

# **2025 FEDERAL ELECTION**

# Simple Guide to Party Platforms

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Sources, references and more extensive and detailed version of this guide is attached after page 08.

# **US Relations and Tarrifs**



Retaliatory tariffs to counter U.S. trade measures and aims to strengthen Canada's economic independence. Temporarily allow Canadian businesses to defer income tax, GST, and HST payments.



Targeted, reciprocal tariffs in the shortterm and lists red lines not to cross in negotiations such as Canada's borders, security, resources, fresh water, sovereignty etc. In the long term, economic self-reliance and policies to reduce dependence on U.S. trade.



Expand trade partnerships to reduce reliance on the U.S. market. Introduce an emergency price cap on basic food items as part of the tariff response. Give all money collected from counter-tariffs to workers and communities hit the hardest by the U.S. trade war.



Support retaliatory tariffs and call for the government to purchase Canadian resources at the current export set price and divert them to Strategic Reserves held by Canadian Crown corporations. Collaborate with European partners to prioritize a way out.



Support counter-tariffs on U.S. products. Protect Québec's interests by seeking diversified trade partnerships and reducing economic dependence on the U.S.



Double down on efforts to control the Canadian border. Tell the U.S. administration that we are ready to renegotiate North American free trade and put dairy supply management and other contentious issues on the table. Wait and see to what extent Trump is willing to keep tariffs in place.

# Housing



Eliminate the GST for first-time homebuyers on new homes sold at or under \$1 million. Introduce a mass government housing project, which will create nearly 500,000 homes annually, and create a new agency to oversee affordable housing construction



Eliminate the GST on new home purchases under \$1.3 million for all home buyers.



Increase affordable housing stock by building rent-controlled homes on federal land and banning corporate landlords from buying affordable homes. Implement policies to reduce housing costs for low-income Canadians, including introducing a Renters' Bill of Rights.



Create intergenerational co-housing for elders and youth. Strengthen housing market regulations. Launch the biggest public housing construction program by the Federal Government since the 1970s, creating local jobs, using Canadian materials and building affordable homes



Drive housing policies that address the specific needs of Quebec residents, including support for social housing initiatives.



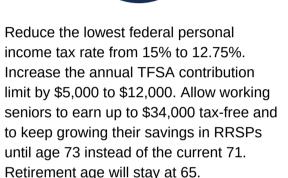
Will Impose a Moratorium on Immigration. Reduce the Bank of Canada's inflation target from 2% to 0%. Respect local governments' responsibilities in Housing. Privatize or dismantle the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Restrict Foreign Home Buyers.

# **Economy & Tax**





Reduce the federal tax rate for individuals in the lowest tax bracket (earning up to \$57,375 annually) from 15% to 14%. Eliminate the consumer carbon tax and replace it with incentive-based programs for environmentally friendly practices while taxing big polluters.





Increase the basic personal exemption to \$19,500. Remove the GST from essentials like groceries, diapers, phone and heating bills. Double the Canada Disability Benefit to \$4,800. Eliminate the GST on Canadian-made vehicles



Eliminate Federal Income Tax on Earnings Under \$40,000. Update the tax system so everyone pays their fair share. Close loopholes big corporations use to avoid paying tax. Fix the Disability Tax Credit for easier application and accessibility.



Fund tax cuts for low-income citizens with counter-tariffs on U.S. products. Withdraw previous support for carbon pricing-related legislation. Greater control for Québec over taxation and fiscal policies within the province. Specific tax policies are not detailed.



Set up a Department of Government Downsizing. Eliminate the Budget Deficit Within a Year after taking power. Focus Spending on Core Federal Responsibilities.

# **Drug Use**





Recruit 1,000 more RCMP personnel to tackle drug and human trafficking, foreign interference, cybercrime, and the organized criminal gangs that steal cars. Train 1,000 new CBSA officers to crack down on drugs, including fentanyl and its precursors and other crimes." Fund treatment for 50,000 Canadians in treatment centres with a proven record of success at getting people off drugs. Ban drug dens from being located within 500 metres of schools, daycares, playgrounds, parks, and seniors' homes and impose strict new oversight rules. Ban hard drugs and support recovery.



In 2022, NDP raised a bill decriminalizing the possession of drugs for personal use so that people with substance use disorders are not treated as people with a health problem rather than as criminals.



Advocate for harm reduction policies, including lifesaving supervised consumption services. Support comprehensive reforms to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act that would assist people suffering from addiction and mental health conditions to get the care that they require. Will boost funding for safe injection sites.



Support harm reduction approaches, increasing addiction prevention and rehabilitation funding. Support decriminalizing marijuana and most but not all drugs.



In the 2021 elections, the Party stated, "A team of professionals would be needed to deal with prevention, rehabilitation and mental health. The People's Party of Canada proposes to impose tougher penalties on drug traffickers. This is not an immediate solution but it would be a sure way to combat the spread of drugs."

# Abortion





"Crisis pregnancy centres save countless

lives every year and revoking the charitable

status of pro-life organizations will result in

abortions committed in Canada each year,

slaughtering thousands of innocent babies."

A Conservative Government will not support

an explosion in the number of brutal

any legislation to regulate abortion.

Proposed a legislation update to amend the Income Tax Act and Income Tax Regulations to require registered charities that provide services, advice, or information in respect of the prevention, preservation, or termination of pregnancy to disclose where they do not provide specific services, including abortions or birth control. Failing to do so will result in losing their charitable tax status.



"A woman has a right to a safe, legal abortion...It is, and always has been, the Green Party of Canada's policy that all women must have timely access to safe, legal abortions."



In Québec legally, it is not an issue. The services are provided because it considered a healthcare service, and creating a new set of rules around this issue might open the door for some future votes by some other governments that will go against what Québec wants."



"Under the Liberals' plan, these antichoice centres will still receive charitable status as long as they disclose that they don't provide abortions... This won't stop them from spreading misinformation and lies about abortion to pregnant people, which puts their health and well-being further at risk."



"It is time for Canada to join the civilized world by enacting reasonable restrictions on abortion that balance the rights of the mother with the protection of unborn life."

# End of Life (Medically Assisted Death)





Commit to working with the professional medical community and relevant stakeholders in a collaborative effort to establish professional protocols about decriminalizing medically assisted death in Canada. Oppose euthanasia and assisted suicide, the extension of euthanasia and assisted suicide (MAID) to minors, people who are not competent, people who live with psychological suffering (mental illness), and people not terminally ill (their natural death is not reasonably foreseeable).



Call for expanded access to MAID and more straightforward guidelines to support patient autonomy.



"Greens have heard loud and clear from the disability community that people are being offered MAID at times when it is both unnecessary and inappropriate to do so. Our focus should be on closing the social safety net before expanding MAID. People should not have an easier time accessing services to die than services to ensure they can live with independence and dignity."



In June 2023, the Québec National Assembly passed Bill 11 to ensure that end-of-life patients get care that respects their dignity and autonomy. The Act allows patients not at the end of life to exercise some of those rights to receive end-of-life care in cases where their condition requires it.



N/A

# **Parental Rights in Education**



Advocated for the updated New Brunswick Policy 713 (SOGI), in which parental consent is encouraged but no longer required when students of any age want their chosen names and pronouns used informally at school. Supports ageappropriate inclusion of SOGI topics in early education for early acceptance.



Strengthen laws against hate speech and hate groups. Fund community programs that fight discrimination. Protect LGBTQ2+ rights and access to gender-affirming health care.



Advocates for parental rights in education, supporting policies that require parental consent for discussions on SOGI topics in schools. "We believe in parents' right and duty to raise their children responsibly according to their conscience and beliefs. We believe no person, government or agency has the right to interfere in exercising that duty except through due process of law."



Advocate for LGBTQ rights, freedom and access to services. Support making education decisions, including SOGI topics at the provincial level.



"There's no such thing as parental rights in Canada. There are parental responsibilities. In Canadian family law, the primary responsibility of parents is to support and affirm their kids. Children have rights in Canada, and these kinds of policies restrict the rights that children have in Canada."



Outlaw the Mutilation of Minors. Repeal Bill C-4 'conversion therapy bill' (Remove the ban on helping minors who suffer from gender dysphoria accept their body that Bill C-4 imposed). Repeal Bill C-16 (the bill that added gender selfidentification as grounds for protection against discrimination).

# **Charities**

In the Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2025 Budget, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance proposed Recommendation 429 to no longer provide charitable status to antiabortion organizations and Recommendation 430 to amend the Income Tax Act to define a charity, which would remove the privileged status of "advancement of religion" as a charitable purpose. Currently, about 40% of Canadian charities fall under the advancement of religion section of the Income Tax Act, and the contribution of religious congregations in Canada is an estimated \$16.5 billion.

The SC consisted of 6 Liberals (including the Chair), 4 Conservatives, 1 Bloc Québécois member, and 1 NDP Democrat. Other parliamentarians who participated were 16 Conservatives, 7 Liberals, 1 NDP Democrat, and 1 Green Party member.



In the 2021 Elections, said it will "No longer provide charity status to antiabortion organizations (for example, Crisis Pregnancy Centres) that provide dishonest counselling to women about their rights and the options available to them at all stages of the pregnancy."



Of the 37 parliamentarians participating in the Pre-Budget Consultations, 20 were Conservatives. However, the party released a statement calling on the government to reject the recommendation by the Finance Committee to remove the charitable status of religious organizations.

# A Voter's Guide: Key Issues, Party Platforms and Leaders

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<u>Acronyms</u>

- Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
- Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)
- Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID)
- Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF)
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)
- Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA)

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# **01 United States Relations and Tariffs**

**Liberal Party:** Retaliatory tariffs to counter U.S. trade measures and aims to strengthen Canada's economic independence. Temporarily allow Canadian businesses to defer income tax, GST, and HST payments.

**Conservative Party:** Targeted, reciprocal tariffs in the short-term and lists red lines not to cross in negotiations as Canada's borders, security, resources, farmers, fresh water, sovereignty, Canadian laws and currency, culture, official languages, resources and indigenous rights. In the long term, economic self-reliance and policies to reduce dependence on U.S. trade.

**New Democratic Party:** Expand trade partnerships to reduce reliance on the U.S. market. Ban U.S. companies from federal procurement contracts and Canadian plants. Introduce an emergency price cap on basic food items as part of the tariff response. Give all money collected from counter-tariffs to workers and communities hit the hardest by the U.S. trade war.

**Bloc Québécois:** Support counter-tariffs on U.S. products. Protect Québec's interests by seeking diversified trade partnerships and reducing economic dependence on the U.S.

**People's Party of Canada:** Double down on efforts to control the Canadian border. Tell the U.S. administration that we are ready to renegotiate North American free trade and put dairy supply management and other contentious issues on the table. Wait and see to what extent Trump is willing to keep tariffs in place. Immediately implement an ambitious plan to tear down interprovincial trade barriers and help our impacted exporting industries find alternative markets in other countries. Implement bold reforms to make our economy more productive. Abolish all corporate subsidies, eliminate excessive regulation, remove impediments to the exploitation and export of natural resources, drastically cut government spending, mandate the Bank of Canada to stop printing money and start accumulating a gold reserve to prepare for the global monetary reset.

**Green:** Support retaliatory tariffs and call for the government to purchase Canadian resources at the current export set price and divert them to Strategic Reserves held by Canadian Crown corporations. Collaborate with European partners to prioritize a way out. Proposes Canada becomes more than a resource economy; it adds value at each production stage and invests in domestic manufacturing. Invest the Canadian Pension Plan in the Canadian economy, not global markets. View other border, global relations, defence, media, economy and law plans to address U.S. relations <u>here</u>.

### 02 Trade

**Liberal Party:** Launched an initiative for interprovincial free trade by Canada Day 2025 to ease restrictions through east-west connectivity, energy production and distribution, critical minerals extraction, and technological and digital integration. Implement a single approval process to speed up major projects and a system to consolidate federal and provincial environmental assessments. Remove mobility restrictions for federally regulated professions and create a model for provinces to adopt so professionals can practice throughout Canada without requalification. Invest \$5 billion in a new Trade Diversification Corridor Fund to build the infrastructure to promote diversifying Canada's trade and creating jobs.

**Conservative Party:** Create a national energy corridor to expedite the approval of key infrastructure projects and enhance trade efficiency. Provide pre-approved permits for major resource or energy (mine, liquefied natural gas plant, pipeline) projects.

**New Democratic Party:** Fair trade agreements prioritizing environmental standards and workers' rights. Invest in public services that make Canada attractive to work, invest and run a business.

Bloc Québécois: Support policies that protect Quebec's unique economic interests and promote local industries.

**People's Party of Canada:** "From an economic point of view, interprovincial barriers have the same effect as customs tariffs imposed on imports from other countries. It is time for the federal government to reassert its authority and leadership on internal trade."

Will Harmonize Regulatory Standards and Appoint an Internal Trade Minister.

**Green:** Create Strategic Reserves of Canadian resources through Crown corporations. End the "rip and ship" approach to natural resources (extracting raw resources and shipping them South). Process resources domestically to create thousands of high-quality jobs. Issue "Saving Canada Bonds" to allow Canadians to invest in our resources.

### 03 Housing

**Liberal Party:** Eliminate the GST for first-time homebuyers on new homes sold at or under \$1 million. Introduce a mass government housing project, which will create nearly 500,000 homes annually, and create a new agency to oversee affordable housing construction.

**Conservative Party:** Eliminate the GST on new home purchases under \$1.3 million for all home buyers.

**New Democratic Party:** Increase affordable housing stock by building rent-controlled homes on federal land and banning corporate landlords from buying affordable homes. Implement policies to reduce housing costs for low-income Canadians, including introducing a Renters' Bill of Rights and tying federal housing funding incentives to tenant-protector policies. Expand the Canada Rental Protection Fund to \$4 billion to help non-profit housing providers buy affordable rental homes. A \$16 billion national housing strategy—made up of the Canadian Homes Transfer and the Communities First Fund to give cities and provinces the tools to build homes faster, protect affordable rental homes, and fight inflation. Train over 100,000 skilled workers, including newcomers and those affected by the US trade war.

**Bloc Québécois:** Drive housing policies that address the specific needs of Quebec residents, including support for social housing initiatives.

**People's Party of Canada:** "Housing is primarily a provincial or local responsibility. The federal government can stop contributing to the overheating of the housing market in different ways." Will Impose a Moratorium on Immigration. Reduce the Bank of Canada's inflation target from 2% to 0%. Respect local governments' responsibilities in Housing. Privatize or dismantle the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Restrict Foreign Home Buyers.

**Green:** Create intergenerational co-housing for elders and youth. Strengthen housing market regulations. Launch the biggest public housing construction program by the Federal Government since the 1970s, creating local jobs, using Canadian materials and building affordable homes. Use covenants to make sure housing built with public money stays affordable forever. Close loopholes to stop criminals from using real estate to hide dirty money. Eliminate the unfair tax advantages for Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). Stop corporations from buying up single-family homes.

# 04 Local & International Relations

**Liberal Party:** Expand the Canadian Armed Forces' presence in the Arctic and use radar tech to monitor threats from adversaries like China and Russia. Pledge \$253 million in new funding for Indigenous reconciliation initiatives in the North. Plan to invest in Canadian-made defence equipment to stimulate economic growth.

**Conservative Party:** Commit \$1 billion over three years to build a road network to link the mining sites to Ontario's highway network and First Nations communities in the area. A "responsible federalism" that treats the provinces as partners. Slash foreign aid to focus on Canada instead.

**New Democratic Party:** Cancel Canada's contracts with the US for F-35 fighter jets and build jets in Canada instead. Bolster Canada's Arctic with new defence spending, build marine search and research stations, pay boosts to soldiers, and build Northern community infrastructure.

**Bloc Québécois:** Pursue Quebec's independence. Implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action. Support investments promoting Indigenous languages, cultures, and traditions. Advocate to end chronic federal underfunding of Indigenous police forces. Propose investments in resilient Housing for northern communities.

**People's Party of Canada:** Continue to work closely with our allies to maintain a peaceful international order without getting involved in foreign conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine, unless we have a compelling strategic interest in doing so. Prioritize relations with the United States of America to ensure our prosperity and our security while diversifying our trade relations with as many other countries as possible. Withdraw from all UN commitments and organizations that threaten our sovereignty, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Compact on Migrations and the World Health Organization, and reduce our presence in UN institutions to a minimum. Abolish International Development Aid and focus Canadian international assistance exclusively on emergency humanitarian action in cases such as conflicts and natural disasters.

**Green:** Strengthen the Arctic and coastal security with more patrols and better equipment. Build stronger cyber defences to protect Canadians. Create a National Civil Defence Corps to strengthen Canada's resilience and sovereignty. Stop selling weapons to countries that abuse human rights. Strengthen Canada's role in global peace efforts and share expertise in climate disaster response. Support climate security and nuclear disarmament. Stand up to countries that threaten democracy. Ensure trade deals put human rights first. Form a new bloc of democratic nations (including the EU, UK, Norway, Ukraine, Mexico, India, Japan and South Korea) to coordinate economic, diplomatic, and security responses to growing threats from authoritarian states.

# 05 Economy & Tax

**Liberal Party:** Reduce the federal tax rate for individuals in the lowest tax bracket (earning up to \$57,375 annually) from 15% to 14%. Leave the capital gains inclusion rate unchanged. Eliminate the consumer carbon tax and replace it with incentive-based programs for environmentally friendly practices while taxing big polluters. Waive the one-week waiting period for employment insurance for those who lose their jobs to U.S. tariffs. Increase the GIS by 5% for a year. Reduce the minimum amount that must be withdrawn from RRIF by 25% for the next year.

**Conservative Party:** Reduce the lowest federal personal income tax rate from 15% to 12.75%. Cut the second income tax bracket rate from 20.5% to 19%. Increase the annual TFSA contribution limit by \$5,000 to \$12,000 if invested in Canadian businesses. Defer taxes on capital gains to encourage domestic investment (the profits will be taxed when investors cash out or move the money out of Canada). Pledge to repeal the carbon pricing law, including taxes imposed on consumers and businesses. Boost training and employment for workers in the skilled trades, provide direct grants and faster access to employment insurance for apprentices in licensed trades. Allow working seniors to earn up to \$34,000 tax-free and to keep growing their savings in RRSPs until age 73 instead of the current 71. Retirement age will stay at 65.

**New Democratic Party:** Increase the basic personal exemption to \$19,500. Remove the GST from essentials like groceries, diapers, phone and heating bills. Double the Canada Disability Benefit to \$4,800. Eliminate the GST on

Canadian-made vehicles and mandate agencies to purchase only Canadian vehicles to boost domestic manufacturing. Reverse the capital gains tax cut. End consumer carbon tax and eliminate subsidies to oil and gas companies. Increase employment insurance coverage and remove waiting time. Create jobs by investing in infrastructure. Raise the GIS for low-income seniors.

**Bloc Québécois:** Fund tax cuts for low-income citizens with counter-tariffs on U.S. products. Withdraw previous support for carbon pricing-related legislation. Greater control for Québec over taxation and fiscal policies within the province. Specific tax policies are not detailed.

**People's Party of Canada:** Set up a Department of Government Downsizing. Eliminate the Budget Deficit Within a Year after taking power. Focus Spending on Core Federal Responsibilities and abolish the new federal programs that intrude on provincial jurisdictions (including the daycare, pharmacare, and dental care programs). Simplify the tax system and cut personal income and corporate taxes, and personal capital gains tax after eliminating the deficit.

**Green:** Eliminate Federal Income Tax on Earnings Under \$40,000. Update the tax system so everyone pays their fair share. Close loopholes big corporations use to avoid paying tax. Fix the Disability Tax Credit for easier application and accessibility. Fully fund the Canada Disability Benefit to lift people out of poverty. Enforce clear rules about supporting disabled workers. Support home care services for seniors. Expand paid leave to elder care, miscarriage, and other family needs." Create universal early learning and childcare that every family can afford. Make college and university free. Fund more childcare centers with trained early childhood educators.

### **06 Immigration**

**Liberal Party:** Cap immigration levels, set at 395,000 in 2025, 380,000 by 2026 and 365,000 by 2027, until they return to pre-pandemic levels to effectively manage population growth.

**Conservative Party:** Grant Quebec the authority to select temporary immigrants under the International Mobility Program, respecting provincial jurisdiction. Cap immigration but allow temporary foreign workers in "rare circumstances where there are not enough Canadians to fill jobs," such as farming.

**New Democratic Party:** "When we need foreign workers, we need to be clear: if someone is good enough to work in Canada, they're good enough to live in Canada."

**A welcoming** immigration policy that emphasizes family reunification and refugee protection. Change the immigration system to prioritize Canadian workers.

**Bloc Québécois:** Increase provincial control over immigration to preserve Quebec's cultural identity and address specific demographic needs. Reduce temporary immigration and "a fair distribution of asylum seekers." between provinces.

**People's Party of Canada:** Impose a moratorium on new permanent residents for as many years as necessary until the housing crisis has cooled down; thereafter, substantially lower the number of permanent residents to between 100,000 and 150,000 yearly. Reform the immigration point system to accept more economic immigrants with the right skills in high-value-added sectors while substantially lowering those admitted under the family reunification program. Conduct thorough background checks and face-to-face interviews with all immigrants to determine if they share Canadian values and societal norms. Deport Illegals. Accept fewer refugees and give

priority to those from persecuted minority groups who have nowhere to go in neighbouring countries. Make Birth Tourism Illegal.

**Green: I**mmediately suspend the Safe Third Country Agreement due to U.S. human rights violations. Major investments in refugee resettlement, IRCC staffing, and local integration programs. Change the immigration caps based on consultation with the provinces to balance ethical and pragmatic considerations.

### 07 Health

**Liberal Party:** Strengthen public healthcare systems and address increasing economic pressures affecting health services.

**Conservative Party:** Strengthen public healthcare and address economic factors impacting health services. Will not cut pharmacare or dental care programs if elected.

**New Democratic Party:** Implement universal pharmacare and dental care programs to expand healthcare coverage. Crackdown on "cash-for-care" clinics that charge Canadians for basic services, ban American firms from buying Canadian healthcare assets. Ensure that every Canadian has access to a family doctor by 2030, including through creating residencies for qualified, internationally trained doctors already living in Canada, training and equipping more doctors from northern and rural communities, working with territorial governments to provide Housing and facilities for family doctors and primary care teams in the North.

**Bloc Québécois:** Policies that enhance healthcare services within Quebec, tailored to the province's specific needs.

**People's Party of Canada:** Repeal the Canada Health Act and create the conditions for provincial and territorial governments to set up mixed private-public universal systems like other developed countries. Replace the Canada Health Transfer cash payments with a permanent transfer of tax points of equivalent value to give them a stable source of revenue. Give up the Federal Government's Goods and Services Tax (GST) and let provincial and territorial governments occupy this fiscal room. Establish a temporary program to compensate poorer provinces whose revenues from the new tax points will be lower than the Health Transfer payments they used to receive.

**Green:** Introduce a new Primary Care Health Act to guarantee every Canadian access to a family doctor, nurse practitioner, or community health team. Provide stable, long-term funding to provinces and territories. Train and hire more healthcare workers to improve access and cut wait times. Expand home care and community care. Ensure access to reproductive care across Canada. Invest in public health care instead of allowing for-profit corporations to deliver more services. Expand what Medicare covers. Make medicines free for everyone through universal pharmacare. Provide dental care for more Canadians who can't afford it. Cover mental health care and make it accessible everywhere.

### 08 Drug Use

Canada introduced the <u>Cannabis Act</u> in 2018, changing the approach to cannabis from prohibiting and criminalizing activities to "regulation and controlled access to keep cannabis out of the hands of youth and profits out of the hands of organized crime." Most Liberals, NDP democrats supported the bill while Conservative and Bloc Québécois members opposed it. A report of the Legislative Review was released in 2024 with recommendations including the need for more enforcement. **Liberal Party:** Recruit 1,000 more RCMP personnel to tackle drug and human trafficking, foreign interference, cybercrime, and the organized criminal gangs that steal cars. Train 1,000 new CBSA officers to crack down on drugs, including fentanyl and its precursors and other crimes."

The 2021 Platform promised that the Liberal government would introduce a comprehensive strategy to address problematic substance use to end the opioid crisis and invest \$25 million in public education to reduce the stigma associated with problematic substance use, among others. View <u>here</u>.

**Conservative Party:** "A new Conservative government will invest in recovery, cut off federal funding for opioids and defund drug dens, so we can bring our loved ones home drug-free."

Fund treatment for 50,000 Canadians in treatment centres with a proven record of success at getting people off drugs. Ban drug dens from being located within 500 metres of schools, daycares, playgrounds, parks, and seniors' homes and impose strict new oversight rules." Ban hard drugs and support recovery.

The Party's policy supports drug prevention and substance abuse programs to provide persons with addictions long-term mental and physical health care and supportive social services to address their underlying problems, such as mental illness, family instability, trauma, poverty or homelessness.

# The New Democratic Party, Green Party and Bloc Quebecois support decriminalization. The Greens and New Democrats also commit to safe supply.

**New Democratic Party:** "Decriminalizing personal possession of drugs is an essential first step to removing the shame that often prevents people from reaching out for lifesaving help."

In 2022, NDP raised a bill decriminalizing the possession of drugs for personal use so that people with substance use disorders are not treated as people with a health problem rather than as criminals.

**Bloc Québécois:** Support harm reduction approaches, increasing addiction prevention and rehabilitation funding. Support decriminalizing marijuana and most but not all drugs.

In response to the 2002 Special Committee on Non-medical Use of Drugs report, Bloc Québécois reaffirmed that "while all are concerned by the problem of drugs, the provincial governments alone have constitutional jurisdiction to deliver health care to the public. Bloc Québécois' support for a drug use intervention framework will depend on accepting two principles: Application of the harm reduction strategy and Reworking of the legislative framework."

**People's Party of Canada:** In the 2021 elections, the Party stated, "A team of professionals would be needed to deal with prevention, rehabilitation and mental health. The People's Party of Canada proposes to impose tougher penalties on drug traffickers. This is not an immediate solution but it would be a sure way to combat the spread of drugs."

**Green:** "We need to move towards an understanding of drug addiction as a health problem, not a criminal vice." Advocate for harm reduction policies, including lifesaving supervised consumption services. Support comprehensive reforms to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act that would assist people suffering from addiction and mental health conditions to get the care that they require. Will boost funding for safe injection sites and other harm reduction, prevention, and education efforts directed toward high-risk populations. Support removing marijuana from the drug schedule. Greens will create a regulatory framework for the safe production of marijuana by small growers and institute a tax rate similar to that on tobacco. Dedicate a share of the revenue from legalizing and taxing marijuana to research and public education about the health effects of marijuana. In 2021, a candidate said, "The federal government can promote legalization and harm-reduction strategies as the first defence, but actual implementation is in provincial jurisdiction. After we deal with the most visible challenges we have to look at how people become vulnerable to opioids..."

### **09** Abortion

Almost all Liberal and NDP, Bloc Québécois, Independent and Green MPs are pro-choice for abortion-related bills. Most Conservative MPs are anti-choice, and there was a unanimous vote for Bill C-311 by the Conservative Party members in June 2023.

**Liberal Party:** "All Canadians should have the information they need to freely make decisions over their bodies and have access to the medical care and services that are their legal right." Proposed a legislation update to amend the *Income Tax Act* and *Income Tax Regulations* to require registered charities that provide services, advice, or information in respect of the prevention, preservation, or termination of pregnancy to disclose where they do not provide specific services, including abortions or birth control. Failing to do so will result in losing their charitable tax status.

**Conservative Party:** "Crisis pregnancy centres save countless lives every year and revoking the charitable status of pro-life organizations will result in an explosion in the number of brutal abortions committed in Canada each year, slaughtering thousands of innocent babies."

A Conservative Government will not support any legislation to regulate abortion.

**New Democratic Party:** "Under the Liberals' plan, these anti-choice centres will still receive charitable status as long as they disclose that they don't provide abortions... This won't stop them from spreading misinformation and lies about abortion to pregnant people, which puts their health and well-being further at risk." "Remove charitable status from these establishments that spread false and harmful information about reproductive health. Furthermore, to help stop the spread of misinformation on abortion care, Health Canada should publish accurate information and options on where to get counselling or abortion services on its website for public consultation."

**Bloc Québécois:** In Québec legally, it is not an issue. The services are provided because it considered a healthcare service, and creating a new set of rules around this issue might open the door for some future votes by some other governments that will go against what Québec wants."

"Health care services are Quebec and provinces' jurisdiction in which the government should thread carefully."

**People's Party of Canada:** "It is time for Canada to join the civilized world by enacting reasonable restrictions on abortion that balance the rights of the mother with the protection of unborn life."

Foster a National Debate on Abortion (Encourage an open, respectful, and fact-based discussion on this issue). Introduce the Protection of Preborn Children Act to bring Canada in line with the laws of other civilized countries, where abortion is gradually restricted after the first trimester and late-term abortions are prohibited except in exceptional circumstances.

**Green:** "A woman has a right to a safe, legal abortion...It is, and always has been, the Green Party of Canada's policy that all women must have timely access to safe, legal abortions."

# 10 End of Life

**Liberal Party:** Commit to working with the professional medical community and relevant stakeholders in a collaborative effort to establish professional protocols about de-criminalizing medically assisted death in Canada.

**Conservative Party:** Oppose euthanasia and assisted suicide, the extension of euthanasia and assisted suicide (MAID) to minors, people who are not competent, people who live with psychological suffering (mental illness), and people not terminally ill (their natural death is not reasonably foreseeable). Oppose MAID for people living with disabilities or mental illness seeking to die based on poverty, homelessness or inability to receive medical treatment. Euthanasia must not be an abandonment of people living with genuine needs.

**New Democratic Party:** Call for expanded access to MAID and more straightforward guidelines to support patient autonomy.

**Bloc Québécois:** In June 2023, the Québec National Assembly passed *Bill 11* to ensure that end-of-life patients get care that respects their dignity and autonomy. The Act allows patients not at the end of life to exercise some of those rights to receive end-of-life care in cases where their condition requires it. It recognizes the primacy of freely and clearly expressed wishes concerning care by establishing an advanced medical directives regime. One of the provisions is an obligation for all palliative care homes to offer MAID, even religiously affiliated institutions. Quebec became the first province in Canada to allow advance requests for MAID in October 2024. Bloc Québécois introduced a Private Member's Bill (C-390) advance requests in the House of Commons in May 2024 to amend the Criminal Code to allow a person with an illness that will deprive them of the capacity to consent to make an advance request for MAID under a provincial framework.

**Green:** "Greens have heard loud and clear from the disability community that people are being offered MAID at times when it is both unnecessary and inappropriate to do so. Our focus should be on closing the social safety net before expanding MAID. People should not have an easier time accessing services to die than services to ensure they can live with independence and dignity."

# 11 Parents' Rights & Teaching Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) in Elementary

**Liberal Party:** Advocated for the updated New Brunswick Policy 713 (SOGI), in which parental consent is encouraged but no longer required when students of any age want their chosen names and pronouns used informally at school. Supports age-appropriate inclusion of SOGI topics in early education for early acceptance.

Between 2020-2024, the "Liberal government banned the cruel and discredited practice of anti-2SLGBTQI+ conversion therapy, moved forward with Canada's first-ever Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan, that will guide the work of the federal government on the priorities of 2SLGBTQI+ Canadians and the lifted the Canadian Blood Services blood donation ban for men who have sex with men."

**Conservative Party:** Advocates for parental rights in education, supporting policies that require parental consent for discussions on SOGI topics in schools.

"The Conservative Party believes that the family unit is essential to the well-being of individuals and society because that is where children learn values and develop a sense of responsibility. Therefore, government legislation and programs should support and respect the role of the Canadian family. We believe in parents' right and duty to raise their children responsibly according to their conscience and beliefs. We believe no person, government or agency has the right to interfere in exercising that duty except through due process of law."

**New Democratic Party:** Voted in support of Policy 713. Endorses having SOGI topics in school curricula to promote diversity. Educating children about different identities early helps combat discrimination and promotes well-being.

"There's no such thing as parental rights in Canada. There are parental responsibilities. In Canadian family law, the primary responsibility of parents is to support and affirm their kids. Children have rights in Canada, and these kinds of policies restrict the rights that children have in Canada."

**Bloc Québécois:** Advocate for LGBTQ rights, freedom and access to services. Support making education decisions, including SOGI topics at the provincial level.

**People's Party of Canada:** "Canadians who believe there are only two immutable sexes must not be compelled to adapt their language and behaviour to accommodate gender ideology. In particular, women and children must be protected from its harmful consequences."

Outlaw the Mutilation of Minors. Repeal *Bill C-4* 'conversion therapy bill' (Remove the ban on helping minors who suffer from gender dysphoria accept their body that *Bill C-4* imposed). Repeal *Bill C-16* (the bill that added gender self-identification as grounds for protection against discrimination).

In 2019, a candidate said, "It is time that Canada protected a parent's fundamental right to direct the upbringing and education of their children. To that end, we need to create a parental bill of rights... In a free society, the most cherished and sacred relationship is between parents and their children."

**Green:** Strengthen laws against hate speech and hate groups. Fund community programs that fight discrimination. Protect LGBTQ2+ rights and access to gender-affirming health care.

# 12 Green/Climate Energy Policies

**Liberal Party:** Balance economic interests with environmental protection, encourage domestic industries to adopt greener technologies and support integration with global allies in climate action. Implement a carbon border adjustment to address emissions from imports and penalize high-polluting goods. Work with industry and provinces to reduce emissions rather than having preset restrictions on preset timelines.

**Conservative Party:** Promote energy independence and economic growth through resource development. Revoke carbon pricing laws for consumers and industry and reward businesses with lower emissions than the world average. Encourage investments in clean technology by expanding eligibility for clean technology and manufacturing tax credits.

Responsible development of natural resources, including oil drilling, while meeting environmental regulations.

**New Democratic Party:** Supports significant investments in green infrastructure and clean energy projects to reduce carbon emissions and create sustainable jobs. Transition to renewable energy sources and invest in green jobs to mitigate climate change impacts. Oppose new oil drilling projects. Will champion lowering energy costs, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and phase out fossil fuel subsidies.

**Bloc Québécois:** Table legislation that prevents climate policy rollbacks and applies a climate test to federal decisions based on the Paris Agreement. Support carbon pricing, banning thermal coal exports, and signing a global plastics treaty while gradually eliminating single-use plastics and plastic waste exports. Emphasize investments in Québec's renewable energy, particularly hydroelectric power, and support carbon reduction initiatives that respect Québec's environmental leadership. Oppose oil drilling projects misaligned with the province's priorities and propose taxing excessive oil and gas profits to fund environmental recovery efforts.

**People's Party of Canada:** Withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord. Abandon unrealistic emission reduction targets for greenhouse gases. Stop sending billions to developing countries to help them reduce their emissions. Abolish all Climate Change taxes, regulations, subsidies, and programs; instead, invest in adaptation strategies to protect Canadians against natural disasters such as floods and forest fires. Prioritize implementing practical solutions to improve Canada's air, water and soil, including bringing clean drinking water to remote First Nations communities. Impose a moratorium on new permanent residents until the negative economic impact of mass immigration is neutralized and the process of social and cultural disintegration due to mass immigration is reversed.

**Green:** Stop all new fossil fuel projects. Build a modern power grid across the country. Switch to 100% clean energy. Create the Youth Climate Corps, hiring young Canadians to help communities become climate-ready. Hold big polluters responsible for the climate damage they cause. Create strict, science-based limits on Canada's total pollution. Make companies prove they have real plans to deal with climate risks.

### **13 Charities**

In the Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2025 Budget, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance proposed Recommendation 429 to no longer provide charitable status to antiabortion organizations and Recommendation 430 to amend the *Income Tax Act* to define a charity, which would remove the privileged status of "advancement of religion" as a charitable purpose. Currently, about 40% of Canadian charities fall under the advancement of religion section of the *Income Tax Act*, and the contribution of religious congregations in Canada is an estimated \$16.5 billion.

The SC consisted of 6 Liberals (including the Chair), 4 Conservatives, 1 Bloc Québécois member, and 1 NDP Democrat. Other parliamentarians who participated were 16 Conservatives, 7 Liberals, 1 NDP Democrat, and 1 Green Party member.

**Liberal Party:** In the 2021 Elections, said it will "No longer provide charity status to anti-abortion organizations (for example, Crisis Pregnancy Centres) that provide dishonest counselling to women about their rights and the options available to them at all stages of the pregnancy."

**Conservative Party:** Of the 37 parliamentarians participating in the Pre-Budget Consultations, 20 were Conservatives. However, the party released a statement calling on the government to reject the recommendation by the Finance Committee to remove the charitable status of religious organizations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.conservative.ca/cpc/protecting-the-charitable-status-of-religious-organizations/</u>

### 14 Crime

Liberal Party: Crack down on organized crime and strengthen gun control through measures like a reinvigorated gun buyback program, automatic gun license revocation for violent offenders, and stricter bail conditions for repeat violent criminals. Recruit 1,000 new RCMP officers and 1,000 Canada Border Services personnel to bolster enforcement. Change the Criminal Code to include harsher penalties for intimate partner and sexual violence, consecutive sentencing for certain crimes, and designating hate-motivated murders, including femicides, as first-degree offences. Criminalize the distribution of non-consensual sexual deepfakes and raise penalties for sharing intimate images without consent.

**Conservative Party:** A three-strikes plan to imprison repeat violent offenders for a mandatory minimum of 10 years, jail not bail for repeat offenders. Mandatory life sentences for large-scale fentanyl trafficking, five or more counts of human trafficking, or importing or exporting 10 or more illegal firearms.

**Bloc Québécois:** Introduce a bill to prevent trials for serious crimes from being dismissed due to delays and introduce an anti-gang bill, creating a list of criminal entities and facilitating the seizure of property linked to crime. Propose a bill to crack down more effectively on recruiting minors for criminal activities, a bill to reinstate mandatory minimum sentences for serious offences and a bill to hold platforms accountable for the content they host.

**People's Party of Canada:** Fortify the Right to Self-Defence, Amend section 35 of the Criminal Code to include the concept of the inviolability of one's home, known as "Castle Doctrine," that allows victims to use force (up to and including deadly force) to defend themselves against a violent intruder, free from legal prosecution, Allow Pepper Spray for Self-Defence."

# 15 Party Key Goals and Leader Profiles

### **Liberal Party**

### Key Priorities:

- **Economic Stability:** Focus on steady economic management to counter external trade policies, unite Canada's economy, and drive fiscal management through reduced government spending and increased investment.
- Housing Affordability: Implement tax incentives to make homeownership more accessible.
- International Relations: Address and mitigate the impacts of U.S. tariffs and trade tensions.

#### Leader: Mark Carney

- **Background:** Born in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, in 1965. Holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Harvard University and a doctorate from Oxford University.
- **Career:** Served as Governor of the Bank of Canada (2008-2013) and Governor of the Bank of England (2013-2020). Appointed UN Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance in 2019.

• **Leadership Focus:** Emphasizes economic stability, environmental sustainability, and international diplomacy.

#### **Conservative Party**

#### Key Priorities:

- **Economic Self-Reliance:** Promote domestic investment and reduce foreign economic influence.
- Housing Accessibility: Stimulate the housing market with tax cuts for new home purchases.
- Energy Independence: Develop natural resources responsibly to achieve energy self-sufficiency.

#### Leader: Pierre Poilievre

- **Background:** Born in Calgary, Alberta, in 1979. Earned a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Calgary.
- **Career:** Elected as Member of Parliament for Carleton, Ontario, since 2004. Served in roles including Minister for Democratic Reform (2013-2015) and Conservative Party Shadow Minister for Finance (2017-2022).
- Leadership Focus: Advocates for small government, free-market principles, and economic self-reliance.

### New Democratic Party (NDP)

#### Key Priorities:

- **Support for Workers:** Implement policies to reduce income inequality, protect workers' rights, and promote fair wages.
- **Healthcare Expansion:** Introduce universal pharmacare to ensure access to necessary medications for all Canadians.
- Environmental Sustainability: Reduce carbon emissions and invest in green energy initiatives while creating jobs.

#### Leader: Jagmeet Singh

- **Background:** Born in Scarborough, Ontario, in 1979. Holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Laws from York University's Osgoode Hall Law School.
- **Career:** Worked as a criminal defense lawyer before entering politics. Elected as Member of Provincial Parliament in 2011. Elected leader of the NDP in 2017.
- **Leadership Focus:** Centers on social justice and progressive policies, including universal pharmacare, affordable housing, and climate change initiatives.

### **Bloc Québécois**

#### Key Priorities:

- **Quebec's Interests:** Promote Quebec's unique culture and language, support local industries and workers, and protect the province's economic interests.
- **Immigration Control:** Seek increased provincial authority over immigration to align with Quebec's demographic and economic needs.

• **Environmental Focus:** Advocate for policies supporting environmental sustainability, particularly those benefiting Quebec's natural resources and industries.

#### Leader: Yves-François Blanchet

- **Background:** Born in Drummondville, Quebec, in 1965. Earned a Bachelor's degree in history and anthropology from the Université de Montréal.
- **Career:** Served as a Member of the National Assembly of Quebec and as Quebec's Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife, and Parks (2012-2014). Elected leader of the Bloc Québécois in 2019.
- **Leadership Focus:** Emphasizes protecting Quebec's economic priorities and advocates for greater provincial control over immigration and environmental policies.

#### People's Party of Canada

#### Key Priorities:

- **Immigration Policy**: Reduce annual immigration intake, prioritize economic immigrants and impose moratorium, and implement stricter screening processes to ensure alignment with Canadian values.
- **Climate and Energy**: Withdraw from the Paris Agreement, abolish carbon taxes, and promote the development of Canada's oil and gas sector while focusing on practical environmental solutions to natural occurrences.
- **Autonomy**: Withdraw from international agreements that compromise Canada's interests, advocate for provincial autonomy in healthcare delivery, reforms to federal social programs and reduce interprovincial trade barriers to foster a free-market economy.

#### Leader: Maxime Bernier

- **Background:** Born in Saint-Georges, Quebec in 1963 to a former MP Gilles Bernier.. Earned a Bachelor of Commerce from Université du Québec à Montréal. Called to the Quebec Bar in 1990 after a law degree from the University of Ottawa.
- **Career:** Worked in law, finance, and banking, including at McCarthy Tétrault and the National Bank before politics. Was Executive Vice-President of the Montreal Economic Institute. Elected as a Conservative MP for Beauce in 2006, served as Minister of Industry and Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- **Leadership Focus: F**ounded the party in 2018, emphasizing principles of freedom, responsibility, fairness, and respect. He promotes a limited government, individual freedom, and national sovereignty.

#### **Green Party**

#### Key Priorities:

- **Strengthen Social Support:** Expand the health plan to all eligible Canadians, providing access to everyone including for mental health. Enhance the Canada Health Act. Provide universal early learning and child care, free post-secondary education, and income support for Canadians at every life stage.
- **Economic Resilience:** Strategic global realignment and long-term sovereignty by investing the Canadian Pension Plan locally, the creation of strategic reserves, bond issue for Canadians, transitioning from a resource to production and domestic manufacturing economy.

- **Green Economy: A** full transition to a green economy; Invest in renewable energy infrastructure, create jobs in clean industries, ensure energy efficiency in buildings and homes, enforce strict pollution limits.
- **Democracy:** Transition to a proportional representation voting system, lower the voting age to 16, restore per-vote subsidies for fairer elections and create a Citizens' Assembly. Strengthen political ethic rules, protect whistleblowers, reform access-to-information laws, combat hate and discrimination.<sup>2</sup>

#### Leader: Jonathan Pedneault

- Background: Born in Greenfield Park, Quebec in 1990. Studied political science at the University of Ottawa.
- **Career:** Passionate about human rights from young, co-founded a genocide prevention organization at 15. Covered conflict zones in Sudan and Somalia as a reporter, and co-produced documentaries for CBC, Al Jazeera, and Arte. His journalism focused on humanitarian crises and global security.
- Leadership Focus: Champions climate action, social justice, and participatory democracy. Committed to systemic change, building public trust through value-driven leadership. Became Green Party Co-Leader in February 2025 after being deputy leader from 2022 to 2024.

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