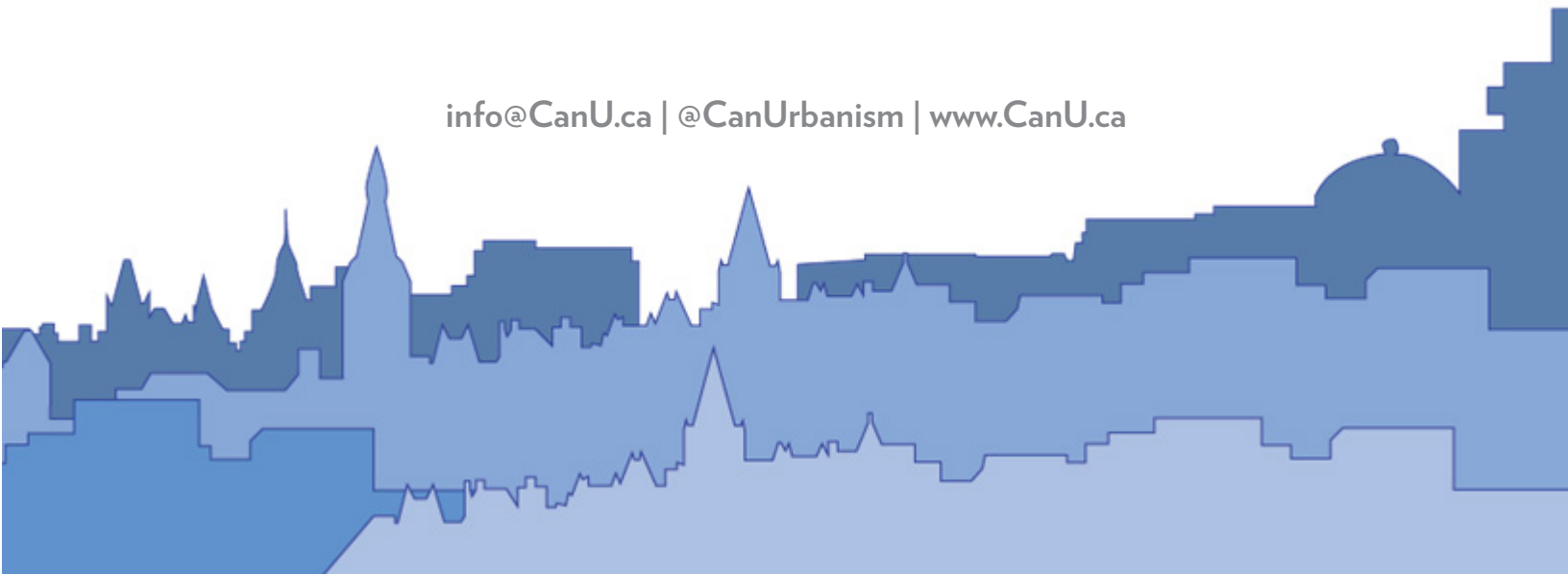


INFLUENCE OF CANADA'S POLITICAL PARTIES ON CANADIAN URBANISM

OCT 16, 2015

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Developed for the
COUNCIL FOR CANADIAN URBANISM
BY THEIR
COMMITTEE FOR YOUNG URBANISTS

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COUNCIL FOR CANADIAN URBANISM

The Council for Canadian Urbanism (CanU) is a national non-profit information and advocacy group incorporated in 2009. CanU was founded by and includes many of Canada's leading urban experts, from the fields of city planning, urban design, architecture, landscape architecture, transportation, community development, and other related disciplines.

We are writing to add our voice to the many who are advocating for all Canadians to vote on October 19th, and to support national leadership that recognizes the need for strong, successful cities, towns and communities that are economically, socially, and ecologically sustainable.

The aim of this analysis is to evaluate the different urban policies of the Conservative, Green, NDP and Liberal Party platforms, towards developing more sustainable outcomes in Canadian cities, towns and communities.

We have analysed the platforms of the 4 National Parties against the principal factors that support successful Canadian cities. Although all platforms have strengths in particular areas, Our results suggest that 3 of the 4 Parties score well in general across the many factors – the Green, Liberal and NDP Parties.

As an organization, CanU stands ready to assist any Government formed as a result of the impending election. In particular, we would seek to strengthen aspects of platform/policy positions in the areas of transportation and infrastructure, housing, social and environmental health, and information and data.

Our primary source for our analysis was the Party platforms available on the web. Our secondary sources were the related media releases from press, and non-profit organizations, between the dates of September 21st – October 13th 2015.



METHODOLOGY

The aim of this analysis is to evaluate the different urban policies/political platforms of the Conservative, Green, NDP and Liberal Parties, towards developing more sustainable Canadian urbanism in our cities, towns and communities. We have analysed the platforms of the 4 National Parties against the principal factors that support successful Canadian cities:

- 1) Transportation & Infrastructure
- 2) Housing
- 3) Social & Environmental Health
- 4) Data & Information

The methodology included a ranking of each Party’s platform/policies against these four areas, using the following evaluation on the following page.

Our primary source for our analysis was the Party platforms available on the web. Our secondary sources were the related media releases from press, and non-profit organizations, between the dates of September 21st – October 13th 2015.

Please note that some policies might be classified within two different areas, as they apply to more than one sustainable urban field. In addition, if two policies support contradictory sustainable strategies, these might cancel each other out in the evaluation.

TOPIC AREAS EXAMINED

- **TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE**

Canadian cities have been growing rapidly, and today 81% of Canadians live in urban areas.¹ Building more efficient and effective transportation systems that prioritize sustainable mobility choices – walking, biking, and public transit – are critical for creating more liveable Canadian cities and regions. While notable rapid transit and cycling infrastructure projects are underway across the country, a lack of sufficient federal funding for much needed improvements has left many municipalities and provincial governments scrambling. A prime example of this is Metro Vancouver’s failed transportation plebiscite this past summer, which was based on the flawed assumption that local municipalities should provide 1/3rd of transit funding while only collecting 8 cents of each tax dollar.² In the past, the majority of transportation funding has gone to highways, bridges, and other automobile-oriented investments. However, in this election, the political parties are recognizing the growing demand for alternative transportation options, which is reflected by firm commitments in their platforms to specifically fund public transit.

- **HOUSING**

With housing costs soaring in comparison to the average Canadian income, many consider Canada to be in a ‘housing crisis.’ CanU believes that this challenge can be taken as an opportunity for an innovative solution. CanU imagines neighbourhoods where all have the opportunity to be shareholders in their community and believes that affordable access to housing, mixed income levels and different housing types are all components in this holistic vision. Affordability in the housing market, as well we the related factors such as transportation costs, energy costs & employment / incomes. CanU supports the need for federal financing and other supports to municipalities to meet affordability needs. Now is the time to diversify the way we live and enrich the concept of the Canadian community.

- **SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

CanU supports healthy community planning, which is a holistic approach to design that encompasses many spheres (e.g. transportation, infrastructure, affordable housing). We also support more specific objectives aimed at increasing transportation access and connectivity, and replacing aging infrastructure with greener alternatives. To promote public health, urban designers are advocating for more compact and mixed use communities that foster an active lifestyle. Economic vitality, directly impacting the dynamics of community wellbeing, is also a key element. Furthermore, the healthy communities’ approach integrates food security considerations and the promotion of local food in support of a healthier environment.³





- **DATA & INFORMATION**

The availability of good-quality, reliable, and consistent data is one of the most important requirements for urban planning, public policy and smart economic development. The way in which Canadian information is collected has significant repercussions on the subsequent analysis of trends and historical comparisons that are drawn from that data. There are many variables to be considered in a national data collection regime: inconsistent methodology and sample size can make historical comparison difficult and small sample sizes may make data unreliable. Unreliable data causes challenges for business planning, particularly for small businesses that rely on publicly available information.⁴ Without reliable, detailed information about Canada’s population, it is challenging, if not impossible, for planners and policy-makers to make informed decisions about Canada’s most pressing issues. As an important tool in urbanist professions, the methodology with which information about the population is collected is of the utmost concern.

1 Statistics Canada. (2015). Population, urban and rural, by province and territory (Canada). Retrieved on October 13, 2015 from <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/demo62a-eng.htm>
2 CanU. (2015). Open letter to the metro Vancouver Mayors Council. Retrieved on October 13, 2015 from <http://www.canadianurbanism.ca/letter-to-the-metro-vancouver-mayors-council/>

3 Ontario Professional Planners Institute. (2009). Healthy Communities Sustainable Communities: The 21st century challenge retrieved on October 10th 2015 from http://www.ccacont.ca/Upload/esc/General/Community%20Summit/OPPI_HealthyCommunitiesRevisedSeptember2009.pdf
4 Grant, T. (2015). Scrapping of long-form census causing long-term issues for business. From the Globe & Mail on October 13, 2015 from <http://www.theglobeand-mail.com/report-on-business/scrapping-of-long-form-census-causing-long-term-issues-for-business-groups/article22846497/>

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- VERY STRONG** 
Enhancing current measures and proposing nationally comprehensive plans with clear steps that have the potential capacity to meet CanU's definition of sustainable Canadian urbanism
- STRONG** 
Enhancing current measures or proposing new solutions that support CanU's definition of sustainable Canadian Urbanism
- WEAK** 
Maintaining measures already in place that support CanU's definition of sustainable Canadian urbanism
- VERY WEAK** 
Removing measure or no strategy that support CanU's definition of sustainable Canadian urbanism
























































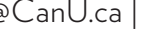

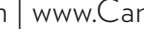

RESULTS

Our results suggest that 3 of the 4 Parties score well in general across the many factors – the Green, Liberal and NDP Parties. Over and above this general observation, we invite readers to analysis the results in detail and draw their own conclusions.

As an organization, CanU stands ready to assist any Government formed as a result of the impending election. In particular, we would seek to strengthen aspects of platform/policy positions in the areas of transportation and infrastructure, housing, social and environmental health, and information and data.

CANADIAN POLITICAL PLATFORMS & SUCCESSFUL CANADIAN CITIES

(Sep-Oct 2015)

TOPIC AREAS		CPC	GPC	LPC	NDP
Transportation & Infrastructure	Transit/Infrastructure/Active Transportation/Transit Safety				
	National Transit/Infrastructure/Major Roads & Highways				
	Clean Energy & Waste Management				
Housing	National Housing Strategy				
	Social/Co-operative Housing				
	Affordable Rental and Home Ownership				
	Foreign Ownership				No Data Found
Social & Environmental Health	Affordable housing/Social Housing				
	Economic Development				
	Transportation & Infrastructure				
	City-Regional Food Security				
	Green Spaces				
	Addressing Climate Change				
Data & Information					
					

Source: Council for Canadian Urbanism | info@CanU.ca | @CanUrbanism | www.CanU.ca



1.1 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

1.1.1 Local & Regional Transit/Infrastructure/Active Transportation/Transit Safety

- “On June 18, 2015, Prime Minister Harper announced further details regarding the new Public Transit Fund (PTF), the Government’s largest dedicated, permanent infrastructure program announced in Economic Action Plan 2015.
- The new PTF will provide significant permanent support for large-scale public transit projects that will address congestion and reduce travel time, and provide broader economic and social benefits to Canada’s largest cities. It will also free up funds under the New Building Canada Plan and the P3 Canada Fund that might have been used up by large-scale transit projects. This will ensure that more funding under the Plan is available for infrastructure projects in municipalities across Canada, including smaller-scale transit projects in smaller communities.
- The Government will provide \$750 million over two years, starting in 2017–2018, and \$1 billion per year ongoing thereafter in support of public transit projects that can improve the mobility of goods and people and provide broad economic and social benefits to Canadian cities.
- In order to be eligible for support under the PTF, projects must have a minimum of \$1 billion in total estimated eligible costs. Federal contributions under the fund will be up to one-third of the total eligible costs and will lever the expertise, ingenuity, and financing of the private sector and alternative funding mechanisms.
- Federal support will be allocated based on merit, to projects that: significantly reduce urban congestion and travel time; lever significant private sector involvement and expertise and provide value for money for taxpayers’ dollars; and support innovative approaches to project funding, financing, payments structures and delivery models.
- The Prime Minister also announced that the level of support provided under the \$2.5 billion P3 Canada Fund currently administered by PPP Canada will increase from 25 to 33.3 per cent of eligible project costs on a go forward basis.”
- Transportation plan lacks a clear description of ensuring funding goes to transportation projects that will ensure a multi-modal walk, bike, transit, car style model of transport infrastructure and there is concern that the funding requirements of projecting having “a minimum of \$1 billion in total estimated eligible costs,” will block access for smaller communities.⁵

1.1.2 National Transit/Infrastructure/Major Roads & Highways

- Voted down a Liberal bill in February 2015 by “MP Philip Toone (Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine) [who] tabled a bill to ensure that VIA Rail maintains minimum service levels and makes cancelling services subject to parliamentary approval.”⁶
- Lacking plan for safer train transportation of hazardous materials across Canada.

1.1.3 Clean Energy & Waste Management

- “The Conservatives have:
 - o Pledged to support “economically viable clean energy projects that will assist ... in the replacement of fossil fuel with renewable fuel sources”. In order to meet this standard, projects must have either national or regional significance, have a real economic or financial benefit, and genuinely reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - o Promoted the establishment of clean energy technologies in Aboriginal and Northern communities.
 - o Invested in clean energy-related research and development, such as carbon capture and storage technologies.
 - o Created the Clean Energy Dialogue with the USA in an effort to collaborate internationally to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”⁷
- Pulled out of the Kyoto agreement.⁸
- The Conservative Party is looking into options for supporting the energy needs of the tar/oil sands with nuclear power.⁹

⁵ PM of Canada Stephen Harper. (2015). Public Transit Fund. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2015/06/18/public-transit-fund>
⁶ NDP. (2015). The NDP will protect passenger train service. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/ndp-will-protect-passenger-train-services>

⁷ Solar Quote Canada. (2015). Where do Canada’s political parties stand on renewable energy? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.solarquote.ca/canadas-parties-renewable-energy/>

⁸ CBC News. (2015). Canada pulls out of Kyoto Protocol. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-pulls-out-of-kyoto-protocol-1.999072>

⁹ CBC News. (2015). Tory party members to tackle nuclear power debate. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/tory-party-members-to-tackle-nuclear-power-debate-1.641542>



1.2 HOUSING

1.2.1 National Housing Strategy

- Only party that did not provide a national housing strategy at the Federation for Canadian Municipalities Conference. “There is no current affordable housing framework. 153 members of the Conservative Party voted against Bill C-400 in February 2013, citing instead, in the debate speeches, their record of building housing and supporting homelessness through the Investment in Affordable Housing Initiative and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy.”¹⁰

1.2.2 Social/Co-operative Housing^{11/22}

- No confirmation to renew social housing/co-operative housing operating agreements that are set to expire in 2019.¹²
- “The Conservative Party has required all municipalities who are identified as designated communities to develop a plan to end homelessness, but has no such requirement for the provinces and territories. The 61 designated communities are the front-line in the battle against homelessness because of the concentration of people experiencing homelessness that can be found there. Requiring plans in these communities is a good first step.”¹³
- “Economic Action Plan 2015 proposes to provide \$150 million over four years, starting in 2016–17, to support social housing in Canada by allowing social housing providers to prepay their long-term, non-renewable mortgages without penalty.”¹⁴ However, “The Conservative Party has been decreasing its [overall] investment in co-ops and social housing.”¹⁵
- “Overall, the Government will spend more than \$2.3 billion per year over the next four years to help ensure Canadians in need have access to affordable, sound and suitable housing. Of this amount, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will invest \$1.7 billion annually to support 570,000 households that depend on social housing support, both off and on reserve. In addition, about \$170 million per year will be provided to First Nations to support the construction, rehabilitation, and renovation of affordable housing

10 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 - Affordable Housing Strategy. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

11 Aspects such as aboriginal homelessness and renew the housing/co-operative housing operating agreements have not been addressed and therefore a point has been removed.

12 The co-operative housing federation of Canada. Recent news from CHF Canada. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.chfcanada.coop/eng/pages2007/news.asp?id=1156>

13 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 - Plan to End Homelessness. Retrieved from October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

14 Government of Canada. (2015). Chapter 4.2: Strong Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2015/docs/plan/ch4-2-eng.html>

15 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 -3. Invest directly in affordable housing programs. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>



on reserves and to enhance the management of the housing stock through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

- Further, Economic Action Plan 2013 announced \$253 million per year, beginning in April 2014, to extend the Investment in Affordable Housing to March 31, 2019. Under this initiative, provinces and territories match federal investments and have the flexibility to design and deliver programs that are tailored to address their local housing needs and pressures. Since the introduction of the Investment in Affordable Housing in 2011, over 205,000 households have benefitted from the initiative.
- Economic Action Plan 2013 also provided \$119 million per year over five years to renew the Homelessness Partnering Strategy until 2018–19. Using a Housing First approach, support is provided to assist homeless individuals transition from shelters and the streets into stable housing.”¹⁶
- “As outlined in the State of Homelessness in Canada (SOHC) 2014,¹⁷ while useful and necessary programs, both Homeless Partnering Strategy (HPS) and Investment in Affordable Housing Initiative (IAH) need significantly more investment in order to end homelessness. For example, SOHC 2014 recommends that combined spending of \$372 million projected for 2016-17 be increased to \$624 million. Both HPS and IAH are also currently set to expire in March 2019 and Conservatives have not announced whether they will be renewed if re-elected. SOHC 2014 recommends an extension to these funding programs.”¹⁸
- “While one of the goals is to increase the supply of affordable housing, the SOHC 2014 shows that many communities are using the funds to repair or renovate existing housing stock and very little growth in supply is occurring. The Conservative Party states that the IAH has helped 205,000 people. The Conservative Party has not announced any plans to increase the supply of affordable housing besides through the IAH.”¹⁹
- “Implemented the National Homeless Information System (NHIS) as a component of the HPS. It is “designed to facilitate the collection of data from homeless service providers in support of creating a national portrait of homelessness. The NHIS Initiative aims to prevent and reduce homelessness by increasing knowledge and understanding of homelessness issues across Canada. [...] [...]”²⁰
- “No Aboriginal homelessness specific platforms have been announced by the Conservatives. As part

16 Government of Canada. (2015). Chapter 4.2: Strong Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2015/docs/plan/ch4-2-eng.html>

17 The Homeless Hub. (2014). The State of Homelessness in Canada 2014. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.homelessnesshub.ca/SOHC2014>

18 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 - Target investments to chronically & episodically homeless people. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

19 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 - Invest directly in affordable housing programs. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

20 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 Data Management. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>



of HPS funding “across Canada, 41 communities and Community Entities receive ongoing support through the Aboriginal Homelessness funding stream to address off-reserve Aboriginal homelessness issues” (ESDC website).²¹

1.2.3 Affordable Rental and Home Ownership ●

- “Conservative government would raise the amount that first-time homebuyers can draw out of their RRSPs to buy a house — from \$25,000 to \$35,000 — if elected.”²²
- It is important to note “economists mostly dismiss this (expanding RRSP withdrawal programs) as a minor gesture. If anything, freeing up more money to chase escalating prices only drives the market higher, making this move counterproductive.”²³
- Conservatives are “introducing a new Home Accessibility Tax Credit for persons with disabilities and seniors to help with the costs of ensuring their homes remain safe, secure and accessible.”²⁴
- “In addition to the federal investment in affordable housing, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s Direct Lending activities offer low-cost loans to federally assisted social housing projects, including to First Nations on reserves. In 2013, over \$1.126 billion was provided in direct loans.”²⁵
- “The Conservatives have pledged to introduce a “Home Renovation Tax Credit”, a permanent program modeled after the temporary program it introduced in 2009. This tax credit will fund “substantial home renovation expenses” between \$1,000 and \$5,000 annually. Depending upon the criteria for the program it might be useful for the development of basements and in-home rental suites, but that has yet to be determined. This is similar to the “Home Accessibility Tax Credit” introduced in the 2015 Economic Action Plan which provides a 15% non-refundable income tax credit on home renovations aimed at helping a senior or person with disabilities to stay in their home.”²⁶

1.2.4 Foreign Ownership ●

- “Stephen Harper will commit to collecting data on foreign buyer activity in Canada’s housing market, particularly in Vancouver and Toronto, at an incremental cost of \$500,000 starting in 2016-17. And, as necessary, we will take concrete action in coordination with provinces to curb foreign speculation in Canada’s residential real estate market.”²⁷

21 The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 - Review & expand investment in Aboriginal housing both on and off reserve. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

22 CBC. (2015). Stephen Harper pledges higher RRSP withdrawal limit for 1st time homebuyers. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/stephen-harper-pledges-higher-rrsp-withdrawal-limit-for-1st-time-homebuyers-1.3188580>

23 McCullough, M. (2015). How the party leaders could cool the housing market – and why they won’t. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.canadianbusiness.com/economy/how-the-party-leaders-could-cool-the-housing-market-and-why-they-wont/>

24 Government of Canada. (2015). Chapter 4.2: Strong Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2015/docs/plan/ch4-2-eng.html>

25 Government of Canada. (2015). Chapter 4.2: Strong Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2015/docs/plan/ch4-2-eng.html>

26 The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/party-platforms>

27 Conservative Party of Canada. (2015). Prime Minister Harper announces help for aspiring homeowners. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.conservative.ca/prime-minister-harper-announces-help-for-aspiring-homeowners-2/>



1.3 SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1.3.1 Affordable housing/Social Housing ●

- “Invest \$400 million in the ecoEnergy Retrofit Homes Program to provide home owners with grants of up to \$5,000 to offset costs associated with energy-efficient upgrades.”²⁸

1.3.2 Economic Development ●

- “The Conservatives have:
 - o Pledged to support “economically viable clean energy projects that will assist ... in the replacement of fossil fuel with renewable fuel sources”. In order to meet this standard, projects must have either national or regional significance, have a real economic or financial benefit, and genuinely reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - o Promoted the establishment of clean energy technologies in Aboriginal and Northern communities.
 - o Invested in clean energy-related research and development, such as carbon capture and storage technologies.”²⁹

1.3.3 Transportation & Infrastructure ●

- Voted down a Liberal bill in February 2015 by “MP Philip Toone (Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine) [who] tabled a bill to ensure that VIA Rail maintains minimum service levels and makes cancelling services subject to parliamentary approval.”³⁰
- Lacking plan for safer train transportation of hazardous materials across Canada.
- “[...] The new PTF will provide significant permanent support for large-scale public transit projects that will address congestion and reduce travel time, and provide broader economic and social benefits to Canada’s largest cities. It will also free up funds under the New Building Canada Plan and the P3 Canada Fund that might have been used up by large-scale transit projects. This will ensure that more funding under the Plan is available for infrastructure projects in municipalities across Canada, including smaller-scale transit projects in smaller communities.

28 Real-estate Board of Canada. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

29 Solar Quote Canada. (2015). Where do Canada’s political parties stand on renewable energy? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.solarquote.ca/canadas-parties-renewable-energy/>

30 NDP. (2015). The NDP will protect passenger train service. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/ndp-will-protect-passenger-train-services>



- The Government will provide \$750 million over two years, starting in 2017–2018, and \$1 billion per year ongoing thereafter in support of public transit projects that can improve the mobility of goods and people and provide broad economic and social benefits to Canadian cities. [...]”³¹

1.3.4 City-Regional Food Security

- “The modernization of Migratory Bird regulations will improve the management of hunting for migratory birds in Canada and will remove unnecessary barriers to hunting. Key components of the initiative include: developing a family hunting permit to allow for hunting by immediate family members on a single permit; replacing the requirement to label individual harvested birds with a simpler requirement to label packages of birds; and permitting the use of crossbows in hunting.”³²
- “The Conservative Party of Canada does not have a specific food policy perspective beyond promoting “self-sufficiency in national food production:” rather, the focus is specifically on agriculture policy. This position explicitly targets the “agriculture industry”, and in this sense takes the form of an industrial policy that both protects and promotes export-oriented agribusiness. Production within the agriculture industry is understood relative to global connections and fostering competitive advantages in agri-food sectors with export potential. This position is clearly, though very briefly, outlined in Sections 114-117 of the 2013 Policy Declaration, updated in February 2014. The Policy Declaration also operates on the conception of farmers as a “business community”, with a focus on “putting into the hands of the individual producer the innovative economic tools, such as stabilization accounts, to allow them to respond to changing market conditions and to manage the risks of weather and disease.” Though the Conservative Party does have positions on environment, health, and social welfare, they remain largely conceptually disconnected from food and agriculture.”³⁴
- Supporting the Trans-Pacific Partnership which puts Canadian dairy farmers and regional food security at risk.³⁴

1.3.5 Green Spaces

- Under the Conservative government we have seen an increase in park sizes and restoration. However, “the UNESCO World Heritage Committee has warned Canada that we are allowing dangerous erosion of existing parks that are designated as World Heritage Sites, particularly Banff, Jasper, Kootenay, and Yoho National Parks, as well as several provincial reserves. The UNESCO Committee pointed to the risk of “adverse impacts of the operation of the Cheviot mine on the integrity” of Jasper, in particular. UNESCO also warned that Canada was not doing enough to ensure that “various mining, mineral, oil and gas explorations activities”

³¹ PM of Canada Stephen Harper. Public Transit Fund. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2015/06/18/public-transit-fund>

³² Conservative Party of Canada. (2015). Supporting Conservation & Outdoor Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://floydroland.conservative.ca/2015/09/05/prime-minister-harper-announces-measures-to-support-conservation-and-canadas-outdoor-community/>

³³ Gaudreau, M. (2015). National food policy in the 2015 election. Retrieved from the Waterloo Region Food System Roundtable from <http://www.wrfoodsystem.ca/blog/national-food-policy-in-the-2015-election>

³⁴ McGregor, J. (2015). Trans-Pacific Partnership could include big dairy concession. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-elec-tion-2015-trans-pacific-partnership-dairy-1.3242234>

³⁵ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 33 National Parks. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/national-parks>

³⁶⁻³⁷ Conservative Party of Canada. (2015). Supporting Conservation & Outdoor Communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://floydroland.conservative.ca/2015/09/05/prime-minister-harper-announces-measures-to-support-conservation-and-canadas-outdoor-community/>

³⁸ Canada’s environmental performance was ranked 27th in the world in 2013 by the Centre for Global Development for the following reasons:

- “High greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel production rate per capita (52.2 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent; rank 25)
- Has not ratified the Kyoto protocol on climate change



around Nahanni National Park, located in the southwest corner of the Northwest Territories, not be allowed to erode the ecological integrity of the park. Only 10% of Canada’s landscape has been protected.”³⁵

- The Conservatives “new Wildlife Conservation and Enhancement Program will fund community projects to improve the habitat of species harvested by hunters and trappers. This will include restoring wetlands for ducks and migratory birds, controlled burns to sustain moose habitat, and timber rotation for wild turkey populations. The program will have a \$5 million annual budget and will launch beginning in 2017-18.”³⁶
- “The modernization of Migratory Bird regulations will improve the management of hunting for migratory birds in Canada and will remove unnecessary barriers to hunting. Key components of the initiative include: developing a family hunting permit to allow for hunting by immediate family members on a single permit; replacing the requirement to label individual harvested birds with a simpler requirement to label packages of birds; and permitting the use of crossbows in hunting.”³⁷

1.3.6 Addressing Climate Change³⁸⁻³⁹

- “A Conservative government plans to invest \$750 million over two years starting in 2017–18, and \$1 billion per year thereafter, in the new Public Transit Fund aimed at building new public transit infrastructure to reduce congestion and fight gridlock in large cities...
- The Conservative government has pledged \$14 million to chipseal Hwy 5 in Wood Buffalo National Park, N.W.T. This is in addition to the \$72 million previously announced for improving eight roads in the N.W.T...
- The Conservative government has committed to reducing Canada’s emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.
- The Conservative government has opposed carbon taxation.”⁴⁰

1.4 DATA & INFORMATION

- “Implemented the National Homeless Information System (NHIS) as a component of the HPS. It is “designed to facilitate the collection of data from homeless service providers in support of creating a national portrait of homelessness. The NHIS Initiative aims to prevent and reduce homelessness by increasing knowledge and understanding of homelessness issues across Canada. [...]” [...]
- Liberal MP Ted Hsu’s Bill C-626 to bring back the long-form census was shut down by the Conservative Party in February.⁴²
- “The Conservative government axed the mandatory long-form census in 2010, replacing it with the voluntary National Household Survey. The response rate for the 2006 long-form census was 93.5 per cent, compared with 68.6 per cent for the National Household Survey.”⁴³

• High fossil fuel production rate per capita (29 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent; rank: 25)

• Low gas taxes (\$0.34 per litre; rank: 26)

• High finishing subsidies (rank 26)

• Poor compliance with mandatory reporting requirements under multilateral environmental agreements relating to biodiversity (rank: 24)” (see footnote 40)

³⁹ Centre for Global Development. (2013) Canada 2013 Environment. Retrieved on October 16, 2015 from www.cgdev.org/page/canada

⁴⁰ Pollenize. (2015). Conservative Party. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://pollenize.org/canada/conservative-party>

⁴¹ The Homelessness Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015 Data Management. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelessnesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/conservative-party-canada-platform>

⁴² The Globe & Mail. (2015). Liberal MP’s bill to resurrect long-form census voted down on second reading. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/liberal-mps-bill-to-resurrect-long-form-census-voted-down-on-second-reading/article22797835/>

⁴³ CBC News. (2015) Long form census: Conservatives nix revival bid by Liberal MP. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/long-form-census-conservatives-nix-revival-bid-by-liberal-mp-1.2945920>



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2.1 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

2.1.1 Local & Regional Transit / Infrastructure / Active Transportation/ Transit Safety ●

- The Greens Party
 - o “Will create a new pool of municipal infrastructure funding by changing tax rules to create a Municipal Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) bond that can be held in RRSPs and self-directed RRSPs. This will be in addition to preserving the current allocation of the federal gas tax directly to the provinces for transfer to municipalities. Municipal governments must enter into agreements to ensure that sprawl is not facilitated through extensive infrastructure funding. Densification; speedy, safe, and pleasant mass transit; safe cycling paths; and other investments to conserve electricity and water will all merit stable financing. This funding will be transferred through six Municipal Superfunds of \$500 million/fund/year (an average of \$100 for every citizen per year) to which municipalities can apply for grant funding to replace the less specific Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF)”⁴⁴
- Additionally the Green Party will “devote one percentage point of GST to municipal infrastructure to generate about \$6.5 billion annually for municipal infrastructure needs.”⁴⁵
- “Green Party Members of Parliament (MPs) will:
 - o Increase the Gas Tax Transfer to municipalities to five cents/litre to be used in funding the above sustainable transportation initiatives such as public transit, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, and rural roads;
 - o Recognize that access to high-speed internet connections is now a critical aspect of infrastructure and work to expand access to address the ‘digital divide’;
 - o Make employer-provided transit passes tax-free by exempting them from taxable benefit status, thereby encouraging workers and businesses to use public transport, and make employee parking a taxable benefit;
 - o Change tax policy to create a new pool of long-term municipal infrastructure funding by allowing municipalities to issue new Municipal Registered Retirement Savings Plans Bonds which can be held in RRSPs and self-directed RRSPs;
 - o Fund ‘Green Cities’ initiatives, ensuring (through contractual agreements) that the funding is not used in ways that encourage urban sprawl, but instead to reduce sprawl and GHG emissions, conserve electricity and water, increase densification, expand convenient, safe, reliable and affordable public transit, and build cycling and walking paths.”⁴⁶
- To further support “Green urban transportation, Green Party MPs will:
 - o Increase federal funding for pedestrian, cycle, and car-sharing infrastructure in towns and cities;
 - o Increase existing funding to stimulate a massive re-investment in public transportation infrastructure in

all Canadian towns and cities to make it convenient, safe, comfortable, and affordable;

- o Make employer-provided transit passes tax-free by exempting them from taxable benefit status, to encourage workers and businesses to use public transport, and provide financial support to provinces that provide free public transit passes to people living below the poverty line;
- o Oppose funding for highway and bridge expansions that encourage urban sprawl, increase private vehicle use and truck transport of goods, and consequently increase GHG emissions.”⁴⁷

- The Green Party has developed the following funding paths to support transportation and infrastructure:
 - o “Water and Waste Treatment Facilities (WWTF) Fund to upgrade water treatment, sewage treatment, and recycling facilities to make them efficient, safe, and sustainable;
 - o Mass Transit Promotion (MTP) Fund to improve and expand urban mass transit infrastructure and inter-modal connections, as well as car-sharing initiatives;
 - o Cycling and Pedestrian Promotion (CPP) Fund to support pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and smart-growth developments that transform urban areas and towns into walkable communities linked by transit to reduce the need for owning and using cars.
 - o Community Housing Options Promotion (CHOP) Fund supporting a national housing program to build energy efficient co-operatives.”⁴⁸
- Green Party MPs will “ensure that water is managed in a way that helps create healthy, sustainable communities and fosters sustainable livelihoods by demanding that government:
 - o “Make federal funding for urban water infrastructure contingent on water efficiency plans that include measurable and enforceable goals and objectives;
 - o Provide adequate funding for local and regional flood protection and drought management planning;
 - o Revive the InfraGuide program providing internships in leading-edge municipal infrastructure projects;
 - o Shift subsidies and funding away from dams and diversions (including feasibility studies) toward comprehensive ‘ground to the glass’ drinking water protection strategies, especially source water protection, watershed restoration, and community-based water conservation and efficiency planning and programs.”⁴⁹

2.1.2 National Transit/Infrastructure/Major Roads & Highways ●

- To support rail transportation Green Party MPs will:
 - o “Re-invest in our national rail systems, building more train cars in Canada, increasing train speeds and phasing in high speed rail where feasible, and creating green transportation and energy infrastructure corridors in key regions;
 - o Give VIA Rail a statute-based mandate, modeled on the U.S.-laws that govern Amtrak;
 - o Improve rail infrastructure and intermodal connections, increasing joint federal-municipal light rail

⁴⁴ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

⁴⁵ Bronskill, J. (2015). A look at each federal party's infrastructure election promises. Retrieved September 21, 2015 from The Star: <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/08/27/a-look-at-each-federal-partys-infrastructure-election-promises.html>

⁴⁶ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

⁴⁷ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.13 Green urban transportation. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/urban-transportation>

⁴⁸ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

⁴⁹ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.2 Water protection and conservation. <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/water>



investments, as well as improving VIA Rail service nationwide;

- o Work with railway companies to improve rail infrastructure and to restore VIA rail service to all major regional cities;
- o Create a national clean freight initiative, using both regulation and financial incentives to improve fleet efficiency and safety;
- o Bring forward regulations for Positive Train Control systems for passenger and freight, ensuring safer transport.”⁵⁰

- Green Party MPs will “ensure federal infrastructure funding does not go to expanding highways and roads, but is rather spent on more efficient light rail systems. Current infrastructure, such as the Trans-Canada highway, must be maintained at a safe standard.”⁵¹

2.1.3 Clean Energy & Waste Management⁵²

- The Green Party phase out the use of nuclear power in Canada as it is not economically the best option for reducing green house gases and it has environmental and social risks associated with it.⁵³
- “All carbon-based fuels will be subject to rising carbon fees, through a Carbon Fee and Dividend, as well as industrial cap and trade. Federal approvals for new oil or coal-fired power generation will not be granted. Permits to convert oil or coal-fired plants to natural gas will be allowed in the short term until renewable energy capacity increases to replace them.”⁵⁴
- To support renewable energy development “Green Party MPs will:
 - o Work with Canada’s wind industry and the Canadian Wind Energy Association (CANWEA) to accelerate the rapid deployment of wind turbines to achieve 20% of Canada’s energy needs by 2025;
 - o Restore the Wind Power Production Incentive and incentives for projects with approved Advanced Renewable Tariffs that provide power purchase contracts for a diversity of small renewable energy projects;
 - o Provide a two cent/kWh subsidy for renewable energy produced in any province or territory adopting ART+ (Advanced Renewable Tariffs, net metering, peak power pricing, and plans for renewable grid extensions);
 - o Support local energy co-operatives forming in provinces or territories adopting ART+.”⁵⁵

⁵⁰ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.12 Railways – re-establishing the national dream. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/railways>

⁵¹ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.13 Green urban transportation. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/urban-transportation>

⁵² To see the entire Green Party renewable energy strategy please go here: <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/climate/renewables>

⁵³ The Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.21 Energy industry: No to nuclear. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/energy>

⁵⁴ The Green Party of Canada. (2015). 2.1.5 Renewable Energy. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/climate/renewables>

⁵⁵ The Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.21 Energy industry: No to nuclear. Retrieved on October 08, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/energy>



- Green Party MPs will: “Provide assistance to municipalities (through the Waste and Waste Treatment Facilities Municipalities Superfund – see Section 1.14, Infrastructure and Communities) in carrying out major waste reduction activities including recycling and central composting facilities;
- o Oppose waste-to-energy incinerators for the disposal of materials that can and should be recycled, composted, or down-cycled.
- o Pass laws, such as those in Germany, requiring manufacturers to accept lifetime stewardship of all products, including packaging. Once goods are returned to the manufacturer, the materials are better designed to be re-usable and recoverable;
- o Move to full reclamation of all electronic and hazardous materials by initiating a recycling deposit tax to be paid when purchasing goods;
- o In cooperation with provincial and territorial governments, fund, implement, and adopt an expedient timetable to achieve a national phase-out of the use of landfills for the disposal of unsorted waste;
- o Work with provincial and territorial governments to develop and implement a national e-waste collection and processing strategy to remove electronic equipment from the general waste stream and eliminate the export of these toxic waste materials to other countries;
- o Introduce a green labeling system for products that are biodegradable, reusable, or recyclable, and for products that are primarily made from recycled materials.”⁵⁶

2.2 HOUSING

2.2.1 National Housing Strategy

- “Develop a National Housing Strategy through the Council of Canadian Governments. Canada is the only country in the OECD without a housing strategy. Any coherent plan must include concrete steps for a seniors’ housing plan, a First Nations plan, a plan for social housing, and for affordable market housing.”⁵⁷
- To establish the program “the party would spend \$400 million next year, increasing each year to \$1.3 billion by 2018-19, to establish a national affordable housing program. [...] The Greens would spend an additional \$800 million per year to improve education, drinking water and housing conditions for First Nations communities, on and off reserve. Funding would come from several sources, which include raising the corporate tax rate to 19 per cent from the current 15 (excluding small businesses, which would see their taxes reduced), cracking down on offshore tax havens, an estate tax on properties over \$5 million and legalizing and taxing marijuana, May said.”⁵⁸

⁵⁶ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.7 Zero waste. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/zero-waste>

⁵⁷ Green Party of Canada. (2015). Green Party announces national housing strategy. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/media-release/2015-08-25/green-party-announces-national-housing-strategy>

⁵⁸ Carman, t. (2015). Answers found in trunk of Elizabeth May’s car. Retrieved from the Vancouver Sun on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.vancouversun.com/life/Answers+found+trunk+Elizabeth/11316053/story.html>



- The plan will also: “allow rollover of capital gains if the property owner is reinvesting in another rental property; Encourage more compact cities by increasing the densities of urban cores which increases the supply and affordability of housing, while minimizing sprawl in farmlands and green spaces; Increase EcoEnergy home energy retrofit grants by 50%; Create a Minister of Housing position; Create a community housing superfund for municipalities.”⁵⁹

2.2.2 Social/Co-operative Housing ●

- “Create a Housing First Approach, a one-on-one outreach initiative that houses chronically homeless people and provides immediate support;
- Dedicate funding to the co-operative housing sector to enable more new affordable housing projects to proceed, while extending funding for co-ops whose contracts with the federal government are expiring [...];
- Increase access to social housing for First Nations on and off-reserve, while strengthening enforcement of living and maintenance standards through our proposed Council of Canadian Governments;
- Ensure a percentage of all newly built units are reserved for affordable housing.”⁶⁰
- “The Green Party told COH that their, “housing target is 20,000 new and 8,000 rehabilitated affordable units per year for the next ten years.”⁶¹
- The housing strategy does not provide information on “Point-in-Time counts, mandating Ten Year Plans to End Homelessness or data collection/management.”⁶² However these are tied in closely with the housing first approach that the party takes.
- “The Green Party also proposes a Seniors’ Housing Strategy and a Home Energy Retrofit. The Seniors’ Housing Strategy comes from CARP (a seniors advocacy group) and is aimed at helping seniors stay in their own home and/or develop cooperative housing models.”⁶³

⁵⁹ Real-estate Board of Greater Vancouver. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

⁶⁰ Green Party of Canada. (2015). Green Party announces national housing strategy. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.green-party.ca/en/media-release/2015-08-25/green-party-announces-national-housing-strategy>

⁶¹ The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing & Homelessness Election Guide 2015 - Invest directly in affordable housing programs. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>

⁶² The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide 2015 - Develop a new federal, provincial & territorial affordable housing framework agreement. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>

⁶³ The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide 2015 - Invest directly in affordable housing programs. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>



2.2.3 Affordable Rental and Home Ownership ●

- “As outlined in State Of Homelessness in Canada: 2014 the tax system currently favours building units for home ownership rather than rental housing. The Green Party wants to “restore the favourable treatment once in place for purpose-built rental housing.”⁶⁴
- “Supports the development of a low income housing tax credit that will be distributed through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).”⁶⁵
- “The Green Party supports a housing benefit as part of an overhauled financial assistance framework that they have termed “Guaranteed Liveable Income (GIL)”. Rather than just implementing a housing benefit, when asked for details they point to more “transformative approach that is discussed in Renewing Canada’s Social Architecture” which states: “Unlike income support programs that are available to anyone who qualifies, the limited supply of subsidized housing leads to long wait lists and inconsistent, inequitable treatment. A shift to an income-side approach to assisting people who can’t afford decent housing would allow policymakers to turn this issue on its head. An income-tested housing benefit model could ultimately be part of a streamlined and integrated income support program such as a Guaranteed Annual Income model.”⁶⁶

2.2.4 Foreign Ownership ◐

- Eliminate Stephen Harper’s Immigrant Investor Venture Capital Pilot Program, which currently allows foreign investors to purchase Canadian properties and can drive housing prices up for Canadian families beyond their reach.”⁶⁷

⁶⁴ The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide 2015 - Invest directly in affordable housing programs. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>

⁶⁵ The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>

⁶⁶ The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide- Implement a housing benefit. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/green-party-canada-platform>

⁶⁷ Green Party of Canada. (2015). Green Party announces national housing strategy Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/media-release/2015-08-25/green-party-announces-national-housing-strategy>



2.3 SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2.3.1 Affordable housing/Social Housing ●

- The Green Party has a very strong affordable/social housing plan. For more information please see section 2.2.
- The Green Party, amongst other funding paths, has developed a “Community Housing Options Promotion (CHOP) Fund supporting a national housing program to build energy efficient co-operatives and affordable housing units where there is a shortage of such housing options.”⁶⁸
- “Retrofit all Canadian homes by 2030 to increase energy efficiency, cut heating and electricity bills, and reduce 80% of building emissions by 2040”⁶⁹

2.3.2 Economic Development ●

- Green Party MPs will:
 - o “Establish a federally-funded Green Venture Capital Fund to support viable small local green business start-ups;
 - o Set up a Green Venture Capital Funding Program providing matching federal funds for locally-raised venture capital up to a set limit per community;
 - o Reduce the paperwork burden on small businesses by eliminating duplicative tax filings and red tape. Government agencies will operate using shared information from the same database;
 - o Bring in legislation to require a consideration of the impact on small business of all new legislation, based on a similar law in the European parliament.”⁷⁰
 - o “Reinforce Canada’s Arctic sovereignty through community infrastructure development, regional sustainability projects, northern research, northern culture, and other regional socio-economic activities rather than through military presence”⁷¹
 - o “Advocate innovative strategies to liberate billions of dollars a year through RRSP deductions for municipal bonds.”⁷²

68 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

69 Green Party of Canada. (2015). Green Party announces national housing strategy. Retrieved on October 11, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/media-release/2015-08-25/green-party-announces-national-housing-strategy>

70 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.10 Small business loans and entrepreneurial incentives. Retrieved on October 11, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/small-business>

71 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.11 Arctic strategy. Retrieved October 11, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/arctic>

72 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

- To develop the renewable energy sector, Green Party MPs will:
 - o “Restore the Wind Power Production Incentive and incentives for projects with approved Advanced Renewable Tariffs that provide power purchase contracts for a diversity of small renewable energy projects;
 - o Provide a two cent/kWh subsidy for renewable energy produced in any province or territory adopting ART+ (Advanced Renewable Tariffs, net metering, peak power pricing, and plans for renewable grid extensions);
 - o Support local energy co-operatives forming in provinces or territories adopting ART+;
 - o Provide substantial Research and Development (R&D) funding for ocean energy technologies in provinces and territories adopting ART+;
 - o Provide substantial R&D funding for electricity storage technologies in provinces adopting ART+”⁷³

2.3.3 Transportation & Infrastructure ●

- The Green Party has an very strong environmental and socially sustainable transportation and infrastructure plan. Please see section 2.1 for further detailed insights.
- Some highlights from the plan include:
 - o “Increase federal funding for pedestrian, cycle, and car-sharing infrastructure in towns and cities;
 - o Oppose funding for highway and bridge expansions that encourage urban sprawl, increase private vehicle use and truck transport of goods, and consequently increase GHG emissions;
 - o Ensure federal infrastructure funding does not go to expanding highways and roads, but is rather spent on more efficient light rail systems. Current infrastructure, such as the Trans-Canada highway, must be maintained at a safe standard.”⁷⁴
 - o “Create a national clean freight initiative, using both regulation and financial incentives to improve fleet efficiency and safety;
 - o Support the trucking industry, reducing pollution through add-on generators to avoid the need to idle to maintain air conditioning and refrigeration, while ensuring the right fit of trucking in a more efficient, rail-based intermodal system.”⁷⁵
 - o “Develop a comprehensive pan-Arctic waste management strategy that addresses issues like dumping of wastes into water and open dump burning on land, and that integrates community, mining, fishing, tourism, shipping, and military waste management strategies”⁷⁶

73 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 2.1.5 Renewable energy. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/climate/renewables>

74 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.13 Green urban transportation. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/urban-transportation>

75 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.12 Railways – re-establishing the national dream. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/railways>

76 Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.11 Arctic strategy. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/arctic>



2.3.4 City-Regional Food Security⁷⁷

- “The Green Party of Canada (Green Party) provides a [...] detailed vision of a national food policy. Their platform is based on support for organic family farming while actively moving away from the large-scale agribusiness model. More specifically the Green Party policy vision is geared toward “keep[ing] family farms economically viable.” Family farms practicing organic agriculture are identified as ecologically sustainable in contrast to large-scale farming, and as a result the Green Party seeks to support family farms through the reduction of corporate control of farming and agribusiness. To achieve this vision, Green Party policies seek to strongly re-orient national policy through fostering local markets, orienting public research toward the needs of family farms (as opposed to agribusiness), removing agricultural subsidies that promote large-scale farming (ie. farm based and not production based subsidies). On the issue of safety and health, the Green Party seeks to remove business promotion mandates from food safety and health institutions, introduce nation-wide school-lunch programs, and strengthen/enforce food safety monitoring. For the Green Party, domestic markets and sustainable resource use is a prerequisite to seeking export markets (which is also secondarily desirable).”⁷⁸
- “Establish a Canada Water Fund of \$215 million per year for five years to focus on long-term watershed health, alleviating the problem of run-off of pollutants and nutrients, and to fund the continuation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Protocol;
- Push government to strategically implement the 1987 Federal Water Policy to meet the requirements of sustainable water management – equity, efficiency, and ecological integrity.”⁷⁹
- The Green Party will: “Review federal agricultural subsidies and develop transitional strategies to shift production away from water-intensive crops toward less water-intensive local sustainable agriculture.”⁸⁰
- “Improve and increase monitoring of indigenous food (e.g. caribou, salmon, etc.) to ensure Inuit and First Nations, particularly pregnant women and nursing mothers, are not being over-exposed to persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals that build up through the global food chain and pool at high levels in the Arctic. Work to develop collaborative community based education programs to promote the consumption of food with less toxicity;
- Address issues of food security and the unacceptably high prices for food for Canada’s Northern peoples.”⁸¹

⁷⁷ For a full explanation of the Green Party’s food strategy please go to Section “1.15 Agriculture and food”. <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/agriculture-food>

⁷⁸ Gaudreau, M. (2015). National food policy in the 2015 election. Retrieved from Waterloo Region Food System Roundtable on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.wrfoodsystem.ca/blog/national-food-policy-in-the-2015-election>

⁷⁹ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.2 Water protection and conservation. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/water>

⁸⁰ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.2 Water protection and conservation. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/water>

⁸¹ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.11 Arctic strategy. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/arctic>



2.3.5 Green Spaces

- “Green Party MPs will:
 - o Restore funding to Parks Canada to ensure science can be conducted in our national parks;
 - o Amend the Sable Island National Park Act to remove the authorities of the Canada-Nova Scotia Off-shore Petroleum Board and re-affirm that industrial activities have no place in our national parks;
 - o Enforce previous policies that precluded private sector and privatized for-profit activities within national parks;
 - o Re-commit to the completion of the national parks system that consists of a representative network of Canada’s terrestrial and marine ecosystems, setting a target date of 2030 with emphasis on:
 - Fast-tracking the establishment of ‘no-take’ marine protected areas: consultation with fisheries communities and sectors is essential, drawing on experience from New Zealand and elsewhere where ‘no-take’ areas have actually improved the economically viable fisheries;
 - Extending, in partnership with provinces, territories, and Aboriginal peoples, Canada’s network of land, freshwater, and marine protected areas and linking them up with provincial and territorial protected areas wherever possible, and establishing compatible-use buffer zones around national parks for the maintenance of natural biological diversity and ecosystem health;
 - Providing Parks Canada with the funding necessary to protect the ecological integrity of Canada’s national parks.
 - o And to achieve our international biodiversity commitments:
 - Ensure federal funding to meet our Aichi targets – protecting 17% of our land and inland waters and 10% of our coastal areas by 2020;
 - Establish a National Parks Completion Budget of \$500 million annually to meet the goal of completing our National Parks and Marine Protected Areas Systems by 2030;
 - Implement the recommendations of conservation scientists for effective action to preserve:
 1. Critically threatened habitats;
 2. Keystone species, endangered species, and species of commercial or cultural value, especially those of value to First Nations communities;
 3. Habitats specifically threatened by climate change;
 4. Continuous interconnected tracts of habitat for wide-range migrating species sufficient to maintain viable populations.
 - o Advocate the purchase of private land, where necessary, to help protect critical habitats, especially of endangered species;
 - o Increase monitoring and protection efforts, including an increase in the number of park rangers and guides with interpretation skills to educate Canadians and visitors on the vast beauty and value of our national parks;



- o Work with provincial and territorial governments to end all trophy hunting in Canada while supporting subsistence hunting by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians of wild animals that are not threatened or endangered.”⁸²

- They will also support the “Community Brownfield Remediation (CBR) Fund to provide assistance in cleaning up toxic and brownfield sites.”⁸³

- “Furthermore they will bring in the: Sports, Cultural, and Recreational Facilities (SCRF) Fund to support the development of green recreational and cultural facilities and refurbish existing facilities”⁸⁴

2.3.6 Addressing Climate Change ●

- “Green Party MP’s will:
 - o Work to ensure Canada meets the deadline for tabling of our Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in the first quarter of 2015, as agreed for countries in the industrialized world (despite the weakening of language to “those Parties ready to do so”);
 - o Ensure plans and measures are put in place to allow Canada to meet its 2020 target as set by Stephen Harper in 2009 [...];
 - o Engage in multi-lateral diplomacy to increase the levels of ambition in all nations’ INDC prior to the COP21 negotiations, including through enhanced financing, adaptation measures, technology transfer, and capacity building;
 - o Commit in Budget 2015, at least \$400 million for each 2015 and 2016 to support adaptation and mitigation activities in developing countries;
 - o Recognize the legitimacy of developing country calls for additional funding, not through the Green Climate Fund, for the costs of Loss and Damage.”⁸⁵
 - o “Establish special task forces involving all stakeholders, all levels of government and scientific experts to prepare, over the next two years, area-specific climate change adaptation strategies. The first of such task forces shall be set up in places particularly vulnerable to climate shift and disruptions, the Canadian Arctic, coastal zones, the Prairies, and the Interior of British Columbia;
 - o Restore and enhance funding to adaptation planning and measures across Canada;
 - o Establish a Climate Change Adaptation Fund to assist those areas hard hit by ‘natural’ disasters linked to climate change;
 - o Work with provinces to restore riparian ecosystems. Restore critical wetlands, especially where they might serve to dampen flood levels [...];
 - o Work with landowners (provide incentives/tax breaks) to restore and/or forego drainage on prairie potholes and wetlands that currently receive much of spring meltwater [...].”⁸⁶
 - o “Strengthen CEPA with specific and strong regulations to reduce particulates, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and other airborne contaminants;
 - o Address smog-causing heat and pollution.”⁸⁷



2.4 DATA & INFORMATION ●

- “The Green Party calls for the restoration of the long-form census as an essential step to ensure Parliament has all the necessary and accurate information to guide appropriate action on behalf of all Canadians and the Canadian national interest.”⁸⁸

⁸² Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.3 National parks. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/national-parks>

⁸³ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

⁸⁴ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 1.14 Infrastructure and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/economy/communities>

⁸⁵ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 2.1.12 Global. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/climate/global>

⁸⁶ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 2.2 Adapting to climate change within Canada. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/climate/adaptation>

⁸⁷ Green Party of Canada. (2015). 3.1 Air Quality. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy/vision-green/environment/air-quality>

⁸⁸ Green Party of Canada.(2015). Democratic reforms – Make every vote count. Restore power to Parliament and the people. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/policy-background-2015/part-t>



3.1 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1.1 Local & Regional Transit/Infrastructure/Active Transportation/Transit Safety ●

- Liberal Party of Canada “Priority resolution: National Transportation Strategy:
 - o BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada consult with provinces, territories and municipalities and propose an integrated, intermodal national transportation strategy, that serves large and small communities, within two years of taking office.
 - o BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Liberal Government develop a predictable and reliable transportation funding commitment for at least 10 years, with the allocation of funds to be determined by the population and predicted growth of the population.”⁸⁹
- Overview: “Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau has pledged \$60 billion in federal infrastructure funding over 10 years. That would be in addition to the \$65 billion already committed. But, he says, it would mean running a deficit until 2019. About \$20 billion of that would be dedicated to transit with \$5.1 billion allocated in each of the first two years and \$3.6 billion each in the third and fourth year of the plan.”⁹⁰
- Key Liberal answers to 2015 The Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) transit survey:
 - o “To address this [urban gridlock], a Liberal government will quadruple federal investment in public transit over the next decade by investing almost 20 billion more dollars. This is in addition to all existing public transit commitments already made by the federal government. Our funding will be flexible to municipalities’ priorities and requirements, in order to maximize the number of public transit projects that are built in Canada.
 - o Furthermore, A Liberal government will automatically transfer any uncommitted federal infrastructure funds near the end of any fiscal year to municipalities, through a temporary top-up of the Gas Tax Fund. [...]
 - o To accomplish this [accessible transit for seniors], a Liberal government will ensure that our infrastructure investment is as flexible as possible to ensure that municipalities can build transit systems that fit their needs and the needs of Canadian seniors. Funding for small-to-medium size communities will be substantive, predictable, and sustained. [...]
 - o On infrastructure, even though the federal government has about half of the fiscal capacity of all orders of government, it only makes 12 per cent of all infrastructure investments. To address this, a Liberal government will quadruple federal investment in public transit over the next decade by investing almost \$20 billion more. We will take a page from the successful Gas Tax Transfer program and enter into bilateral urban transit infrastructure funding agreements with the provinces and territories. We will work in collaboration with the provinces, territories, and municipalities to ensure that funding for transit gets out the door as quickly as possible. [...]
 - o [In reference to supporting Canada’s transit manufactures, the] Liberals are committed to a broad range of investments in green infrastructure. We will boost investment in green infrastructure by nearly \$6

billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years. These efforts will be undertaken in partnership with other orders of government, including municipalities, and based on the best available science.

- o Furthermore, we [the Liberal Party] will create the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB). The new CIB will issue Green Bonds and make green infrastructure projects more attractive to private investors by offering loan guarantees, reducing financing costs and risk, and bundling small projects into attractive offerings for investors. The Green Bonds will fund projects such as the electrification of transportation, smart grid technology, and transmission lines for renewable energy, electric vehicle charging stations and networks, retrofits of buildings, and clean power storage.”⁹¹

3.1.2 National Transit/Infrastructure/Major Roads & Highways ●

- Liberal Party of Canada “Priority resolution: national transit strategy:
 - o BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada consult with provinces, territories and municipalities and propose an integrated, intermodal national transportation strategy, that serves large and small communities, within two years of taking office;
 - o BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Liberal Government develop a predictable and reliable transportation funding commitment for at least 10 years, with the allocation of funds to be determined by the population and predicted growth of the population.”⁹²

3.1.3 Clean Energy & Waste Management ●

- “Invest \$200 million annually to create sector-specific strategies that support innovation and clean technologies in forestry, fisheries, mining, energy, and agricultural sectors.
- Invest \$100 million annually in clean technology producers, so that they can tackle Canada’s most pressing environmental challenges, whether in our air, in our water, or on our land.
- Work with provinces, territories, universities, and colleges to support emerging clean tech companies, including research, the commercialization of new products, and training Canadians to be properly skilled for the industries of the future.”⁹³
- “Furthermore, we [the Liberal Party] will create the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB). The new CIB will issue Green Bonds and make green infrastructure projects more attractive to private investors by offering loan guarantees, reducing financing costs and risk, and bundling small projects into attractive offerings for investors. The Green Bonds will fund projects such as the electrification of transportation, smart grid technology, and transmission lines for renewable energy, electric vehicle charging stations and networks, retrofits of buildings, and clean power storage.”⁹⁴

⁸⁹ Liberal Canada. (2015). Policy Resolution 1. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/policy-resolutions/1-priority-resolution-national-transportation-strategy/>

⁹⁰ Kalinowski, T. (2015). NDP pledges \$12.9 billion to Toronto region transit. Retrieved from The Star Canada on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/09/12/ndp-pledges-129-billion-to-toronto-region-transit.html>

⁹¹ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Response to CUTA Transit Questionnaire. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://lets-move.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/English-LPC-Response.pdf>

⁹² Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). 1. Priority Resolution: National Transportation Strategy. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://convention.liberal.ca/files/2014/02/Priority-Resolutions-EN.pdf>

⁹³ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Investing in clean technologies. Retrieved on October 15, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/investing-in-clean-technologies/>

⁹⁴ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Response to CUTA Transit Questionnaire. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://lets-move.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/English-LPC-Response.pdf>

3.2 HOUSING

3.2.1 National Housing Strategy ●

- The Liberal Affordable Housing Strategy calls for the following:
 - o Creating a national housing commission “to work in conjunction with all levels of government and social housing and private sector housing providers to create a national housing action plan that would produce affordable, safe housing for Canadians at all income levels; ...
 - o [With the objectives of] the elimination of waiting lists for affordable housing; the reduction of the cost of housing for middle and lower income earners; and the stabilization of the economy with job-creating investment in housing infrastructure; ...
 - o [And] that this plan will provide sustainable and predictable tax measures to support the development of market rental housing and that governments ensure existing affordable housing and homelessness investments are permanent.”⁹⁵
- The Liberals will create a Minister of Housing position⁹⁶

3.2.2 Social/Co-operative Housing ●

- “Committed to renewing existing co operative housing agreements. This was made as part of his [Justin Trudeau’s] commitment to a social infrastructure fund, worth close to \$20 billion over 10 years.”
- The Liberal plan “will conduct an inventory of all available federal lands and buildings that could be repurposed, and make some of these available at low cost for affordable housing in communities where there is a pressing need. This work would be done in partnership with municipalities, provinces, and territories as they develop their urban growth plans.”⁹⁸
- “The Liberal Party does not have a plan to end homeless however they are supportive of the housing first approach and plans that are regionally adapted over one size fits all.”⁹⁹
- Liberal MP Adam Vaughan, in an interview with the Homeless Hub, stated that “Aboriginal housing development will not be restricted to a specific geographic area so that communities where there is a high number of homeless Aboriginal Peoples may partner with housing providers from, as an example, a nearby reserve.”¹⁰⁰

⁹⁵ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Policy Resolution 162. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/policy-resolutions/162-affordable-national-housing-strategy/>

⁹⁶ Real-estate Board of Greater Vancouver. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

⁹⁷ The Co-operative housing federation of Canada (CHF). (2015). Recent news from CHF Canada. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.chfcanda.coop/eng/pages2007/news.asp?id=1156>

⁹⁸ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Real change affordable housing for Canadians. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/files/2015/09/Affordable-housing-for-Canadians.pdf>

⁹⁹ Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/liberal-party-canada-platform>

¹⁰⁰ Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and homelessness election guide 2015. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/liberal-party-canada-platform>

3.2.3 Affordable Rental and Home Ownership ●

- A Liberal government will “consider removing the HST from new housing’, and ‘allow capital gains deferral, accelerated depreciation and the deduction of losses against other income if the property owner is reinvesting in another rental property.”¹⁰¹
- The Liberal Party’s “Real Change: Affordable Housing For Canadians” document states the following:
 - o “We will increase the new residential rental property rebate on the GST to 100 percent, eliminating all GST new capital investments in affordable renting housing. This will end the tax penalty on developers interested in building new, modestly priced rental properties, as well as provide \$125 million per year in tax incentives to increase and substantially renovate the supply of rental housing across Canada.
 - o We will direct the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the new Canada Infrastructure Bank to provide financing to support construction by the private sector, social enterprises, co-ops, and the not-for-profit sector of new, affordable rental housing for middle- and low-income Canadians. [...]
 - o We will modernize the existing Home Buyers’ Plan so that it helps more Canadians finance the purchase of a home. We will allow Canadians impacted by sudden and significant life changes, such as job relocation, the death of a spouse, marital breakdown, or a decision to accommodate an elderly family member, to access the program and use money from their Registered Retirement Savings Plan to buy a house without tax penalty.
 - o We will undertake a review of escalating home prices in high-priced markets – like Vancouver and Toronto – to determine whether speculation is driving up the cost of housing, and survey the policy tools that could keep home ownership within reach for more Canadians.”¹⁰²
 - o It is important to note that “Economists mostly dismiss this [expanding RRSP withdrawal programs] as a minor gesture. If anything, freeing up more money to chase escalating prices only drives the market higher, making this move counterproductive.”¹⁰³

3.2.4 Foreign Ownership ●

- “Justin Trudeau announced on Sept. 9 that a Grit-led government would “review” the distinctive affordability issues in Vancouver and Toronto.”¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ Real-estate Board of Canada. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

¹⁰² Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Real change affordable housing for Canadians. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/files/2015/09/Affordable-housing-for-Canadians.pdf>

¹⁰³ McCullough, M. (2015). How the party leaders could cool the housing market – and why they won’t. Retrieved from the Canadian Business on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.canadianbusiness.com/economy/how-the-party-leaders-could-cool-the-housing-market-and-why-they-wont/>

¹⁰⁴ McCullough, M. (2015). How the party leaders could cool the housing market – and why they won’t. Retrieved from the Canadian Business on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.canadianbusiness.com/economy/how-the-party-leaders-could-cool-the-housing-market-and-why-they-wont/>



3.3 SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

3.3.1 Affordable housing/Social Housing¹⁰⁵ ●

- “Encourage municipalities to set density targets to accommodate growth.”¹⁰⁶
- “Implement a green renovation tax credit to retrofit one million homes by 2017.”¹⁰⁷

3.3.2 Economic Development ●

- “Be a full partner in the work, already underway by provinces and territories, to develop a Canadian Energy Strategy that delivers energy security and energy conservation.
- Invest \$200 million annually to create sector-specific strategies that support innovation and clean technologies in forestry, fisheries, mining, energy, and agricultural sectors.
- Invest \$100 million annually in clean technology producers, so that they can tackle Canada’s most pressing environmental challenges, whether in our air, in our water, or on our land.
- Work with provinces, territories, universities, and colleges to support emerging clean tech companies, including research, the commercialization of new products, and training Canadians to be properly skilled for the industries of the future.
- Join with the provinces to set stronger air quality standards, creating incentives for investments that lead to cleaner air, healthier communities, and better quality of life for all Canadians.”¹⁰⁸
- “Furthermore, we [the Liberal Party] will create the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB). The new CIB will issue Green Bonds and make green infrastructure projects more attractive to private investors by offering loan guarantees, reducing financing costs and risk, and bundling small projects into attractive offerings for investors.

¹⁰⁵ The Liberal Party has been awarded by the CanU with full points as the above policies are part of a national housing strategy.

¹⁰⁶ Real-estate Board of Greater Vancouver. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

¹⁰⁷ Real-estate Board of Greater Vancouver. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

¹⁰⁸ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Investing in clean technologies. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/investing-in-clean-technologies/>



The Green Bonds will fund projects such as the electrification of transportation, smart grid technology, and transmission lines for renewable energy, electric vehicle charging stations and networks, retrofits of buildings, and clean power storage.”¹⁰⁹

3.3.3 Transportation & Infrastructure ●

- The Liberal Party “will create the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB). The new CIB will issue Green Bonds and make green infrastructure projects more attractive to private investors by offering loan guarantees, reducing financing costs and risk, and bundling small projects into attractive offerings for investors. The Green Bonds will fund projects such as the electrification of transportation, smart grid technology, and transmission lines for renewable energy, electric vehicle charging stations and networks, retrofits of buildings, and clean power storage.”¹¹⁰
- National transportation plan that is transit oriented, as shown in Section 6.1: Transportation & Infrastructure.
- “Work with the provinces, Indigenous Peoples, and other stakeholders to use our marine resources efficiently. We will empower coastal communities to manage their resources and ensure smarter co-management of our oceans.
- Deepen our commitment to work with other governments to protect Canada’s freshwater through education, geo-mapping, watershed protection, and infrastructure investments in the best waste water treatment technologies.
- Renew our commitment to the protection of the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River Basin, and the Lake Winnipeg Basin.
- Restore \$1.5 million in federal funding for freshwater research, which was cut by the Conservatives, and make new investments in Canada’s world-leading IISD Experimental Lakes Area.”¹¹¹

3.3.4 City-Regional Food Security ●

- “As of yet, the Liberal Party does not have a focused food or agricultural policy vision for the current election. In the 2012 election, Michael Ignatieff introduced a formal national food policy focused on buying

¹⁰⁹ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Response to CUTA’s Transit Questionnaire. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://lets-move.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/English-LPC-Response.pdf>

¹¹⁰ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Response to CUTA’s Transit Questionnaire. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://lets-move.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/English-LPC-Response.pdf>

¹¹¹ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Protecting our fresh water and oceans. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/protecting-our-freshwater-and-oceans/>

local and Canadian goods, health and safety investments, and socio-environmental sustainability. However, in their current [...] policy documents, the Liberal Party platform seemingly does not address any food system dimensions at all. The only mention of agriculture comes under a list of “sectors” that will be targeted for clean energy and innovation with unspecified \$200 million annual spending. This may change as the campaign continues, but a national food policy currently shows no signs of being on the Liberal radar.”¹¹²

- “Act on the recommendations from the Cohen Commission on restoring sockeye salmon stocks in the Fraser River.”¹¹³

3.3.5 Green Spaces ●

- If elected, the Liberal Party will:
 - o “In 2017, the 150th anniversary of Confederation, admission for all visitors to National Parks will be free.
 - o Beginning in 2018, admission for children under 18 will be free, and any adult who has become a Canadian citizen in the previous 12 months will be given one year’s free admission.
 - o Through an expanded Learn to Camp program, more low- and middle-income families will have an opportunity to experience Canada’s outdoors.
 - o To protect ecosystems and species at risk, we will invest \$25 million each year to develop Canada’s National Parks system, as well as manage and expand National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.
 - o [...] Protect our National Parks by limiting development within them, and where possible, we will work with nearby communities to help grow local eco-tourism industries and create jobs.
 - o [...] Reverse Stephen Harper’s cuts to Parks Canada, which cut more than \$25 million from programs and services, and made it more difficult for Canadians to experience our National Parks and learn more about our environment and our heritage.
 - o [...] Work with the Ontario government to create the country’s first urban National Park – Rouge National Park – including improved legislation to protect this important ecosystem and guide how the park will be managed.”
 - o “Replace Harper’s changes to the environmental assessments with a new, comprehensive, timely, and fair process that restores robust oversight, ensures decisions are evidence-based, and allows the public to meaningfully participate.”¹¹⁴

3.3.6 Addressing Climate Change ●

- The Liberal Party pledges to take the following actions on climate change:
 - o “BE IT RESOLVED that Canada urgently create a national environmental strategy that embraces scientific evidence and accepts the reality of human-caused climate change, champions mandatory international agreements to keep the Earth’s atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations below the level that

would increase global temperatures by 2 degrees Celsius, sets firm annual targets for Canada’s fair share of emission reductions, takes appropriate action to ensure they are met and publishes independently-validated annual progress reports;

- o BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this strategy be comprehensive and developed in consultation with all levels of government and other stakeholders and place a realistic and fair price on carbon while supporting regulatory and innovative approaches to sustainable development;
- o BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these strategies be evidence-based and support the investments needed to make them economically advantageous to implement;
- o BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these strategies include investment in research and development into ways to reduce costs of green energy technologies.”¹¹⁵
- o “Attend the Paris climate conference, and within 90 days, hold a First Ministers meeting to work together on a framework for combatting climate change and reducing Canada’s carbon emissions.

- Partner with provinces and territories to establish national emissions-reduction targets, and ensure they have targeted federal funding and the flexibility to design their own policies to meet these commitments, including their own carbon pricing policies.
- Phase out subsidies for the fossil fuel industry in order to fulfill Canada’s G-20 commitment.
- Work with the United States and Mexico to develop an ambitious North American clean energy and environmental agreement.”¹¹⁶
- “Replace Harper’s changes to the environmental assessments with a new, comprehensive, timely, and fair process that restores robust oversight, ensures decisions are evidence-based, and allows the public to meaningfully participate.
- Modernize and rebuild trust in the National Energy Board.
- Review the current federal environmental assessment process, and ensure it includes an analysis of upstream impacts and the greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ensure that the Crown is fully executing its constitutional duty to consult and respect Aboriginal Peoples on project reviews and assessments.
- Conduct a wholesale review of the Conservatives’ changes to the Fisheries Act and the elimination of the Navigable Waters Act, to re-establish lost protections and incorporate more modern safeguards.”¹¹⁷

¹¹² Gaudreau, M. (2015). National food policy in the 2015 election. Retrieved from on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.wrfoodsystem.ca/blog/national-food-policy-in-the-2015-election>

¹¹³ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Protecting our fresh water and oceans. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/protecting-our-freshwater-and-oceans/>

¹¹⁴ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Restoring credibility in environmental assessments. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/restoring-credibility-in-environmental-assessments/>

¹¹⁵ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). 6. Climate Change Action. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/policy-resolutions/6-climate-change-action/>

¹¹⁶ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Taking Action on Climate Change. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/taking-action-on-climate-change/>

¹¹⁷ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Restoring credibility in environmental assessments. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/restoring-credibility-in-environmental-assessments/>



3.4 DATA & INFORMATION ●

- “We will immediately restore the mandatory long-form census, to give communities the information they need to best serve Canadians.”¹¹⁸
- “To better support good decision-making, a Liberal government has already committed to making Statistics Canada fully independent with a mandate to collect data needed by the private sector, other orders of government, not-for-profits, and researchers. We will also immediately restore the mandatory long-form census to ensure data-driven decision making, including on housing.”¹¹⁹

¹¹⁸ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). Long Form Census. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.liberal.ca/realchange/the-long-form-census/>
¹¹⁹ Liberal Party of Canada. (2015). The long-form census. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <https://www.liberal.ca/files/2015/09/Affordable-housing-for-Canadians.pdf>



Thomas Mulcair

4.1 TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

4.1.1 Local & Regional Transit/Infrastructure/Active Transportation/Transit Safety¹²⁰

- “NDP would by 2019 commit a total of \$5 billion a year to municipalities’ “core infrastructure” needs and funding for public transit.”¹²¹
- “Canada’s NDP government will invest \$1.3 billion annually over the next 20 years to ensure predictable, stable and transparent public transit funding for municipalities.”¹²²
- Key NDP answers to 2015 The Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) transit survey:
 - o “Tom Mulcair’s plan for better public transit and infrastructure will expand and repair Canada’s transit systems over the next 20 years and will provide commuters in all communities more choice in how they travel. Transit will increasingly play an important role as Canada moves to lower greenhouse gases and provide more sustainable communities for us all. The NDP’s plan will create and sustain 54,000 jobs in construction, manufacturing and transit operations by investing in our local infrastructure. The NDP’s plan will add \$4 billion to Canada’s GDP and work to eliminate Canada’s massive infrastructure deficit.
 - o Mulcair went on to state “we are open to maintaining flexibility when determining the eligibility of projects to ensure that local development plans are respected, while also ensuring an efficient use of significant resources. Canadians expect that investments be transparent, fully-accountable and audited. We will work to support sustainable decision-making and asset management at the local level. We are committed to highlighting best practices while respecting provincial jurisdiction in any allocation of funding.
 - o We are open to reviewing how funding is allocated for capital and how it is operating to better meet the priorities of provinces, territories and municipalities. We will support efforts to improve capacity building at the local level, including through sustainable asset management.”¹²³

4.1.2 National Transit/Infrastructure/Major Roads & Highways¹²⁴

- The NDPs “plan will invest in strategic infrastructure priorities like northern roads, bridges and ports to build strong regional economies. We [NDP] will improve rail safety and infrastructure, and keep the toll

off the Champlain Bridge to help commuters while facilitating trade. The NDP will continue support for federal infrastructure commitments under the New Building Canada Fund. We will expand eligibility to ensure that important recreation, cultural, tourist and ferry infrastructure projects are supported.”¹²⁵

- In February 2015, “MP Philip Toone (Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine) tabled a bill to ensure that VIA Rail maintains minimum service levels and makes cancelling services subject to parliamentary approval.”¹²⁶ The bill failed. However, the NDP is committed to supporting national rail travel in Canada for all Canadians.
- The NDP “will work with municipalities so that dangerous goods transported through our communities are protected by world-class pipeline, tanker and rail safety standards that are enforced.”¹²⁷

4.2.3 Clean Energy & Waste Management

- The NDPs “vision is based on three key principles:
 - o Sustainability, to make sure that polluters pay for the pollution they create instead of leaving those costs to the next generation.
 - o Partnership, to make sure that communities, provinces and First Nations all benefit from resource development and that we create value-added, middle-class jobs here in Canada.
 - o And, most importantly, long-term prosperity, that leverages our natural resource wealth to invest in modern, clean energy technology that will keep Canada on the cutting edge of energy development and ensure affordable energy rates into the future.”¹²⁸
- “We will use the revenue generated by that cap-and-trade system to reinvest in the future of our energy sector. To invest in renewable energy projects in the regions where that revenue is generated and in the clean technology sector of tomorrow.”¹²⁹
- “The NDP will “invest in Sustainable Development Technology Canada—a remarkable foundation that’s already helped grow more than 230 projects worth \$2-billion.
- Investments in wind, hydro, solar and geothermal technologies will create more than 20,000 new jobs for Canadians.”¹³⁰

¹²⁰ The NDPs commitment to transportation funding is impressive. However, the CanU can not afford full points (4/4) due to the lack of an in-depth outline regarding the design elements (i.e. multi-modal walk-bike, transit then car) that their transportation funding will support.

¹²¹ Whittington, L. (2015). Mulcair promises city housing costs reform. Retrieved from The Star Canada on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/06/06/mulcair-promises-city-housing-costs-reform.html>

¹²² NDP. (2015). Tom Mulcair’s plan to build stronger cities and communities. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/tom-mulcairs-plan-to-build-stronger-cities-and-communities>

¹²³ Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA). (2015). NDP Responds. Retrieved on October 11, 2015 from http://www.cutaactu.ca/en/public-transit/publicaffairs/resources/CUTA_National_Leaders_Survey_-_090915.pdf

¹²⁴ The NDPs commitment to transportation funding is impressive. However, the CanU can not afford full points due to the lack of an in-depth outline regarding the design elements (i.e. funding railways, high speed trains and ferries and supporting the trucking industries capacity to minimize GHG emissions) that their transportation funding will support.

¹²⁵ NDP. (2015). Building needed infrastructure. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/platform/building-needed-infrastructure?category=investment>

¹²⁶ NDP. (2015). The NDP will protect passenger train service. Retrieved on October 11, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/ndp-will-protect-passenger-train-services>

¹²⁷ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹²⁸ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹²⁹ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹³⁰ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

- The NDP plans to “invest in “solar, wind, wave, and geothermal” energy sources to foster job creation and help build “a competitive advantage for Canada in environmental technologies and practices.
- Rescind public subsidies and tax breaks afforded to the fossil fuel industry, while simultaneously protecting workers and communities dependent on that industry by “managing transitional costs and re-engineering of energy-dependent industries to help them adapt.”¹³¹
- “A new NDP government will cancel subsidies to oil sands industries and invest in both renewables and energy-efficient technologies in a bid to slash Canada’s carbon footprint if elected on Oct. 19.”¹³²
- It is important to note that in Mulclair’s speech to the Economic Club of Canada, he states that the “New Democrats will work with the provinces to upgrade and refine our raw resources here in Canada. Whether it’s raw logs or raw bitumen. And that’s why both New Democrats and industry itself have called for increasing West-East pipeline capacity—it’s a win-win-win.”¹³³

4.2 HOUSING

4.2.1 National Housing Strategy ●

- If elected, the NDP government will: “Reintroduce in the next parliamentary session, Bill C-304 – An Act to Ensure Secure, Adequate, Accessible and Affordable Housing for Canadians (a national housing strategy).”¹³⁴

4.2.2 Social/Co-operative Housing ●

- National housing plan: “The NDP Leader promised to renew [social housing/co-operative] operating agreements that are set to expire in the next few years. This investment will reach more than two billion dollars by 2020 to maintain current funding for housing cooperatives and social housing.”¹³⁵

- “The Vote Housing document indicates that the NDP will “Boost funding for the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and ensure that the full range of necessary services”. This will result in an additional \$10 million per year (\$40 million between 2016-2020) being invested into HPS above what has already been committed by the sitting government. Within that document, the NDP pledges to “restore the Shelter Enhancement Program ended by the Conservatives in order to expand access to shelter and transition resources for women and girls needing support so that no woman in need is ever turned away”. This is a funding pool of \$10 million per year, \$40 million between 2016-2020.”¹³⁶
- “Restore funding for the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) and the Affordable Housing Initiative to increase the supply of affordable housing.”¹³⁷

4.2.3 Affordable Rental and Home Ownership ●

- “Mulclair stated that the “NDP government would work with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. (CMHC) on an income tax incentive that would allow people investing in rental housing units to avoid capital gains taxes if they plow (plough) money back into more “affordable” rental housing investments. An aide to Mulclair said the program would cost Ottawa \$500 million annually.”¹³⁸ The goal is for this “tax break to encourage construction of 10,000 affordable rental units over the next 10 years.”¹³⁹
- If elected an NDP government will: “Index the Home Buyers’ Plan to ensure home buyers don’t lose buying power.... (and) Look at a GST/HST exemptions to encourage affordable housing.”¹⁴⁰
- Although “Mulclair wouldn’t commit to taking any further tightening action (regarding mortgage rates), he said the government needs to educate people that rates won’t stay low forever.”¹⁴¹

4.2.4 Foreign Ownership

No data found.

131 Solar Quote Canada. (2015). Where do Canada’s political parties stand on renewable energy? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.solarquote.ca/canadas-parties-renewable-energy/>

132 Dinshaw, F. (2015). Industry critic Peggy Nash says an NDP government would slash Canada’s carbon footprint. Retrieved from the National Observer on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/06/26/news/industry-critic-peggy-nash-says-ndp-government-would-slash-canadas-carbon-footprint>

133 Solar Quote Canada. (2015). Where do Canada’s political parties stand on renewable energy? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.solarquote.ca/canadas-parties-renewable-energy/>

134 Bonnell, G. (2015). NDP leader Mulclair sees ‘serious danger’ in Canada’s housing market. Retrieved from BNN on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.bnn.ca/News/2015/8/14/NDP-leader-Mulclair-sees-serious-danger-in-Canadas-housing-market.aspx>

135 NDP. (2015). Tom Mulclair supports housing cooperatives. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from

136 The Homeless Hub. (2015). Housing and Homelessness Election Guide 2015. Retrieved on October 15, 2015 from <http://homelesshub.ca/ElectionGuide2015/new-democratic-party-canada-ndp-platform>

137 Bonnell, G. (2015). NDP leader Mulclair sees ‘serious danger’ in Canada’s housing market. Retrieved from BNN on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.bnn.ca/News/2015/8/14/NDP-leader-Mulclair-sees-serious-danger-in-Canadas-housing-market.aspx>

138 Whittington, L. (2015). Mulclair promises city housing costs reform. Retrieved from The Star Canada on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/06/06/mulclair-promises-city-housing-costs-reform.html>

139 Metro. (2015). Mulclair promises cities like Toronto, Vancouver housing costs reform. Retrieved from Toronto Metro on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.metronews.ca/news/canada/2015/06/07/mulclair-promises-cities-like-toronto-vancouver-housing-costs-reform.html>

140 Real-estate Board of Greater Vancouver. (2015). Where do the federal parties stand on housing affordability issues? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.rebgv.org/where-do-federal-parties-stand-housing-affordability-issues>

141 Bonnell, G. (2015). NDP leader Mulclair sees ‘serious danger’ in Canada’s housing market. Retrieved from BNN on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.bnn.ca/News/2015/8/14/NDP-leader-Mulclair-sees-serious-danger-in-Canadas-housing-market.aspx>

4.3 SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

4.3.1 Affordable housing/Social Housing ●

- The NDP are “going to work to help Canadians retrofit their homes and offices,” based on the ecoENERGY Home Retrofit Program that was dismantled by the Conservative government which the NDP claim “created more than 15,000 jobs.”¹⁴²

4.3.2 Economic Development ●

- Key NDP answers to 2015 The Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) transit survey are:
 - o “The NDP will be a champion of Canadian manufacturing. We will support manufacturing jobs by creating an innovation tax credit for businesses that invest in machinery, equipment and property used in innovation-boosting research and development. This plan will save Canadian businesses making these critical R&D investments approximately \$40 million each year and will help to unlock private investment in R&D. We are committed to continuing to support Canadian cleantech, innovation and R&D, particularly in the transportation sector.
 - o The NDP’s plan will create and sustain 54,000 jobs in construction, manufacturing and transit operations by investing in our local infrastructure. The NDP’s plan will add \$4 billion to Canada’s GDP and work to eliminate Canada’s massive infrastructure deficit.”¹⁴³
- In Tom Mulcair’s speech on sustainable energy to the Economic Club of Canada on, he stated that “A New Democratic government will make it a priority to resolve land claims and treaty disputes once and for all, so that we can finally move forward.”¹⁴⁴ At the same time, Mulcair stated that the NDP is in support of increasing West-East pipeline capacity.
- The NDP will “invest in “solar, wind, wave, and geothermal” energy sources to foster job creation and help build “a competitive advantage for Canada in environmental technologies and practices.”¹⁴⁵
- “Fresh investments in renewables such as solar and wind power will also help revive Ontario’s ailing manufacturing sector, which according to Nash has shed roughly 400,000 jobs under both the Conservative and former Liberal governments.”¹⁴⁶

¹⁴² NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹⁴³ Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA). (2015). NDP Responds. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from http://www.cutaactu.ca/en/public-transit/publicaffairs/resources/CUTA_National_Leaders_Survey_-_090915.pdf

¹⁴⁴ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹⁴⁵ Solar Quote Canada. (2015). Where do Canada’s political parties stand on renewable energy? Retrieved on October 10, 2015 <http://www.solarquote.ca/canadas-parties-renewable-energy/>

¹⁴⁶ Dinshaw, F. (2015). Industry critic Peggy Nash says an NDP government would slash Canada’s carbon footprint. Retrieved from the National Observer on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/06/26/news/industry-critic-peggy-nash-says-ndp-government-would-slash-canadas-carbon-footprint>

4.3.3 Transportation & Infrastructure¹⁴⁷ ●

- “Tom Mulcair’s plan for better public transit and infrastructure will expand and repair Canada’s transit systems over the next 20 years and will provide commuters in all communities more choice in how they travel. Transit will increasingly play an important role as Canada moves to lower greenhouse gases and provide more sustainable communities for us all. The NDP’s plan will create and sustain 54,000 jobs in construction, manufacturing and transit operations by investing in our local infrastructure. The NDP’s plan will add \$4 billion to Canada’s GDP and work to eliminate Canada’s massive infrastructure deficit.”¹⁴⁸

4.3.4 City-Regional Food Security ●

- As outlined in the housing and the transit and infrastructure sections of this report, the CanU considers that the NDP platform includes measures aimed at encouraging urban form in a manner that reduces and stops urban sprawl, which is one of the largest causes of agricultural land loss in Canada.
- The NDP’s Pan-Canadian food strategy, “Everybody Eats”,¹⁴⁹ is based on “access” to food, focusing on the intersection of “agriculture, rural development, health and income security” (NDP Election Platform, p. iii). Much of this vision involves reformulating the way that government regulates and supports the food system, such as the use of federal procurement to support Canadian brands, investing in public interest research, pursuing anti-monopoly action, and enforcing environmental standards including the protection of soil, water, and pollinators. In addition, issues incorporated into the vision include reducing food waste, discouraging unhealthy foods, and increasing education about healthy diets. Internationally, the NDP seeks to improve export market access for small and medium businesses, “while protecting the supply-managed agricultural sectors.”¹⁵⁰

4.3.5 Green Spaces ●

- “Move quickly to complete all proposed national parks and national wildlife areas, starting with Qausuittuq (NU). Others we will move on are Thaidene Nene (NWT), Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve (NL) and Edézhíe National Wildlife Area (NWT), and expanding the Rouge National Urban Park (ON).
- Recommit Parks Canada to prioritizing their legal obligation to maintain or restore ecological integrity as the first priority for park management.

¹⁴⁷ The NDP’s commitment to transportation funding is impressive. However, the CanU can not afford full points due to the lack of an in-depth outline regarding the design elements (i.e. multi-modal walk-bike, transit then car) that their transportation funding will support.

¹⁴⁸ Canadian urban Transit Association. (2015). NDP Responds. Retrieved on October 09, 2015 from http://www.cutaactu.ca/en/public-transit/publicaffairs/resources/CUTA_National_Leaders_Survey_-_090915.pdf

¹⁴⁹ NDP. (2013). Everybody eats Our vision for a pan-Canadian food strategy. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://xfer.ndp.ca/2014/food-strategy/Food-Strategy-EN-PRINT.pdf>

¹⁵⁰ Gaudreau, M. (2015). National food policy in the 2015 election. Retrieved from Waterloo Region Food System Roundtable on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.wrfoodsystem.ca/blog/national-food-policy-in-the-2015-election>

Acknowledgements

- Update Parks Canada’s national park system plan to focus on expanding parks where needed to protect their ecological integrity, creating new parks to improve representation of natural regions, and improving ecological connectivity between national parks and other protected areas.
- Review Environment Canada’s protected areas system, and develop a clear vision and plan for protecting more nationally significant wildlife habitat.
- Review and update the National Conservation Plan to articulate a clear path towards achieving our Aichi 2020 targets, working with the provinces and territories, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders.”¹⁵¹

4.3.6 Addressing Climate Change

- “Election pledges to “ensure that cities and communities have the tools they need” to confront climate change and work toward more environmentally sustainable economies, Mulcair added.”¹⁵²
- “New Democrats will end this government’s attack on our environmental laws—attacks that are sabotaging resource development, and ultimately our economy as a whole.
- We will rise to meet our international climate change obligations by creating a cap-and-trade system that puts a clear market price on carbon.
- We’ll use the revenue generated by that cap-and-trade system to reinvest in the future of our energy sector.
- [...] A New Democratic government will introduce over-arching sustainable development legislation at the federal level.
- [...] And our party [the NDP] will take arbitrary powers out of the hands of cabinet by establishing a thorough, credible and efficient system of environmental assessments.”¹⁵³
- “NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, who has been open to oilsands development provided there is rigorous environmental protection and legislation to force oil companies to pay for pollution they create, including increased greenhouse gas emissions. Mulcair does, however, support a west-to-east pipeline for moving oilsands crude to market.”¹⁵⁴

4.4 DATA & INFORMATION

- The NDP is in favour of brining the Data & Information back “NDP parties — continue to call for the mandatory long-form questionnaire to be brought back, arguing that important statistical data is getting lost.”¹⁵⁵

The Council for Canadian Urbanism (CanU) would like to thank the following member of our Committee for Young Urbanists (CYU) for compiling this report and its graphic design for the review and approval by the CanU Board of Directors and Chair of the Research Committee Dr. David Gordon.

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¹⁵¹ NDP. (2015). Parks and water. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/platform/parks-and-water?category=future>

¹⁵² Whittington, L. (2015). Mulcair promises city housing costs reform. Retrieved from The Star Canada on October 09, 2015 from <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/06/06/mulcair-promises-city-housing-costs-reform.html>

¹⁵³ NDP. (2013). A new vision for a new century. Our plan for a prosperous and sustainable energy future. Retrieved on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.ndp.ca/news/new-vision-new-century-our-plan-prosperous-and-sustainable-energy-future>

¹⁵⁴ Drinkwater, R. (2015). Harper fires back following NDP candidate’s comment on oilsands. Retrieved from Global News on October 10, 2015 from <http://globalnews.ca/news/2155275/harper-fires-back-following-ndp-candidates-comment-on-oilsands/>

¹⁵⁵ Vincent, D. (2015). Reviving the census debate. Retrieved from The Star on October 10, 2015 from <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2015/09/12/reviving-the-census-debate.html>

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