



## **Balanced Leadership**

A policy platform for 2020 and beyond

Dr. Amita Kuttner  
and the Balanced Leadership Policy Team

## Balanced Leadership

A truly evidence-based approach toward a just, resilient society

*Far too often politics is a place of division and not one of cooperation, hindering our ability to face multiple simultaneous crises and failing to prevent some crises from occurring in the first place. Canada has so much opportunity and the way we go forward matters. As Greens, we talk about doing politics differently, but too often we don't practice what we preach.*

*Back in March, Dr. Amita Kuttner embarked on a journey to build a movement that challenges the status quo, to tear down the barriers of colonization and systemic oppression, and to put Canada on a pathway to a just, resilient society. They built a team that truly resembles the potential the Green Party has: to become a place of true belonging, a force for justice, a powerful voice for ecological wisdom, and a party that's ready to govern.*

*While this platform is extensive, it most certainly does not include everything we want to accomplish. Much like Vision Green, this is a living document designed to bring the Greens of today, together with the Greens of tomorrow, to discuss a vision for a just, credible, and resilient society. We hope this document will bring Greens together to begin the work of developing these ideas, and ideas of their own, into member-approved policies, to communicate these policies in a way that is accessible to everyone, and to one day implement these policies as Canada's first Green government.*

*We are very excited to be bringing forward this collective vision, to advance justice, to translate evidence to policy, and to bring lived experience to governance. Drawing on the grassroots of our Party and extensive knowledge of our members, we followed a collaborative process driven and rooted in our values and vision as Greens, and supported by researching wide-ranging evidence. The result is a progressive platform backed by science and an inclusive policy development process that is credible.*

*Thank you for taking the time to read this document and considering the proposals we have put together. Time is short and the problems we face will be difficult to overcome, but democracy requires us all to do the work. With this platform, Dr. Amita Kuttner invites everyone to help build this movement and to start the work of building a truly just, equitable, and sustainable future for all.*

*Wishing you well,  
The Balanced Leadership Policy Team*

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**Embracing the Mission  
of Decolonization**

Canada is a colonial state formed from the cultural and literal genocide (intentional killing) of Indigenous peoples which continues today:

- RCMP use of violence and force against land and water protectors
- Lack of access to [clean drinking water](#) on reserves and in other Indigenous communities
- Large number of uninvestigated cases of missing and murdered Indigenous people
- [Over-representation](#) of Indigenous peoples in prisons
- Lack of access to [adequate health care](#)
- Lack of access to [basic amenities](#) (e.g., housing, clean water, electricity)
- Continued construction of [destructive energy projects](#) without proper consultation

We are committed to ending the continued genocide of Indigenous people and working with Indigenous leaders across the country to decolonize.

*"States shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples, with respect to their cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free, prior and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs."*

*— United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (2007)*

# Following the Recommendations of Indigenous Peoples

- Carry out all the [Calls to Action](#) from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the [Calls to Justice](#) from the report on missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people
- Approve and implement the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UNDRIP) and ensure consistency with the Declaration through [comprehensive reform measures](#) in all branches of federal, provincial, municipal and territorial governments by incorporating the language of the Declaration into our national laws

## Indigenous Sovereignty

- Work with Indigenous nations to restore self-governance on their terms
- Research a possible [plurinational](#) constitutional arrangement in order to include the many Indigenous and non-Indigenous nations within our country
- Formalize stronger representation of Indigenous peoples in our political system



- Honour existing treaties and recognize the vital role of Indigenous peoples as stewards of unceded lands (lands never signed over to the Crown or Canada)
- Recognize Canada's colonial legacy by ending ties with the British monarchy
- Make sure Canada's financial and social responsibilities are fulfilled in an honourable, respectful and consultative manner
- Enact all negotiated and inadequately funded land claims
- Ensure that Indigenous title and rights are upheld by treaty agreements and that negotiations are rooted in true reconciliation and anti-oppression
- Return stewardship and sovereignty for all federally owned land to Indigenous nations throughout the country
- Prioritize traditional ecological knowledge and subsistence methods
- Protect hunting, fishing, trapping and logging rights on traditional lands
- Guarantee and protect the right of Indigenous communities to establish child and family services
- Secure adequate funding and provide resources sufficient to respect kin relations and keep families together



## **4 — Embracing the Mission of Decolonization**

## Access to Essential Services

- Invest in critical water infrastructure such as wastewater treatment plants, stormwater collection and sanitation systems to ensure safe and universal access to potable water in all Indigenous nations and communities
- Support traditional, [culturally appropriate health-care services](#) and the role played by elders, communities, and families
- Continue investing in the education and training of Indigenous post-secondary students as health care professionals
- Invest in more staffing and technology to improve services for maternal and infant care, mental health and treatment for diabetes and tuberculosis
- Reintroduce the [Blueprint on Aboriginal Health: A 10-Year Transformative Plan](#) (abandoned in 2006) and review it with Indigenous leaders
- Increase accessibility and funding to health centres in remote and northern Indigenous communities
- Work with Indigenous communities to develop policy for housing that is safe, affordable and community-specific
- Channel resources and funding to make homes sustainable and



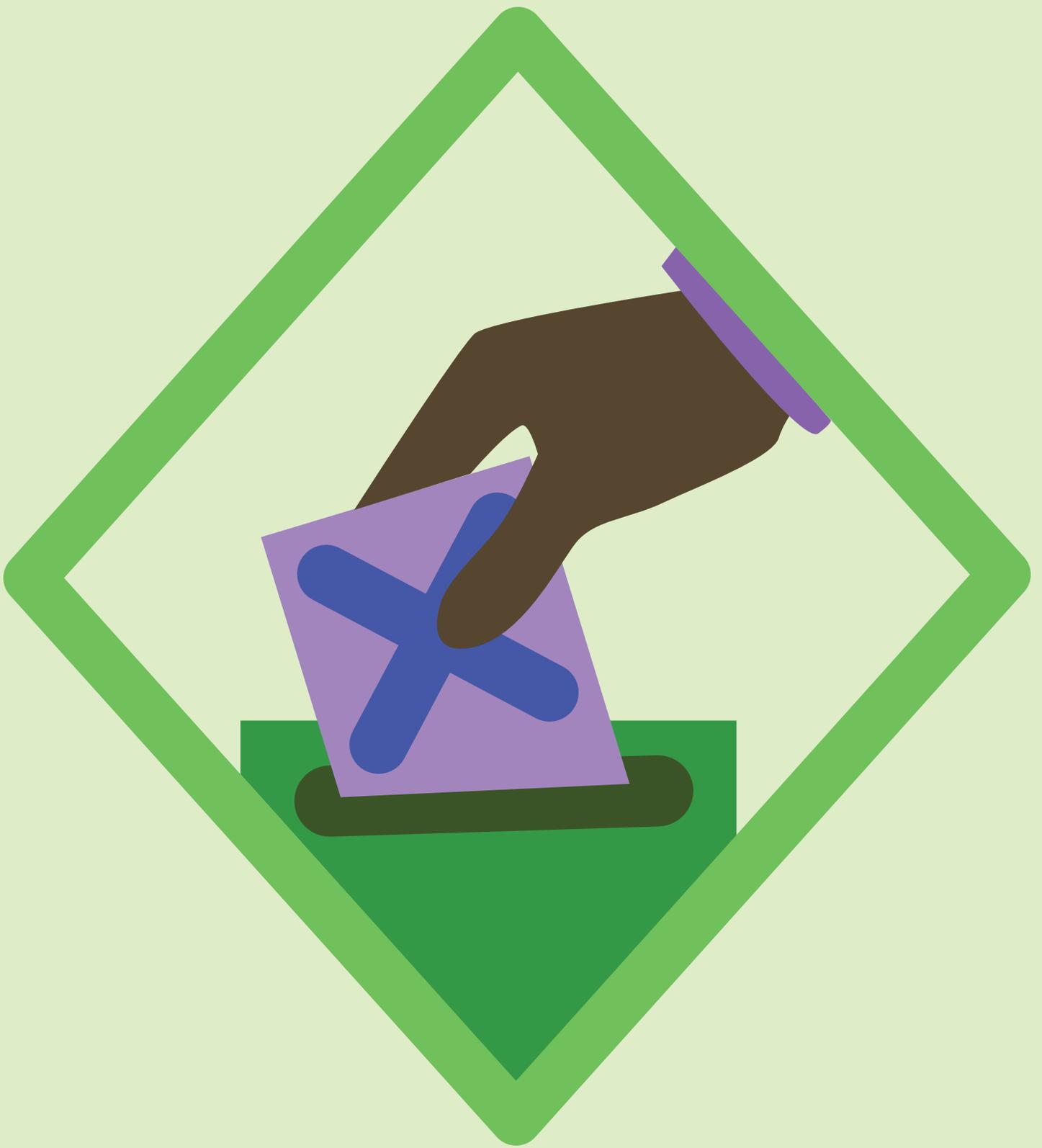
amenable to the unique needs of communities

- Ensure equitable access to social services and health care services for Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ people

## Education, Cultural Preservation and Language Revitalization

- Work with Indigenous nations to provide relevant and tailored educational, cultural and linguistic services through intergovernmental funding of local programs
- Prioritize the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages and cultures
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to safeguard and develop language and culture-specific Indigenous education programs across the country
- Review and address systemic barriers that limit Indigenous access to post-secondary institutions
- Increase investment in local programs that support Indigenous-led nutrition, traditional health practices and ecological management
- Provide compensation to every child taken from their home on reserves by applying the [Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ruling](#)





**Embracing Bold  
Political Reform**

2020 saw only [fifty percent](#) of Canadians maintaining trust in our nation's political institutions. Many feel left out of decision-making on issues of public concern — especially marginalized communities that feel both under-represented and are disproportionately affected.

We must reform our electoral and political institutions, create new ways for people to be involved, and empower local decision making.

## Advancing Participatory Democracy

- Implement a [proportional representation](#) system and hold a referendum on the new system after two election cycles or eight years (whichever one is longer)
  - Establish an independent committee to standardize participation in and frequency of pre-election debates under the new system
  - Standardize election dates under majority governments to promote political stability and fair elections
- Lower the voting age to 16 for all federal elections
- Make election day a national holiday
- Automatically register voters when they become eligible to vote



- Reduce barriers to voting:
  - Relax registration regulations
  - Improve access to voting centres
  - Add advanced voting times
  - Institute mail-in voting for seniors, patients confined to hospitals (or similar situations) and people living with disabilities
- Use more public referenda within civic decision-making and work towards creating a structured process that safeguards against undemocratic activity
- Fund town halls, virtual conferences, debates and other forums to allow for communication between Members of Parliament and their constituents at least twice a year
- Institute measures to address under participation and lack of representation in the electoral system



# Advancing Senate Reform

- Push for Senate reform:
  - Direct elections of Senators
  - Clear term limits
  - Equitable representation for provinces and territories
- If such reforms are not fulfilled, abolish the Senate

## Empowering Local Decision-Making

- Amend the Constitution of Canada to give local governments their own constitutional power
- Increase consultation with local governments regarding federal decision-making
- Increase collaboration in developing tools for grass-roots decision-making



## Making Parliament Work

- Ensure Members of Parliament have greater independence to follow the views of their constituents
- Allocate greater resources to Members of Parliament and parliamentary committees to ensure evidence-based analysis from listening to experts and stakeholders when drafting policies
- Create more opportunities for Members of Parliament to introduce Private Members' bills
- Increase the time allotted for questions from the floor of the House from 45 to 90 seconds
- Maintain and strengthen civilian input into determining how ridings are defined
- Investigate term limits within Canada's parliamentary system

## Campaign Finance Reform

- Replace political donations with a fair funding model for parties and independents



- Clearly ban Super-PACs, private corporations and other private entities from donating to political campaigns, and from advertising for political or against political campaigns
- Limit all individual annual political donations to \$1,000

# Government Accountability

*Merit based, ethical  
representation.*



- Create an independent ethics commission reporting to Parliament, responsible for investigating violations by lobbyists & government officials
- Create and reinforce whistleblower protective measures
- Mandate ethics training for Members of Parliament and government officials

# Government Accountability and Transparency

- Separate the roles of Minister of Justice and Attorney General to address conflicts of interest
- Publish records of meetings between government representatives (including Members of Parliament and their staff) and special interest groups and lobbyists
- Ensure that all government hiring and promotion are vetted and impartial
- Simplify the Access to Information Act to encourage citizen access and foster government accountability and transparency
- Create protections for whistleblowers in both the public and private sectors
- Make ethics training mandatory for Members of Parliament and other government employees in combination with enforceable ethics rules and regulations
- Create an independent Ethics Commission, reporting to Parliament, with a mandate to investigate government officials and lobbyists
- Reduce the power of the Prime Minister's Office through budget cuts and systemic changes that support the return of power to Parliament



# Government Transparency

*Strengthen public  
access to information.*



- Publicly share all records of contact with politicians and government officials by lobbyists
- Simplify the Access to Information Act for citizen usage
- Reduce the power vested in the Prime Minister's Office through budget cuts and redistribution of decision-making power

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# Quebec's Unique Status

- Uphold Quebec's unique status as a nation within a nation and defend Quebec's autonomy in terms of project consent
- Work with Quebec's National Assembly to better facilitate a nation-to-nation relationship on all multi-jurisdictional issues
- Give Quebec more cultural freedom by transferring federal government funding that would be used for Quebec directly to the province
- Support the plan demanding a single provincial tax report
- Collaborate with the provincial government in order to make the St. Lawrence River a legal person with rights
- Support the process to make Anticosti Island a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Facilitate the export of Quebec hydropower to the rest of the country to further our energy transition



# Protecting Minority Language Rights

- Modernize the Official Languages Act to reflect and support the complete linguistic diversity of this land
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to add programs for Indigenous language in primary, secondary, and post-secondary schools.
- In collaboration with provincial governments, amend [Section 23](#) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to support the professional development of Francophone Canadians and to establish at least one accredited French-language post-secondary institution in each province
- Increase funding for translation services to improve the effectiveness of essential services





# Reimagining Our Justice System

Justice has a place in everything that we do and we must prioritize equal treatment for everyone and for our ecosystems. Justice, therefore, must take centre stage in all of our activities in order to ensure that our country is a place of liberty and equity, free from all forms of discrimination.

We will continue the fight to end the ongoing inequities faced by so many people, refocusing outdated laws and restructuring our criminal justice system. Ultimately, compassion guides the reimagining of our justice system.

## Addressing Systemic Inequalities within the Judicial System

- Require that all members of law enforcement undergo anti-oppression and anti-racism training
- Require that the Department of Justice launches an independent and comprehensive review of the judicial system's treatment of BIPOC and 2SLGBTQIA+ populations. Review risk assessment factors to provide for equitable standards of health and safety.
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to transition to a system of fines (whether financial and/or community service) based on the recipients' ability, financial or otherwise



- Establish a requirement across Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial police to collect race-based data on individuals upon whom police officers have used force
- Mandate that independent civilian-led oversight agencies provide the public with the following:
  - Policy recommendations based on annual reviews of race-based collection of data
  - Follow-up assessments, to hold police accountable for fulfilling recommended policies
- Ensure that independent civilian-led oversight agencies maintain equity standards

## Abolishing the Police

- Phase out funding for the RCMP and work with all governments to defund local police departments and re-allocate such funding toward a variety of public, accessible programs:
  - Poverty reduction
  - Recreational services



- Educational services
- Mental health services
- Career transition services

# Police Reform

*How do we shift from our reliance on police?*



Re-allocate funding for police programs to public social assistance programs.

**Recreational Services**

**Educational Services**

**Mental Health Services**

**Career Transition Services**

**Poverty Alleviation**

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to transfer roles currently held by police to specialized government agencies, private professionals, and non-profit organizations
- Develop a national, mandatory program, run by the Ministry of National Defense, to buy back military grade weapons and to rapidly demilitarize police departments
- Implement nation-wide restrictions on police equipment used during unarmed mass gatherings:
  - Military-grade weapons, including surplus weapons from the Canadian Armed Forces
  - Helicopters
  - Armoured personnel vehicles
  - Excessive riot gear
  - Flash grenades
  - Tear gas and other chemical irritants
- Establish mandatory use of body cameras by on-duty police officers and provide funding to create a strategy for storing national data on police misconduct
- Implement standard practices behind the usage of lethal force by



police officers and create a strong investigative process to hold them accountable for incidents involving lethal force

- Mandate that Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments establish independent civilian-led oversight agencies responsible for investigating all serious incidents of police misconduct

# Police Reform

*How do we de-militarize the police?*

**Ban the use of military-grade weaponry.**



**Mandate the use of body-worn cameras.**



- Create standards for periodic reporting on all investigative findings to enforce full transparency on investigations conducted by independent civilian-led oversight agencies
- Grant independent civilian-led oversight agencies “[ultimate legislative power to lay criminal charges when warranted](#)” on law enforcement and to make policy recommendations to policing agencies; ensure that follow-up reviews are planned to hold police agencies accountable

## Moving Towards Abolishing Prisons

- Develop a National Decarceration Strategy with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to reduce current incarceration rates:
  - Transitioning criminal offenders out of prisons through community rehabilitation and re-entry programs
  - Use a per-inmate funding model to move prison funding towards community rehabilitation and re-entry programs
- Eliminate mandatory minimum sentencing
- Work toward establishing recovery justice programs, oriented towards the rehabilitation of offenders, as a standard response to criminal



offenses, with prison sentencing restricted to violent criminal offenders beyond rehabilitation

- Change the [Expungement of Historically Unjust Convictions Act](#) to include past offenses related to drug prohibition and sex work
- Increase funding toward the Parole Board of Canada, with the following goals:
  - Suspending the criminal records of rehabilitated criminal offenders
  - Expunging the judicial records of historically unjust convictions from all federal databases
- Oppose the creation of private prisons
- Conduct an independent review to ensure that people being held in Canadian prisons are treated in compliance with the United Nations' [Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners](#), including the provision of the following:
  - Quality mental health services
  - Relevant cultural activities
  - Gainful employment opportunities

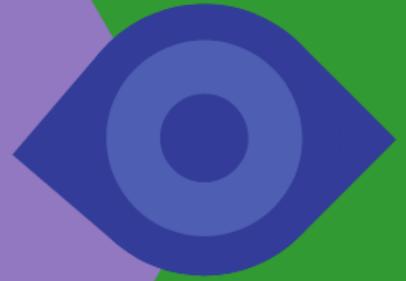


# Police Reform

*How do we create safer communities for all?*

Supervise police misconduct by establishing independent civilian-led oversight agencies.

Re-delegate police responsibilities to a variety of specialized government, private and non-profit agencies.



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# Sex Work Decriminalization

- Decriminalize sex work by repealing the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act and other criminal laws that prohibit sexual services between consenting adults
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to develop features of a legal marketplace:
  - Private practice
  - Worker-owned cooperatives
  - Strong labour protections
  - Equitable standards for health and safety
  - Protection against unregulated sex work transactions
- Clarify the legal distinction between sex work and human trafficking
- Redirect funds previously used for policing sex work toward combating human trafficking



# End the War on Drugs

- Decriminalize all drug prohibition laws by repealing the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and other drug prohibition legislation
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to expand access to harm reduction and rehabilitation services such as:
  - Addiction counselling
  - Supervised consumption sites
  - Programs providing pharmaceutical alternatives
- Ensure that federal support for harm reduction and rehabilitation services is equitable and meets the needs of each jurisdiction
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to create a legal marketplace for low-risk substances, as determined by Health Canada that prioritizes:
  - Quality control measures
  - Independent and small scale producers and growers
  - Consumer information



- Provide research grants to study the medical applications of psychedelic substances

## Firearms Legislation

- Restructure the current firearms classification system by merging non-restricted and restricted firearms into a single, simplified class of legal firearms, with evidence-based rules developed with firearm owners and public safety experts
- Ensure that licensing and mandatory training requirements are adjusted to correspond with the new classification system
- Work with firearm owners and public safety experts to develop and maintain an evidence-based class of prohibited firearms
- Ensure that the illegal possession or smuggling of firearms within organized criminal groups results in lifetime bans on the possession of firearms
- Ensure that people do not receive lifetime bans for non-compliance due to technical gaps in firearms regulations
- Recognize subsistence hunting, sports shooting, predator defence and home defence as reasonable legal grounds for firearm possession, with strict guidelines on home defence that limit the use of lethal force



to the interior of private dwellings

- Given the RCMP's daily monitoring of people who hold firearm licenses, oppose attempts by the federal government to implement any mandatory registration system for civilian firearms
- Re-draft [Sections 101 to 105](#) of the Firearms Act to reaffirm the privacy rights of firearm owners

## Addressing Domestic Abuse

- Guarantee the right of those who report instances of domestic abuse to stay in their residence
  - In cases where the abused person cannot remain in their residence, make sure that safe housing is provided for an unlimited time
  - Make sure that the abuser is legally barred from returning to the residence without official supervision
- Change relevant laws to include third-party threats from friends, family members, and any other known affiliates of the abuser. This must include phone calls, online mediums, or in-person visits
- Make sure measures are in place to provide immediate protection should the abused person request it



- In instances of abuse where weapons are reported to be present, allow for the immediate confiscation by law enforcement
- Make sure that financial dependence does not bar an individual from reporting abuse by ensuring that all housing, food, schooling, clothing, or other material needs are met from a federal fund
- Guarantee the right to legal, social, and mental health services free of charge for survivors of abuse





**Comprehensive  
Health**

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the inequities, under-funding, and shortcomings of our healthcare system. We acknowledge that all aspects of health, whether mental or physical, are connected and contribute to our overall health; our approach to healthcare must take this into account.

We also acknowledge that marginalized communities and, in particular, Indigenous communities lack access to the same standard of health care enjoyed by many Canadians.

We must ensure that access to high quality and timely health care is equitable and easy.

## Preventive Health

- Work with Indigenous and municipal governments to subsidize affordable and accessible sports and physical activity programs in local communities
- Develop an Athletes' Rights Act, in collaboration with national sport organizations, to ensure the protection of all who participate in sports, with particular focus on 2SLGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and people with disabilities
- Assist Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments in funding the improvement of active transport and physical activity



infrastructure, as well as the quality of human habitat:

- Sidewalks
  - Parks
  - Trails
  - Greenspaces
  - Gyms
  - Recreational facilities
  - Bike infrastructure
- Ensure access to healthy nutrition by:
    - Providing federal funding to expand nutrition counselling services
    - Requiring percentage of daily value for sugar content to be included on food packaging
    - Subsidizing high-quality fresh produce and taxing highly processed, low-nutrition foods
    - Providing federal funding for nutrition education programs in schools and through community centres and non-profit organizations



# Preventative Healthcare

*How do we create healthy  
communities?*

- **Subsidize affordable & accessible physical activity programs & fund public infrastructure that promotes physical activity**



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# Preventative Healthcare

*How do we create inclusive  
communities?*



- **Develop an Athletes' Rights Act to protect the rights of athletes with particular focus on 2SLGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and people living with disabilities**

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# Mental Health

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to create a national mental health strategy to:
  - Ensure mental health services are completely covered in health budgets
  - Expand Health Canada initiatives to eliminate mental health stigma
  - Increase the availability of federal grants for mental health research
  - Mandate ongoing cultural sensitivity training for all health professionals
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to improve access to mental health services for people living with disabilities, 2SLGBTQIA+, BIPOC, newcomers and other marginalized peoples
- Develop comprehensive strategies to provide adequate and appropriate mental health support and treatment to survivors of sexual assault
- Provide support and services for people living with mental health illnesses related to substance abuse and addiction



- Collaborate with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to make sure mental health care professionals are paid on a similar scale to medical professionals
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to expand access to rehabilitation services, psychotherapy services and community-based mental health services
- Require that mental health professionals are trained in climate grief and ecological anxiety
- Make sure emergency mental health response and wellness checks are carried out by trained mental health professionals and not by police
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to expand rural and remote mental health services, supports and treatments by giving mental health professionals incentives to relocate
- Increase online and telecom provision of mental health services for rural and remote communities, along with a national affordable broadband strategy



# Suicide Prevention

- Develop an evidence-based national strategy based on the [Blueprint for a Canadian National Suicide Prevention Strategy](#) that works to address suicide, especially within at-risk communities
- Assist in the development of Indigenous-led suicide prevention strategies to address the higher rates of suicide within Indigenous communities:
  - Mobilize community resources to develop crisis intervention plans
  - Support the role of Indigenous elders and peers in mental and physical health care
  - Increase funding toward addressing issues concerning poverty, child and family welfare, and education to reduce risk factors
- Mandate that all healthcare professionals and social workers receive ongoing suicide prevention training
- Expand availability of crisis lines and emergency support teams by increasing funding and ensuring these services also meet the needs of rural and remote communities
- Work with Health Canada to incentivize community-level suicide prevention skills



## Dealing with Inequities in Health Care

- Create a national training program for healthcare workers that features the following:
  - Ongoing anti-oppression and anti-racism training
  - Improved access to educational tools and resources
- Equitable access to treatment that is sensitive to people's experiences, mental health, appearance, gender, sexual orientation, race and culture
- Ban conversion therapy
- End the gender and sexuality based blood donation ban
- Expand availability and establish a standard of care for Trans-specific health care
- Create a national electronic health records database, where health records are accessible for the life of the individual no matter where they reside
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to create national standards of practice for long-term care homes that include the following:



- Move them to the public domain
- Support early planning initiatives to keep couples together
- Ensure that all care flows seamlessly into end of life care
- Prevent elder abuse and ensure that appropriate charges are applied to those who abuse elders
- Recognize the right of and allow for any patient to make medical decisions about treatment options and/or death at any point in time when they are in hospital/care of a physician
- Work with healthcare providers and educators to develop training programs for recognizing and eliminating fatphobia within health care and education
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to support community healthcare centres
- Create a Parliamentary Committee to focus on the needs and rights of people living with disabilities and to inform decisions made at the federal level



## Battling the Addiction Crisis

- Acknowledge the opioid and meth crises as national public health emergencies, prioritizing harm reduction and rehabilitation services
- Structure response to addiction crises around the understanding that they stem from an underlying trauma and mental health crisis
- Fund solutions for Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments:
  - Supervised consumption sites
  - Programs providing pharmaceutical alternatives
  - Addiction rehabilitation programs
  - Non-opioid pain management strategies (non-opioid pharmacotherapy and physical therapy)
  - Alternative health solutions
- Improve Public health data gathering and reporting of opioid overdoses
- Make sure that the [national treatment guidelines for opioid use disorder](#) are fully implemented



## Expanding Access to Health Care

- Create a universal pharmacare program to ensure that residents in this land can afford the medicine that they need
- Create a universal dental care program to ensure that all people in this land have access to free, safe, and quality dental care
- Reform current Medicare programs to ensure that all people have access to culturally appropriate, equitable, quality and accessible healthcare





**Liveable Communities and  
Compassionate Social Policy**

To promote the health, well-being, sustainability and economic stability of society, we must improve the liveability and resilience of communities across the country. This means ensuring that Canadian residents have the means not only to survive, but adapt, recover and prosper.

By re-igniting local communities and strengthening the bonds between neighbours, we can work collectively toward a better future for generations to come.

## Housing

- Add safe, affordable housing as a right in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Direct the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to further the goal of non-commodification of housing
- Make sure that housing is inclusive of the needs of people living with disabilities by fully implementing the recommendations of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#)
- Implement a national housing strategy that prioritizes affordability, accessibility, and sustainability by creating a federal investment fund to support the development of the following:



- Community-based housing
- Cooperative housing
- Non-profit housing
- Affordable rental units
- Waive the federal GST/HST on new affordable rental housing projects and apply tax cuts for maintaining the supply of affordable and energy-efficient rental units
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to eliminate zoning restrictions (like single-family zoning and parking minimums) that prevent inclusive housing developments; and to allow greater opportunity for alternative housing solutions
- Fund research into the [historical patterns of housing discrimination](#) to identify past and continued discriminatory practices against marginalized peoples
- Create a stronger legal framework for solving inequalities within housing:
  - Conduct housing audits focusing on disparities between neighbourhoods, in standards of living
  - Create a national standard for the rights of tenants and landlords including:



- Minimum standards for eviction notices
  - Maximum standard rental rate of 33 percent of the renter's income
  - Maximum annual percentage rental increase tied to local inflation
  - A national standard for arbitration between tenants and landlords
  - A national standard for accessible housing
  - Allowing a tenant to leave without notice and penalty in cases of domestic abuse
- Create a national renters bank for tenants to temporarily cover rental costs in the event of significant financial hardship, including job loss
  - Create a framework to enable landlords operating illegal suites to come in to compliance, including subsidizing renovations to come up to code
  - Collaborate with legal aid organizations to simplify the process of litigation against property owners
- Create a [tax-deductible mortgage program](#) through the CMHC and allow for smaller monthly payments to cater to young and low income homebuyers
  - Work with experts to develop updated energy-efficiency standards



and an implementation strategy (oriented around tax-deductible mortgages) to guide nationwide efforts to retrofit and construct sustainable housing

- Make sure that both [energy-efficiency retrofits](#) and the construction of sustainable housing are distributed equitably
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to implement inclusionary zoning policies incentivised through the following:
  - Tax exemptions
  - Rebates
  - Ending exclusionary zoning practices
- Increase the availability of rent supplements and housing assistance to low-income households
- Work with Indigenous communities to develop locally-led housing solutions that are safe, affordable and community-specific
- Channel resources and funding to make homes sustainable and amenable to the unique needs of Indigenous communities
- Remove barriers that impede Indigenous communities and organizations from accessing funds for housing needs





## Supporting Our Veterans

- Invest in supporting veterans and their families in transition from the military to civilian life:
  - Implement a transition period, prior to official discharge, to ensure the needs of veterans are taken care of by the respective ministries and support organizations—before individuals lose the security that comes with being an active member
  - Adopt a housing-first approach to ensure that veterans and their families have access to clean, safe, affordable housing prior to being discharged
- Implement the recommendations of the [Standing Committee on National Security and Defence](#) on the use of cannabis as a treatment for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Develop a veteran-specific suicide prevention strategy with the following features:
  - Reduction of wait times for active service members and veterans seeking help
  - Provision of mental health education, counselling and training
  - Investment in mental health research into the causes, impact of,



## and treatment of operational stress injuries

- Implement the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs relating to health, transition, and other services for veterans, including support for those in transition to civilian life who no longer meet the requirement for universality of service requirements; and discontinuing the practice of forcible discharge from service
- Expand Military Family Services to ensure support is available to all service members and their families
- Expand the Veteran Family Program to make services available to all veterans and their families
- Increase the Earnings Loss Benefit to provide 100 percent of pre-release income for life based on the projected career earnings of a Canadian Forces member
- Provide financial compensation, support, education, and training to enable a family member to become a primary caregiver and reinstate the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit, providing respite for families caring for a disabled veteran



# Transportation

- Implement a national transportation strategy that creates a federal investment fund for the development and maintenance of a national high-speed rail service, intercity busing, and municipal public transit that prioritizes the following:
  - Affordability
  - Accessibility
  - Efficiency
  - Sustainability
  - Electrification
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to facilitate stable and long-term funding to assist in the development and maintenance of public transportation, whereby transportation is funded as a public utility
- Collaborate with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to make sure that public transportation is free to use within and between communities
- Make sure that federal funding of the development and maintenance



of public transportations is distributed equitably

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to allow new and innovative transportation solutions to operate freely, while maintaining the following:
  - Safety standards
  - Labour protections
  - Consumer transparency
- Ensure the current highway and road infrastructure are maintained
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to fund highway and road expansion connecting remote communities into the national transportation system
- Create a national grid for charging electric vehicles
- Phase out the sale of passenger vehicles using internal combustion engines by 2030
- Make sure that stable federal funding is put toward the development of accessible and community cycling and pedestrian infrastructure
- Work with transportation and public safety experts to make sure that transportation systems are developed and maintained in an inclusive manner that protects the safety of both transit operators and users



# Strengthening Community Services and Infrastructure

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to improve and create accessible community services and green infrastructure, placing emphasis on remote communities in the development and maintenance of accessible community services and green infrastructure
- Preserve and expand community gardening and urban agricultural initiatives
- Develop programs for retrofitting all public buildings and critical infrastructure to ensure energy efficiency and long-term sustainability
- Expand the availability of grants from the Canada Council for the Arts to ensure arts, culture, and music are supported nationwide
- Support arts and culture initiatives by newcomers, BIPOC, and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities to strengthen bonds within communities, aid in the process of relocation and promote engagement with diverse histories and cultures
- Revitalize Canada Post through increased investment and reorient its purpose toward increasing coverage and speed of rural mail delivery.
  - Support the transformation of Canada post centers into venues for town halls to be held in remote areas.



- Equip rural Canada post buildings with internet and telecommunications infrastructure.

## Child Welfare

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to provide education and resources to:
  - Children living with disabilities
  - Marginalized ethnic and racial groups
  - Newcomers
  - People facing financial hardship
- Mandatory ongoing anti-oppression and anti-racism training for childcare workers
- Create a National Children’s Commission to address child poverty
- Subsidize assessment for autism and learning disabilities at the first grade level and at the ninth grade level, and provide funding for educational initiatives and life supports





**Our New  
Green Economy**

Economic indicators such as Gross Domestic Product(GDP) reflect the lack of priority placed on overall collective well-being and sustainable development. For that reason, among many others, our economic system is not geared towards either of these objectives, allowing for the exploitation of both our people and our planet.

Currently, many of our industries are damaging the health and wellbeing of people and the environment across the globe, and as such we have an obligation to explore new and innovative ways to help move us towards a [circular economic model](#). Our vision for a brighter future necessitates that our economy be just, sustainable, democratized, and localized.

## Transitioning to a Green Economy

- Develop a national greenhouse gas reduction strategy that seeks to bring us to neutrality and beyond as fast as possible
- End corporate subsidies to fossil fuels and redirect those funds to green small business initiatives and worker transition services
- Push for the development of stronger antitrust laws to promote fair competition and adherence to labour, environmental, criminal, and tax laws
- Implement a revenue-neutral carbon tax on all greenhouse gas



emissions escalating to [\\$210 per tonne by 2030](#) and offset any lost revenues with tax cuts for low-income earners and small businesses

- Increase tax rebates for companies that provide on-site daycare, healthy meals and exercise facilities, and promote active-transport commuting
- End the use of Gross Domestic Product as a measure of economic health and replace it with an holistic metric, such as the Genuine Progress Indicator, that accounts for wealth distribution, individual happiness, and proactive environmental protections
- Support the development of sustainable industries through subsidies, grants, government loans, and research partnerships to increase national well being and international economic strength
  - Make sure that government support is only given to companies who meet established sustainability criteria
  - Industries to support should include historically strong and strengthening sectors such as aerospace and technology, making sure they become sustainable
- Work internationally with other governments to hold cruise-lines financially accountable for cleaning up human waste and other pollutants related to their operations
- Explore expanding the ban on oil tankers in our waters



- Establish a General Research Fund to support scientific, environmental, humanitarian, and social innovation
- Implement Right to Repair legislation requiring manufacturers to provide to users:
  - Information on the lifespan of electronic products
  - Information on repair services
  - Self-repair manuals
  - Easy-access repair parts (where possible)
- Extend producer-responsibility [programs](#) on products, including electronics, batteries, packaging, medical waste, pharmaceutical waste, and sharps to incentivize waste reduction across the entire life-cycle of products
- Institute a return system for unused needles, medicine (if not expired), and masks under extended producer-responsibility programs
- Establish a committee to study the use of European [eco-industrial parks](#) to determine the benefits and feasibility of such projects in Canada
- Create a green public procurement standard, whereby only companies that meet a set of developed green criteria will receive government contracts, funding, loans, or subsidies



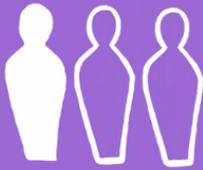
# Implementing a Guaranteed Liveable Income

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to establish a guaranteed liveable income:
  - Consolidate existing public assistance and social insurance programs into one income program
  - Allowance to be region-specific
  - Everyone age 16 and over is eligible
  - Make sure the monthly allowance will be assessed yearly and tied to inflation
- Maintain and supplement disability and seniors benefits with the liveable income program
- Support alternative basic income programs



# WHY IMPLEMENT A GUARANTEED LIVABLE INCOME?

A key component to promoting social justice in a post-pandemic world is the implementation of a Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI).



One in three Canadian workers in BC aged 25-65 worked multiple jobs at the same time in the previous 3 months.

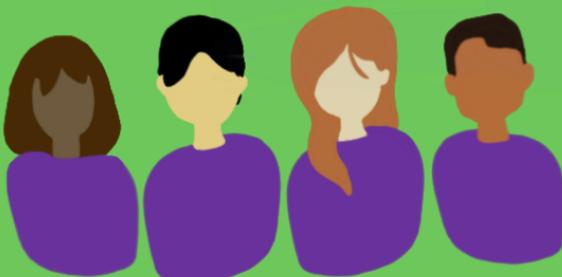


# 1/7

Canadians live in poverty.

A Guaranteed Livable Income would replace the disincentivizing existing patchwork of welfare programs into one accessible program free from discrimination.

The introduction of a GLI would ensure a regular minimum payment to every eligible Canadian.



**No one left behind.**



Guaranteed  
Livable Income



# Creating an Equitable System of Taxation

- Restructure the Canadian tax code to lower taxes on low-income earners and small businesses, add new marginal tax brackets for high-income earners, and tax corporations on net profits and corporate dividends
- Suggested individual income tax bracket update:
  - 0 percent on the first \$48,535
  - 20 percent between \$48,535 and \$97,069
  - 25 percent between \$97,069-\$150,473
  - 32 percent between \$150,473-\$214,368
  - 42 percent between \$214,368-\$350,000
  - 48 percent between \$350,001-\$500,000
  - 55 percent between \$500,001-1,000,000
  - 65 percent above \$1,000,000



- Increase the corporate net tax rate gradually from 15 percent to 20 percent within 5 years, while decreasing the net tax rate after small business deduction to 5 percent from 9 percent within 5 years
- Work with the Canadian Revenue Agency to close tax loopholes, stop the use of offshore tax havens, and remove tax breaks that exclude low-income earners and small businesses
- Create a wealth cap of \$100 million, with all additional assets being taxed at a rate of 100 percent
- Work with the Canada Revenue Agency to tax foreign tech companies, such as Netflix, Amazon, Alphabet (Google) etc.

## Consumer Protection

- Limit interest rates on credit cards to 10 percent for general cardholders and 7.5 percent for students, and provide education on credit card use to protect against heavy debt burdens
- Limit interest rates on payday loans to 10 percent for anyone earning a livable income or better, and 5 percent for anyone earning less than a livable income
- Limit credit card transaction fees and related purchase fees to \$1



- Limit fees for using a bank or ATM outside an individual's banking network to \$1 per transaction
- Limit fees for using a bank or ATM within an individual's banking network to \$0 per transaction
- Create a commission to provide better consumer protection against predatory lenders

## Mining

- Ensure that any domestic mining projects are done responsibly and with the full, informed consent of affected communities
- Hold industry accountable for returning the land, air, and water to a natural state after the completion of any mining project
- Strengthen the environmental assessment process and apply it to international projects involving Canadian mining companies
- Create clear guidelines for foreign nationals to be able to sue Canadian mining companies for international human rights abuses and create greater accountability for international environmental damage



# Energy

- Collaborate with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to create and implement a nation-wide energy strategy with the following goals:
  - Transitioning to renewable energy as quickly as possible
  - Optimized use of interconnected community microgrids
  - Setting regional renewable energy targets
- Make sure that a nationwide energy strategy prioritizes the following goals:
  - Energy diversification
  - Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
  - Increased energy efficiency
  - Security of rural energy sources
  - Increased local employment
- End our reliance on foreign fossil fuels



- Ban all fracking practices
- Ban the exportation of thermal coal
- Provide grants for the installation of renewable energy infrastructure, such as:
  - Solar panels
  - Micro-hydro turbines
  - Wind turbines
  - Tidal systems
  - Geothermal systems
- Support [Indigenous-created](#) and [Indigenous-led](#) renewable energy projects and guarantee their connection to the national grid



# Agriculture and Food Production

- Work toward ending unsustainable food production practices, including:
  - Factory farming
  - Bottom trawling
  - Open-net pen fishing
- End federal subsidies for animal-based agricultural production and re-direct subsidies to small-scale farms
- Subsidize first-time farm buyers to promote and cultivate small-scale farming as a viable and socially beneficial career path
- Increase research funding for sustainable, local, and organic farming
- Minimize the stress placed on animals by localizing food production and updating the safety practices around slaughtering onsite and modify them to reduce incentives to send animals for slaughter in off-site facilities
- Legislate that non-human animals are not property but living organisms that have rights to a safe and healthy life while being raised for human consumption or recreation





## Small Business Support and Resilience

- Support the creation of the Green Venture Capital Fund, as proposed in the Green Party of Canada's *Vision Green* document (2019)
- Provide educational programs on how to build sustainable businesses that are socially and environmentally responsible while providing a livable income to owners and employees
- Match funds provided annually by small businesses to create a small business emergency fund to create better preparedness for future pandemics and other unforeseen economic emergencies
- Create centralized government databases where small businesses can file all required federal paperwork for all agencies
- Create a parliamentary requirement to consider impacts on small businesses when developing new legislation





# The Future of Technology

Technology is an essential piece of modern society; it helps us communicate with each other, advances our understanding of the world and aids in our fight against some of our greatest collective challenges. However, technology also brings risks that we must assess and mitigate to ensure that our application of these powerful tools helps achieve equity and justice.

It is critical that all Canadians have equal access to technological tools and the benefits they bring, and are equally protected from their drawbacks. We must evaluate our evolving needs so that existing and emerging technologies help us meet the many challenges we face, while protecting civil liberties and human rights.

## Privacy and Access to Information

- Modernize private-sector privacy law by adding the following:
  - Requirements for express, informed consent for the collection and use of personal information
  - The right for individuals to view the data about them stored by companies
  - The right to have data about them stored by companies deleted on request



- Require political parties to follow the [10 fair information principles](#) in the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act and require them to adhere to the same privacy standards as corporations
- Allow Canadians to take legal action against companies, non-profit organizations, political parties, and government agencies who violate privacy law, without requiring proof of harm
- Provide the Privacy Commissioner with expanded investigatory and regulatory powers, and the ability to assess fines against companies, non-profit organizations, political parties, and government agencies that violate the law
- Strengthen access to information laws:
  - Require faster and more complete access to government records
  - End fees for access to information
  - Provide agencies the necessary resources to meet these requirements



## Surveillance and Searches

- Update laws to encompass new technologies that allow for unaccountable government surveillance:
  - Review and restrict bulk metadata collection by the Communications Security Establishment to limit the acquisition of information about Canadians
  - Review and restrict information-sharing with “Five Eyes” intelligence partners
  - Require court oversight for the use of bulk data collection technologies such as license plate readers and cell site simulators, and require that data collection be targeted to specific individuals or sets of individuals and that all additional data be purged
  - Require prior court approval for police or intelligence services’ acquisition of information about Canadians from private sector sources, including purchases of data or requests for data
  - Require court oversight for searches of electronic devices such as smartphones and laptops by police, intelligence services or the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA), and prohibit demands for device passwords by these agencies



# Artificial Intelligence and Automation

- Recognize the impacts of automation on the Canadian labour force and prioritize the implementation of a guaranteed livable income as a necessary solution during the transition to a more automated workforce
- Require the free and open publication of all algorithms used by government agencies, and regularly review bias in both data and outcomes for AI-based decision-making (e.g., predictive policing and facial recognition) in areas such as:
  - Parole eligibility
  - Immigration admissibility
  - Sentencing
  - Federal policing
  - Border security
- Establish a Federal Commissioner of Artificial Intelligence to review private-sector use of artificial intelligence, especially in areas that risk systemic bias



- Establish a regulatory agency oriented towards ensuring the ethical use and certification of technologies, such as:
  - Artificial Intelligence systems
  - Autonomous vehicles
  - Biotechnology
  - Nanotechnology

## Cybersecurity

- Review government digital infrastructure to make sure that current standards are being met and that required upgrades and security fixes are made in a timely manner
- Enshrine Canadians' right to develop, distribute, access, and use tools that rely on strong end-to-end encryption, including websites, instant messaging, and video-conferencing, without requiring backdoor access for police and intelligence services
- Review election security and introduce reforms required to ensure the security and integrity of the Canadian electoral system



- Review the appropriateness of active cyber attacks by RCMP, CSIS and CSE, and require court oversight of any active cyber attack by these, or other agencies

## Democratizing Access

- Establish targets for wired and wireless broadband in rural and remote areas, such that rural and remote communities are adequately served and do not have their service abandoned
- Empower the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to review prices for wired and wireless internet access with the goal of bringing Canadian prices in line with the rest of the world
- Ensure that Canadian internet service providers (ISPs) are subject to strict requirements for net neutrality, including requirements governing the wholesale purchase of bandwidth by competing providers for resale to consumers
- Ensure copyright regulations protect the use, creation and distribution of tools for breaking technological protection measures for the purpose of expressive uses like parody and critique, accessibility, and security research.
- Enshrine the right to repair and/or modify hardware devices



- Adopt a 'Listed Broadcast Events' policy to protect the CBC's right to broadcast culturally significant events, including sporting events
- Strengthening the government's Open Data policy by moving government software solutions to open source or free software solutions wherever possible.
- Ensure any technology developed using public funds is released under a [copyleft](#) license

## Affordable Broadband and Internet Service

- Recognize Internet access as a human right that corresponds with the right to free expression enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Set targets to achieve universal internet access by 2025
- Develop a national broadband strategy informed by consultation with small internet service providers (ISPs) and community networks in rural and remote communities to reduce the pressure of competition and the lack of a comprehensive national approach specifically for small ISPs in order to achieve the following:
  - Increased choice of ISPs for people in rural and remote areas



- Greater competition (to drive down prices and to improve service)
- Prioritize protection of privacy and security of data
- Securing the top position on the [Inclusive Internet Index](#), measuring the extent to which the Internet is not only accessible and affordable, but also enables positive social and economic outcomes at the individual and group level
- Devote public funds to improve connectivity through the addition of broadband towers in rural and remote areas
- Ensure good connectivity for remote and rural learners (i.e., with bandwidth and speed comparable to those in the nearest cities) and ensure access to suitable devices
- Develop a strategy for providing support and infrastructure, including free access and late fee waivers to expand and maintain connectivity
- Lower taxes and fees on ISP services in rural and remote areas and exempt low-income communities from taxes and fees to reduce the impact of regressive tax regimes in the telecom industry



## Preserving Democratic Rights in a Digital Era

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to develop and implement digital literacy education programs for primary and secondary schools
- Expand the mandate of the CRTC to include the licencing and regulation of social media platforms to address persistent issues of misinformation and disinformation
- Update libel and slander laws to address 'deep fakes' and 'manipulated media'
- Review rules for spending by third-party or partisan advertisers on digital or social media campaigns with a view to limiting total spending
- Update legislation regarding cyberbullying and harassment while safeguarding freedom of expression
- Increase funding for the CBC to match inflation and move toward making it an ad-free public broadcasting system
- Create a framework for site blocking orders that limits the circumstances in which those orders are available and requires courts to weigh the harms of such an order against the benefits, and to consider the impacts on freedom of expression and other Charter rights





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education and Labour

Each person is essential to the progress and prosperity of our country, yet many of our industries are adding to the current environmental and ecological crisis, and damaging the health of everyone, as well as infringing on the rights of Indigenous peoples.

In response, we are committed to studying a variety of economic directions to determine where our efforts would be most beneficial to the country as a whole. We are committed to supporting everyone directly throughout the inevitable transition to new industries, guaranteeing access to education, and enshrining labour rights in law.

## Student Support

- Push for national collaboration to adopt a plan for providing free tuition for the pursuit of undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, college diplomas, and trades certification
- Develop an intergovernmental strategy to eliminate student debt
- Increase federal funding for student jobs and ban unpaid internships
- Ensure affordable on-campus housing
- Ensure the autonomy of student-run organizations from government interference and create more opportunities for student organizations to lobby government officials



# Labour Rights

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to provide workers with:
  - A 32-hour working week with no reduction of income
  - Paid vacation for a minimum of three weeks per year
  - Parental leave of eighteen months at 80 percent pay
  - Protection from being fired for missed work for workers with sick children
  - Protection for workers to take menstrual and menopause leave without being fired for missed work
- Update The *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* to include the right to collective bargaining for all public- and private-sector workers
- Establish an independent body to investigate claims of workplace abuse, harassment, and discrimination
- Update employment insurance benefits to meet the changing needs of the 21st century (an alternative to implementing a guaranteed livable income)



## Career Transition Support

- Work with Statistics Canada to create a federal database to track job sectors and provide students and workers with more information regarding available employment
- Create a database for matching workers in transition to job postings, based on a self-submitted skills and experiences portfolio
- Subsidize living, re-training, and relocation fees for transitioning workers and their families in addition to providing a guaranteed liveable income
- Ensure adequate availability of new jobs prior to eliminating existing industries
- Work with unions and labour organizations to make the transition to a green economy as just and efficient as possible





**Fostering a  
Resilient Society**

Climate change, among other looming challenges, will test our resilience throughout the 21st century and beyond. By beginning proactive and community-led planning now, we can ensure that communities have the means necessary to adapt, recover and prosper. It is through embracing readiness that we can foster a resilient society for everyone.

## Food Security

- Establish regional food boards across Canada to help support local production, distribution, and consumption
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments to maintain and create infrastructure for a resilient food culture:
  - Rooftop, backyard and community gardens,
  - Local food charters
  - Food co-ops
  - Farmers' markets
- Support Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments in the creation of a country-wide School Food Strategy to ensure that all children have free, daily access to healthy, nutritious, and local meals



- Implement a financial assistance program for farmers who switch to organic farming practices and subsidize the organic certification process
- Restrict imports of food products that do not meet international standards of fair trade, whether certified or not

# Food Security

*How do we meet the nutritional, environmental and financial needs of our community?*

- Incentivize indigenous, municipal, provincial & territorial governments to maintain and create rooftop, backyard & community gardens, local food charters, food co-ops & farmer's markets



# Food Security

*How do we meet the nutritional, environmental and financial needs of our community?*

- Implement financial assistance program for farmers who switch to certified organic farming practices

- Create a Canadian national seed bank

- Legislate the right of farmers to keep their seeds & promote seed-sharing amongst small-scale, organic farmers



[amitakuttner.ca](http://amitakuttner.ca)

Authorized by James Hankle, Official Agent of Amita Kuttner's Green Party of Canada Leadership campaign

- Expand on *Canada's Food Guide* by creating and promoting a comprehensive *Canadian Healthy Living Guide* that seeks to promote a more plant-based regime and nutrition as a key component of health



- Set meat production and consumption reduction targets to curb greenhouse gas emissions, while respecting Indigenous cultural practices
- Create a national seed bank
- Legislate the right of farmers to keep their seeds (and their associated genetic codes), and promote seed-sharing among small-scale, local, and organic farmers
- Help farmers connect with local food hub initiatives to increase national access to locally grown and produced food
- Ensure that Indigenous food sovereignty is improved through collaboration with Indigenous communities to increase access to healthy and traditional foods

## Water Security

- Embrace innovative water security solutions in the development of a national water security strategy that prioritizes access to clean water and the monitoring of water sources
- Support regional and cross-jurisdictional watershed management plans, including research into cumulative effects



# Food Security

*How do we meet the nutritional, environmental and financial needs of our community?*

- **Restrict imports of food products that do not meet or exceed international standards of fair trade & empower local level food production & distribution**



- **Create a country-wide local School Food Strategy**

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- Support Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments through funding and assistance for the development of proper waste management disposal



# Climate and Emergency Preparedness

- Create accessible, stable, and continuous mitigation, adaptation, emergency response and recovery planning for communities, especially those at risk from the worst impacts of climate change
- Make sure funding is allocated to meet the needs outlined in adaptation, mitigation, emergency response and recovery planning
- Respond to existing infrastructure deficits and prepare long-term financial and infrastructure planning that supports accessibility and is adaptable to future changes
- Fund and train front-line responders, including professional volunteer search-and-rescue groups
- Implement a national rapid-response strategy oriented toward the rapid deployment of search-and-rescue groups



- Work with the Department of National Defence to create a national rapid deployment force to respond to national and international emergencies
- Make sure that our military and its equipment is prepared to support national rapid deployment
- Make sure national and international military response is balanced with strict protocols that respect the preservation of human rights

## Developing a National Disease Response

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to implement a national disease response strategy, for humans and other living organisms, to more effectively address disease and pandemic-related challenges
- Invest in research of climate-related diseases, with an emphasis on the [emergence of tick-borne lyme disease across Canada](#)
- Continue to work with the World Health Organization to facilitate cooperation in addressing global public health challenges



# Strengthening Urban Climate Resilience

- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to develop plans to foster greater climate resilience through sustainable urban infrastructure such as:
  - Reflective materials
  - Passive solar systems
  - Bioclimatic architecture
  - High albedo pavement
  - Water installations
- Recognize the importance of urban ecosystems in climate mitigation and adaptation through greater investment in the preservation and creation of strong urban ecosystems including:
  - Urban forests
  - Urban wetlands
  - Urban grasslands
  - Green roofs



- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to allow urban farming practices as a means of improving food security, eliminating existing food deserts and strengthening urban ecosystems

## Climate-Resilient Coastal Management

- Work with Environment Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to develop an integrated coastal zone management strategy to address the [impacts of climate change on coastal erosion](#) due to rising sea levels, increased storm surges, and permafrost melt
- Ensure that Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments are active participants in the regional development of any coastal zone management strategy
- Make sure that coastal communities are provided with funding necessary to fulfil their given integrated coastal zone management strategies

## Flood Mitigation

- Recognize [existing deficiencies in flood preparedness](#) and collaborate with Indigenous, municipal, provincial and territorial governments



to develop flood mitigation strategies to address increased risk of overland and river flooding due to climate change

- Make sure proper funding exists to meet the requirements for flood mitigation strategies
- Protect and restore riparian ecosystems along water bodies as a means of flood control

## Arctic Vulnerabilities

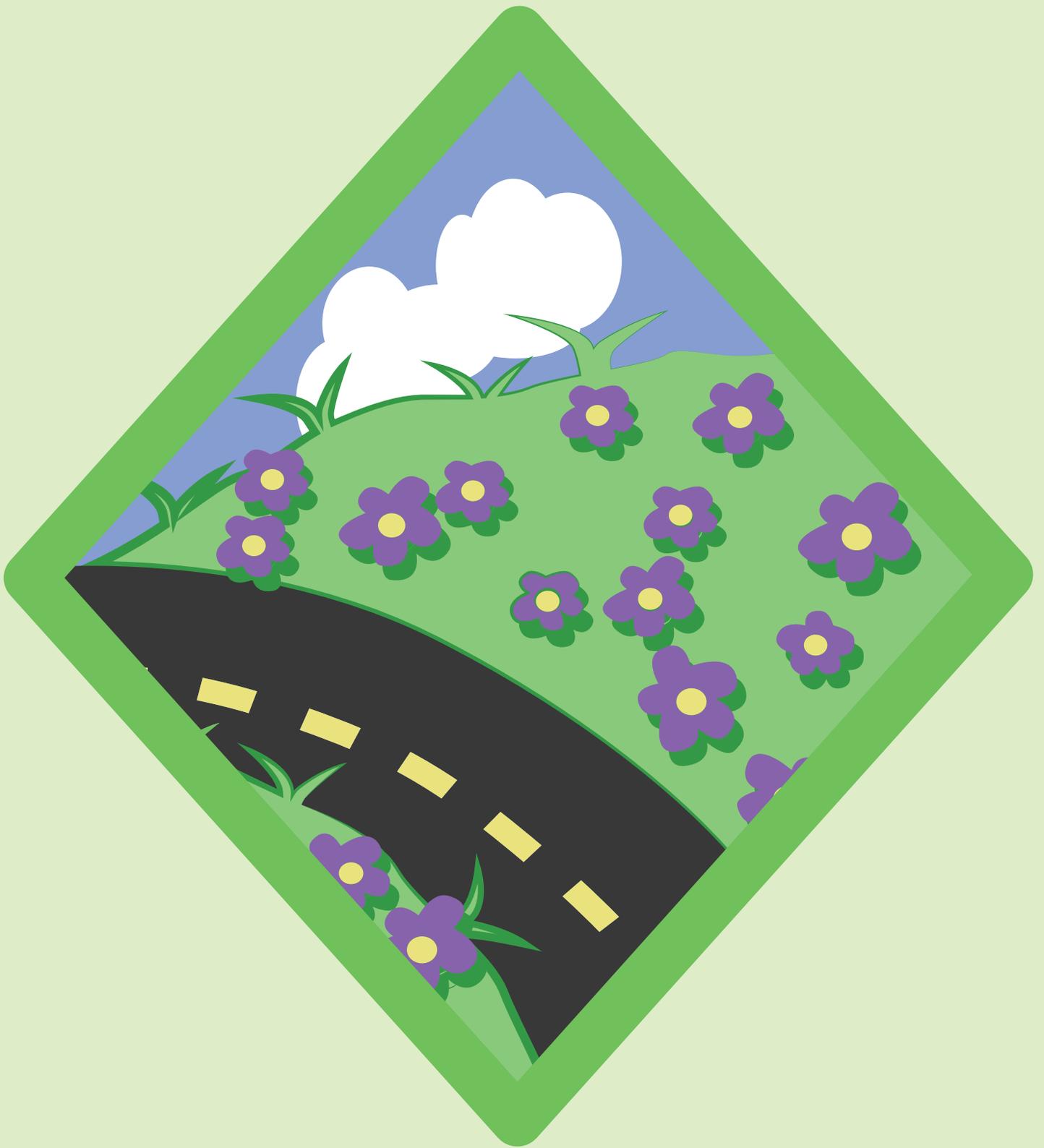
- Expand funding for Arctic research oriented toward the recognition of climate-related vulnerabilities to develop a proactive and community-led climate adaptation strategy
- Work with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to implement a proactive and community-led climate adaptation strategy to respond to Arctic vulnerabilities
- Fund training and equipment for the additional development of the Canadian Rangers to address emergency support throughout the Arctic region
- Prioritize the employment of local Indigenous peoples and residents
- Establish meaningful consultation processes with Arctic communities



on Arctic farming to develop culturally appropriate and ecologically sound measures to [increase food security and preserve food sovereignty in the Arctic region](#)

- Protect the right to harvest and hunt using traditional subsistence methods
- Invest in research and application of sustainable food technologies throughout the Canadian north
- Reevaluate the Nutrition North program in collaboration with northern communities





# Ecosystem Regeneration

Urbanization, biodiversity loss, climate change: human impact has undeniably taken its toll on the planet. Ecosystem regeneration means bringing back qualities that have been lost, restoring an area of land to its natural state and, possibly, reintroducing species that have been driven out or exterminated.

Ecosystem regeneration allows habitats and their natural inhabitants to become re-established and to adapt to changes inflicted by humans, climate change and other natural pressures.

## Regeneration Strategy

- Grant final authority to the existing Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in determining and listing at-risk, threatened, and endangered wildlife species
- Make COSEWIC a primary actor in all wildlife protection, conservation, and decision-making concerning regeneration
- Reintroduce keystone species to their respective ecosystems, and increase research funding to monitor and report on reintroduction efforts
- Collaborate with Indigenous, municipal, provincial, and, territorial governments to introduce more permeable surfaces and water retention infrastructure to better absorb extreme water events in wetlands



- Assist in the relocation of communities built in and surrounding natural wetlands
- Work with farmers to build berms on farmland bordering riparian zones and wetlands to reduce runoff and increase crop yields
- Develop a national ocean conservation strategy to expand marine protected areas within Canada's territorial waters by 20 percent over the next decade
- Increase funding for wildfire preparedness and utilize practices informed by Indigenous knowledge
- Increase funding for the management, mitigation, and prevention of invasive species

## Biodiversity

- Ban old-growth logging
- Implement the recommendations of scientists and policy experts from various fields for effective action to preserve:
  - Critically threatened habitats
  - Keystone species



- Endangered species
- Species of commercial or cultural value
- Habitats specifically threatened by climate change
- Continuous interconnected tracts of habitat for wide-range migrating species

*The term "species" includes various plants, grasses, trees, micro-organisms, mammals, insects, reptiles, birds, etc.*

- Recognize and research the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem health as necessary for human health and survival
- Work with Indigenous, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments on forestry management

## The Rights of Nature and Non-Human Animals

- Create an independent Office of Environmental Defence with a mandate to ensure that legislation sustains the rights, freedoms, and interests of the natural environment, future generations, and non-human species
- In partnership with Indigenous nations, draft and legislate a Law of the Rights and Freedoms of Nature which includes the following as its



starting points:

- The right of all species to exist and prosper
- The right of biodiversity and biodiversification
- Freedom from contamination and resource depletion
- The right to restoration of natural spaces adversely affected by human activity
- Legislate the rights and freedoms of non-human animals:
  - Freedom from habitat destruction
  - The right to life, including freedom from unnecessary or non-subsistence hunting and trapping practices (with exemptions for Indigenous communities)
  - Sovereignty and self-determination rights in protected areas
  - Provide subsidies to local and municipal governments to help establish, enhance, and revitalize natural spaces and ecosystems within urban and residential spaces
- Construct eco-corridors through urban and residential areas to allow for non-human animal species to travel without interacting with humans and urban infrastructure



- Amend the Criminal Code to ensure that people and corporations are held accountable for committing acts of ecocide



# Ecocide

*What is ecocide?*

**"ECOCIDE is mass damage and destruction of ecosystems – harm to nature which is widespread, severe or systematic."**

**- StopEcocide Global Movement**

- Deforestation
- Ocean Damage
- Air pollution
- Land and Water Contamination

Are all crimes of Ecocide among others

What is ecocide? (n.d.). Retrieved August 24, 2020, from <https://www.stopecocide.earth/what-is-ecocide>



[amitakuttner.ca](http://amitakuttner.ca)

Authorized by James Hankle, Official Agent of Amita Kuttner's Green Party of Canada Leadership campaign





**Peaceful International  
Collaboration**

This campaign is committed to peaceful and just international collaboration that elevates global cooperation.

Through continued responsible participation within international organizations, support for multilateral emergency responses to planetary crises, advances in Canada's reputation as an open society, and the movement towards greater neutrality between global powers to take the role of an "honest broker," we can become a leader in global cooperation.

We recognize that global cooperation is an absolute necessity in facing the daunting challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and that Canada has a role to play in fostering that cooperation.

## Foreign Policy Realignment

- Conduct a review of Canadian foreign policy and prioritize Canada's commitment towards:
  - Building peace
  - Protecting human rights
  - Advancing open societies
  - Fostering global environmental cooperation



- Redirect military spending to national defence, domestic emergency response, UN peacekeeping, and international emergency assistance
- Reaffirm Canada's commitment to international law by adhering to it, and by encouraging broad global adherence through diplomacy
- Support everyone's right to national self-determination, including, but not limited to, Taiwan, Palestine, and Kurdistan
- Ensure that Canada is committed to anti-imperialism, including foreign-imposed regime change

## International Development

- Re-establish the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and increase international development funding to the target of 0.7 percent of GDP set by Lester B. Pearson
- Focus all international development funding toward meeting the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs)
- Make sure Canada's international development funding is directed to regions most at risk from climate change and environmental degradation



# Global Trade Relations

- Ensure that existing and future trade agreements are negotiated to reflect the following goals:
  - Openness within the global marketplace
  - Equitable standards of human rights and labour rights
  - High environmental standards
  - Elimination of secretive Investor State Dispute Settlement mechanisms
- Implement border tax adjustments on imports from countries without any carbon pricing model
- Oppose using retaliatory trade restrictions, except as a last resort, by prioritizing the mediation of trade disputes
- Renegotiate trade agreements to push for Canada's right to refine our raw materials prior to export
- Renegotiate trade agreements to remove provisions for dispute settlement whereby corporations may sue for future loss of profits



## Global Environmental Cooperation

- Work with other countries to deal with the impacts recently outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- Fulfil our commitments under the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and collaborate with other countries to ensure global success in reaching these goals
- Work with other countries toward creating an international criminal law of ecocide (“[the extensive destruction of ecosystems](#)” by humans)

## Canada’s Role in the United Nations

- Realign more defense spending toward supporting UN peace-keeping
- Play a lead role in establishing and maintaining a standing UN Rapid Response Force with the following mandate:
  - Global peacekeeping
  - Genocide prevention and intervention
  - Environmental restoration



- Natural disaster response
- Support restructuring the Security Council and General Assembly by advocating for more democratic and equitable global representation
- Work with the UN toward a peaceful solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict that preserves human rights and national self-determination
  - Strongly oppose any further encroachment by the Israeli state onto Palestinian lands through the construction of settlements, annexation, or any other methods.
  - Support the selective application of sanctions on Israeli government officials and products.

## Canada's Role in NATO

- Collaborate with NATO member-states to move both NATO and Russia toward a rapid de-escalation of regional tensions
- Ensure Canada plays a leadership role in creating opportunities to include Russia in international institutions
- Advocate for NATO member states' and their military forces to prepare climate readiness plans to respond to climate-related emergencies and increased conflict



## Canada-China Relations

- Ensure full diplomatic ties remain with China as a means of advancing peace, human rights, and environmental stewardship
- Strengthen diplomatic pressure on senior Chinese officials regarding human rights violations and weigh the potential application of sanctions on senior Chinese officials
- Strengthen the Canadian government's measures for protecting Chinese pro-democracy groups and other civil society organizations
- Expand federal assistance to the resettlement of refugees coming from Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Tibet, and wider China
- Advocate for a de-escalation of tensions between China and NATO member states
- Focus trade relations with China on curbing human rights violations and strengthening environmental standards
- Allow Huawei to operate within Canada under strict regulations for safeguarding against privacy breaches and for giving Canadian companies priority when granting contracts for the development of telecommunications infrastructure



# Immigration and Refugee Resettlement

- Recognize the colonial legacy of Canadian borders and drastically reduce Canadian border controls so that anyone is free to work, learn, and live here if they wish
- Decriminalize undocumented migration
- Make sure that environmental refugees are recognized within Canadian refugee categories, to provide a pathway for resettlement
- Fast-track refugee status to anyone who has suffered a human rights violation at the hands of a Canadian corporation
- Remove the current cap on privately sponsored refugee applicants and divert more resources to fast-track processing of privately sponsored refugees
- Remove all fees associated with acquiring citizenship
- Propose changes to the *Oath of Citizenship* to remove allegiance to the British monarchy, while emphasizing the recognition of Indigenous treaty rights and the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
- Rewrite the *Canadian Citizenship Act* to enshrine the right to citizenship and work toward ensuring that all “lost Canadians” have their citizenship reinstated



- Terminate the safe third-country agreement with the United States

## Global Disarmament

- Approve the *Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons*
- Advocate for global nuclear disarmament by calling for the renewal of multilateral arms control efforts between relevant powers to reduce their current nuclear arsenals, ultimately leading to full-scale nuclear disarmament
- Collaborate with other nation-states to reform the [\*Outer Space Treaty\*](#) to expand the size and scope of restrictions on the militarization of space
- Take leadership in creating a multilateral arms control treaty focused on restricting the weaponization of artificial intelligence and the peaceful utilization of artificial intelligence technologies
- Work with the United States, China, Russia, and other nation-states to develop an international treaty to eliminate the use of cyber-warfare
- Reaffirm Canada's commitment to the *Arms Trade Treaty*
- Cancel all arms deals with Saudi Arabia and any nation-states with a record of human rights violations



# Arctic Foreign Policy

- Collaborate with Arctic nation-states to make sure the Arctic is focused on peaceful and ecologically sound regional development
  - Provide more funding to the Arctic Council to support the following:
    - Intergovernmental cooperation
    - Indigenous Arctic communities
    - Environmental research
    - Sustainable development
    - Adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of climate change on Arctic communities



# Thank You!

*Thank you for taking  
the time to read our  
policy platform!*

*Together we can  
change politics in  
Canada to reflect  
justice, credibility,  
and readiness.*

*Signed,* 



Authorized by James Hankle, Official Agent of Amita Kuttner's Green Party of Canada Leadership campaign

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