinct values include: democracy; individual rights and freedoms, including freedom of religious belief and freedom to criticize religion; equality between men and women; the equal treatment of all citizens regardless of ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation; the rule of law; separation of state and religion; tolerance and pluralism; and loyalty to the wider society instead of to one's clan or tribe
- If we want to keep our country united, and ensure social cohesion, we must focus on what unites us as Canadians, not what divides us

Fiscal Stewardship

The party states that:

- in 2020-2021, the federal government recorded a \$354 billion deficit, and Canada’s net debt surpassed \$1 trillion (or \$1000 billion) for the first time
- during the pandemic the government added hundreds of billion dollars to the deficit, so that by 2024 the total will reach a record \$1.2 trillion (\$1,200 billion)
- these deficits were entirely funded by money printed by the Bank of Canada, which has predictably fueled inflation and forced the Bank to hike interest rates
- Canadians are paying for the deficit indirectly, through higher prices on all goods and services
- according to data published in 2021 by the Parliamentary Budget Officer, if current policies are not adjusted, the federal government will only balance its budget again in the year 2070. A baby born in 2021 already owes more than \$26,000 in federal government debt

The party advocates:

- in order to avoid passing on debt to our children, aggressively cutting spending and balancing the budget as quickly as possible
- reversing new spending programs announced by the current government
- eliminating the deficit by the end of a first mandate through fiscal prudence and spending cuts, including corporate welfare, foreign development aid, CBC, equalization payments, and funding for programs which are provincial or municipal responsibilities
- depoliticising the tax system and making it simpler and fairer, including particularly the elimination of targeted tax measures that are inefficient and serve no compelling public policy purpose
- cutting personal income taxes, corporate taxes, and the personal capital gains tax after the deficit has been eliminated, over the course of several budgets, as the fiscal room is found to allow it

Parties, Territories & Municipalities

The party states that:

- the original purpose of the system of equalization payments was to ensure that all Canadians have access to a similar level of services from their provincial government, regardless of whether they live in richer or poorer provinces, and as a way to unite the country
- in current practice, equalization payments encourage recipient provinces to maintain large public sectors, keep taxes high, and intervene more in their economies, which drives out investment and lowers employment and productivity, depriving them of incentives to make their economies more competitive and develop their natural resources
- provinces should not be receiving equalization payments for decades, just as individuals should not be receiving welfare cheques all their lives

The party advocates:

- reducing the total amount of equalization payments to provinces, and making sure that only the provinces with the greatest needs benefit from it
- establishment of a parliamentary committee to review and make recommendations on a new formula that will avoid the welfare trap and provide poorer provinces with the right incentives to adopt pro-growth, economic policies and reduce their dependence on federal money
- ensuring that the new formula respects our Constitution, makes provincial governments more responsible for their policy decisions, and is fair for citizens of all provinces

Interprovincial Trade

The party states that:

- more than a century and a half after Canada’s founding, Canadians still cannot buy, sell, or work freely within their own country. In order to protect local special interests, provincial governments have adopted all kinds of measures that erect barriers to trade and labour mobility
- in some cases, it is easier for a Canadian company to sell its product in another country than in another province or territory. This hinders competition and impedes growth, while forcing Canadian consumers to pay more for goods and services
- Section 121 of the Constitution states that goods must be “admitted free into each of the other provinces.” However, in the 2018 Comeau case, the Supreme Court ruled that measures which have the effect of limiting trade are unconstitutional only if it can be demonstrated that this is their “primary purpose.” This level of proof would be extremely difficult to establish in most cases
- according to a recent Statistics Canada study, the level of trade within Canada corresponds to what would be expected if each province imposed a 7% tariff on “imports” of goods and services from other provinces
- a 2016 study published in the Canadian Journal of Economics concluded that interprovincial trade barriers cost Canadians roughly \$100 billion in lost economic opportunities annually, equivalent to \$7,500 per household every year

The party advocates:

- reasserting the authority and leadership of the federal government on internal trade
- use of section 91(2) of the Constitution, which gives Ottawa exclusive power to regulate matters of international and interprovincial trade, to force provinces to apply the principle of mutual recognition where applicable

– appointment of a Minister of Internal Trade whose sole responsibility will be to conduct studies, raise public awareness, counteract the influence of special interests that benefit from interprovincial barriers, and put pressure on provincial governments to get rid of them

International Relations

The party states that:

- the exclusive priority of the government of Canada on the international scene should be to manage our relations with other countries in order to protect and further the interests of Canadians
- however, there is a trend to dilute national sovereignty, and to favour increased international policy coordination as well as the redistribution of wealth from rich to poor countries under the supervision of the United Nations
- over the past several years Canada has signed many UN treaties, accords and compacts on issues ranging from global warming to migration and sustainable development, that tie us to this corrosive globalist agenda
- the United Nations is a dysfunctional organisation where non-democratic countries, because of their large numbers, have the most influence
- existing aid programs discourage enterprise and innovation in poorer countries, creating a cycle of dependency and helping authoritarian governments stay in power

The party advocates:

- promoting a common-sense foreign policy focused on the security and prosperity of Canadians, not an ideological approach that compromises our interests
- continuing to work closely with our allies to maintain a peaceful international order, while avoiding foreign conflicts such as the war in Ukraine unless we have a compelling strategic interest in being involved
- prioritizing relations with our main trading and defence partner, the US, to ensure continued prosperity and security
- withdraw from all UN commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Compact on Migrations and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, that threaten our sovereignty, and reduce our presence in UN institutions to a minimum
- liberalize trade with as many countries as possible, while ensuring our security and protecting our economy from the threat of potentially hostile foreign investors
- saving billions of dollars by phasing out development aid, and focusing Canadian international assistance exclusively on emergency humanitarian action in cases such as health crises, major conflicts and natural disasters

Defense & Veterans' Affairs

The party states that:

- successive governments have starved our military forces of funds, equipment and support, and broken their trust with those who made an exceptional personal commitment to put life and limb at risk in the interests of the nation
- the backbone of any military is the character of the men and women who serve. The fastest way to demoralize and undermine a country's military is to fail to look after injured soldiers when they return home or to provide for the families of those who did not return. Until 2006, veterans injured or disabled during military service received a tax-free lifetime disability pension under the Pension Act, as determined by a veteran's disability assessment, including support and survivor benefits for spouses and dependent children
- the New Veterans Charter replaced those pensions with a one-time lump sum disability payout that is wholly inadequate, leaving many injured and disabled veterans in dire financial straits and creating two classes of veterans
- the Parliamentary Budget Officer has calculated that the Pension for Life provides the average veteran lifetime payments less than one third of what would have been provided under the Pension Act

The party advocates:

- to recognize and respect the unique sacrifices of those who serve and have served in Canada's Armed Forces, enshrining in legislation the country's obligations to our veterans in a Military Covenant between the government and those who serve in the Armed Forces
- reinstating the fair disability pension as previously provided for by the Pension Act. The pension will apply retroactively to 2006 and lump sum payments received since then will be treated as advance payments
- a line-by-line review of the New Veterans Charter (including the Enhanced New Veterans Charter Act of 2011), to determine which policies and programs should be retained, simplify the system and make it easier to navigate
- reemphasizing the legislative guarantee of the "Benefit of doubt" standard under the Pension Act

Firearms

The party states that:

- the use of firearms has always been part of Canadian tradition and culture. Today, there are over 2 million hunters, ranchers, trappers, farmers, target shooters, recreational shooters and collectors who possess firearms in our country

- despite this group being exceptionally law abiding and the most highly vetted segment in the Canadian population, the existing firearms legislation unfairly targets them, does not respect their property rights, and is highly arbitrary
- since 2019, the current government has pursued a course of highly aggressive restrictions that criminalize most responsible and peaceful firearm owners. Firearm owners are currently subject to the most hostile assault on their rights in over a generation
- the Firearms Act continues to classify firearms into different categories for reasons which frequently have nothing to do with their function. Firearms can also be assigned new classifications at the whim of a bureaucrat. What is legal one day can become illegal the next
- under the licensing system of the Act, the ownership of firearms has become a privilege that can be revoked or altered at any moment. Legitimate gun owners can lose their property and even have their life ruined by being criminally charged through their inaction (by not keeping their paperwork up to date for example) or due to the moving goalposts of Canadian firearms law

The party advocates:

- protecting society from the criminal misuse of firearms and prioritizing the deterrence and punishment of criminals while providing a legal framework that protects the property rights of firearm owners and treats them with fairness and respect
- replacing the Firearms Act and supporting legislation with new legislation that will prioritize effective measures to improve public safety and fight crime in Canada
- replacing the costly and burdensome licensing system with an efficient lifetime certification system for firearms owners following mandatory vetting, safety training and testing
- requiring that all firearms categories be based on function, not on looks or arbitrary political whims, and remove restrictions which unfairly target sport shooters, but have no deterrent effect on criminals
- repealing the government's 2020 cabinet decision to ban 1500 types of firearms
- repealing Bill C-71, which imposes a set of new restrictions on licensed gun owners and businesses that sell firearms, and Bill C-21, which freezes the sale and transfer of handguns and arbitrarily adds certain types of rifles and shotguns to the list of banned firearms
- mandating that all future changes to firearms regulation be completed through Parliament only, so that neither the RCMP nor bureaucrats are enabled to reclassify arms without the approval of Parliament

Right of Self-Defense

The party states that:

- under the current government, Canada has become a dramatically more dangerous place. After declining for decades, crime is on the rise and Canadians feel unsafe, even in their own homes
- one way to deter crime is to make it clear to criminals that there are laws and enforcement means in place that make it likely that they will be caught and severely punished. Another is the fear that their victims will defend themselves
- any justice system grounded in morality and reason allows self-defence. In Canada, this right is, however, inconsistently applied due to the law's complexity and imprecision. There have been many cases over the past years when honest citizens who defended themselves against violent assailants were themselves charged and went on trial because they used force that was not deemed "reasonable in the circumstances" and "proportionate to the perceived threat."
- the Criminal Code specifically makes it illegal to carry and use even non-lethal devices such as pepper spray as modes of defence against potential attackers. This makes women in particular even more defenceless and prone to fall victim to aggression and sexual violence.
- section 34 of the Criminal Code states in what circumstances individuals can use force to defend themselves or others if force is being used or threatened against them or others. Section 35 recognizes certain circumstances where an individual is justified in using physical force against another person to protect his or her property from being entered, taken, damaged or destroyed.
- according to at least one experienced lawyer [see party policy statements for name], although the Criminal Code was amended in 2013 to clarify these self-defence sections, the law remains imprecise, and has been dealt with on a very uneven basis, being primarily driven by the individual opinions and emotions of police and prosecutors. In at least one recent Manitoba case, a judge sentenced a homeowner to five years in prison for manslaughter in the death of a person who entered his house in the middle of the night and attacked him with a knife. The resident took the assailant's weapon and stabbed him with it. The judge found that he had a right to protect himself but had gone beyond what was necessary for self-defence. Condemning a person to years in prison for having their assessment of a perceived threat in defending themselves while in a state of panic after being violently attacked, is clearly a breach of the universal human right to self-defence, and can be damaging to a defender's mental health, family life, and livelihood
- victims of robbery are typically advised to call the police and avoid confrontation with assailants while waiting for the police to arrive, but police stations are often far away and it can take a long time for the police to arrive on the scene of a crime, particularly in rural areas
- Section 92 of the Criminal Code makes it illegal to possess and carry pepper spray for self-defence and punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years.
- Canadians should be able to defend themselves in circumstances where they are violently attacked or are victims of robbery in their own homes, without fear of criminal charges.
- everybody, and women in particular, should be allowed to carry effective means of self-defence against aggressors and rapists

The party advocates:

- amending section 34 of the Criminal Code to clarify and fortify the right to self-defence, and increase the burden of proof necessary to charge and convict victims who used force to defend themselves against a violent attacker
- amending section 35 of the Criminal Code to include the concept of the inviolability of one's home, known as "Castle Doctrine," that allows victims to use force (up to and including deadly force) to defend themselves against a violent intruder, free from legal prosecution.
- amending the Criminal Code to remove pepper spray from the list of prohibited weapons and make it legal to possess and carry it for self-defence.

Drugs

The party states that:

- marijuana is a gateway drug, impairs judgment and contributes to traffic fatalities
- pregnant mothers pass THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) to their pre-born children
- it would eliminate "drug injection sites" and re-criminalize the possession and sale of recreational marijuana

Points to Ponder: Good Government

Consider discussing the following with your local candidates, elected representatives, and the parties, and discussing with your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and fellow parishioners:

The Role and Purpose of Government

Catholics have definite ideas about the purpose of life and, arising from that purpose, the proper roles of civil society, government, and other social institutions.

- Are those ideas shared by most Canadians? If not, to what extent can or should we share our ideas with other Canadian?
- Are any values held in common by most Canadians? If so, what are they, and how do they inform the proper role of government and other social institutions? For example, what do we owe each other, and what does the answer mean for government, charities, schools, etc.?
- Is it possible to meaningfully or responsibly define a role for government – and therefore a party's platform – without reference to the proper role of government and other social institutions? Should Catholics look to political parties to share their views on the role and the purpose of government as a part of their platforms?
- the Government of Canada has recently published a Framework for Quality of Life (<https://www160.statcan.gc.ca/infosheet-infofiche-eng.htm>), and has instructed its ministers that "Across our work, we remain committed to ensuring that public policies are informed and developed through an intersectional lens, including applying frameworks such as Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) and the quality of life indicators in decision-making." To what extent is the quality of life framework consistent with the principles and values of Catholic social teaching?

Truth, Respect & Good Governance

- Each of the mandate letters used to instruct its ministers at the time the current government assumed office explains that: "Canadians expect us to work hard, speak truthfully and be committed to advancing their interests and aspirations. When we make mistakes – as we all will – Canadians expect us to acknowledge them, and most importantly, to learn from them." Has this standard been met by government and by each of the parties since this last election? To the extent it has not, what can or should individual Canadians do to encourage their governments to attain it?
- It is an unfortunate and nearly universal practice for our political parties, in framing their platforms and policy statements, to focus at least as much on what's wrong with the other parties as they do on what's right about themselves. How can we, as citizens and voters, help encourage parties to look for common ground, speak positively about one another, and voice their suggestions for improvement in respectful and collaborative terms?

Democratic Reform

- The federal government and several provincial governments collect and distribute money to political parties. How is such money divided between the parties? What arguments exist in favor of this practice? Are there arguments against it? Do recent scandals indicate, as some parties have charged, that the entire political financing system should be overhauled?
- Canada has long debated the advantages and disadvantages of first-past-the-post vs. proportional voting schemes. Should the present system be changed? If so, how?
- in recent years several parties have barred members who are otherwise in good standing from running, based on the candidates' announcement of positions that are inconsistent with specific planks of a party's platform. Are such practices consistent with good democratic principles? If so, when and under what conditions?
- It is very often the case that party members and candidates – including particularly rank-and-file members and staff members – are very good people, who sacrifice much in order to contribute to a better world. And it seems too seldom that we thank them, or have anything other than criticism to offer. What can we, as individuals, do to thank and support these selfless people?

Public – Private Partnerships

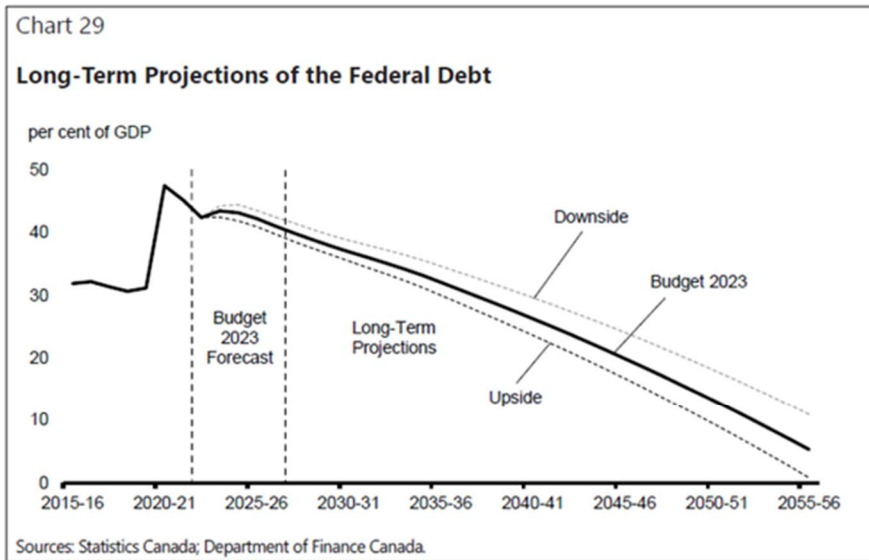
Cooperation between government and corporations or other private entities can be instrumental in accomplishing great common projects. On the other hand, unwatched they can become instruments of misuse.

- To what extent should public-private partnerships be allowed, for research, infrastructure development, or other purposes?
- What type(s) of entities should be considered when contemplating such partnerships? Local or foreign corporations? Non-profit or charitable organizations?
- How should such partnerships be monitored or regulated, in order to assure that arms-length relationships are maintained, and that principles of subsidiarity are respected?

- Should public universities be allowed or encouraged to engage in profit-making ventures such as research and development directed toward specific products or commercial goals, or major sports events? If so, how can the primary educational function of such institutions be maintained while respecting the independence and importance of educators?
- To what extent should governments, NGOs, or public-private partnerships be allowed or encouraged to engage in social or cultural engineering of other societies or cultures? Under what, if any, circumstances should aid be tied to social objectives such as birth control or ideological control?

Fiscal Responsibility

Chart 29 on the left below, which is taken from Canada’s 2023-2024 Budget, is a projection of federal debt over the next three decades. Table 2 on the right is taken from a report of the Parliamentary Budget Officer, and projects debt over a much shorter period of time. Can the two charts be compared with each other meaningfully? If so, can they be reconciled? What, if any, questions or conclusions should Canadians draw from these charts?



Source: Canada Federal Budget 2023-2024

Table 2

Summary of the fiscal outlook, billions of dollars (unless otherwise stated)

Fiscal year	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Revenues	447.8	457.4	483.2	503.9	527.3	550.6	576.5
Program expenses	438.6	450.0	469.1	483.5	495.8	514.5	533.3
Public debt charges	35.0	46.7	52.1	52.9	56.5	59.5	62.0
Actuarial losses	9.6	7.6	2.8	3.1	0.1	0.9	-1.8
Expenses	483.1	504.2	524.0	539.5	552.5	575.0	593.4
Budgetary balance	-35.3	-46.8	-40.8	-35.5	-25.1	-24.4	-16.9
Federal debt	1,173.0	1,220.7	1,261.5	1,297.1	1,322.2	1,346.6	1,363.6
Budgetary balance, % of GDP	-1.3	-1.6	-1.4	-1.2	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5
Federal debt, % of GDP	41.7	42.4	42.5	42.0	41.2	40.3	39.2

Source: Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer.