



Results – Policy Prioritization Vote

These are the 26 Policy Resolutions passed and prioritized by Registered Liberals at the 2021 Liberal National Convention. They appear in the order of priority.

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1 - IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL PHARMACARE FOR ALL

Whereas Canada is the only country in the world that has a universal healthcare system without universal coverage for prescription drugs outside of hospitals;

Whereas The Canada Health Act is intended to "facilitate reasonable access to health and services without financial or other barriers"; Medication is essential to ensure fairness to every individual in Canada towards an equal right to health;

Whereas Health Canada indicates that 20 percent (roughly 7 million people) of Canadians have inadequate drug coverage or no coverage at all and must pay out of pocket; Approximately 1 million Canadians were forced to cut their household spending on food and heat to pay for medication; One in five households reported a family member who, in the past year, had not taken a prescribed medicine due to its cost.

Whereas Health Canada Advisory Council projects National Pharmacare will decrease government and individual drug expenditures; 2027 total drug expenditures without National Pharmacare will amount to a total of \$51.5 B, \$23.0 B of which is on other public plans, \$19.8 B on Private Plans, and \$8.8 B pay from out of pocket; 2027 total drug expenditures with National Pharmacare will amount to a total of \$46.8 B, \$2.6 B of which on other public plans, \$3.2 B on private plans, and \$2.4 B pay from out of pocket

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop a National policy that ensures the equitable and long-term sustainability of access to prescription medication while reducing drug costs.

Liberal Party of Canada - Ontario

2 - A UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME FOR CANADA

Whereas, the Government of Canada has committed to the reduction of poverty by 50% by 2030 through the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Whereas We face a rapidly changing economy: artificial intelligence and automation will increase the precarity of work and create a new normal where most people change careers several times over their working lives.

Whereas Low and moderate income Canadians are the most vulnerable to workforce disruption by artificial intelligence automation, according to a report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Whereas There is evidence to suggest that people on a Universal Basic Income (UBI) will be more likely to go back to school or start small businesses.

Whereas Universal basic income reduces bureaucracy: with no-strings-attached coverage, determining who is eligible is far simpler and the cost of administering benefits is greatly reduced.

Whereas 8.7% of Canadians live below the poverty line, 20% of Canadians live in the bottom 40% of incomes, and a UBI will ensure that communities at risk (including Indigenous peoples) are able to feel financially secure.

Whereas UBI increases bargaining power for workers because a guaranteed, unconditional income gives them leverage to say no to exploitative wages and poor working conditions.

Be it resolved that, through a process of intersectional consultation with stakeholders and political parties, the Government of Canada introduce a UBI for all Canadians.

Be it further resolved that, given the success of the CERB program, that a UBI will assist seniors and low-income Canadians maintain an adequate standard of living, regardless of working status.

Young Liberals of Canada
Liberal Party of Canada (Ontario)

3 - LONG TERM CARE

Whereas, the number of deaths associated with COVID-19 and neglect at long term care facilities account for the vast majority of COVID-19 related deaths, ranking Canada as one of the world's leaders in long term care COVID-19 fatalities;

Whereas long term care homes serve the most vulnerable, primarily women; and are understaffed by underpaid, part-time support workers, often working in unsafe conditions, the majority of whom are also women;

Whereas the Canadian Armed Forces, called upon to provide adequate care during "Operation LASER", released a report describing horrific conditions, lack of pandemic preparedness, and serious shortcomings in facilities, with inconsistent treatment standards;

Whereas, while long term care is primarily a provincial responsibility, we must work together to ensure that care across Canada provides consistent, person-centered, high-quality care that vulnerable Canadians deserve to live with dignity, regardless of income or where they live;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with Provincial/ Territorial governments and stakeholders to establish and implement enforceable national standards for all long-term care facilities;

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with Provincial/Territorial governments and stakeholders to ensure national standards include:

- Person-centred care standards, including accommodation, staffing levels, qualifications, and compensation;
- Standards in licensing and maintenance of LTC facilities;
- Transparency and public accountability through random inspections and annual public reporting.

Be it further resolved that new federal legislation be introduced to protect long term care as an insured service, adequately funded, such funding conditional on transparency, adherence to national standards and public accountability through random inspections and annual reporting.

LPC(British Columbia)

LPC(Nova Scotia)

Senior Liberals' Commission

Liberal Caucus

4 - HIGH-SPEED RAIL: AN AFFORDABLE AND EFFICIENT NEW MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION

Whereas

- Canada remains the only G7 nation without a high-speed rail line;
- Canadian cars, which burn an average of 2,000 L of gasoline every year, release an average of 4,600 kg of CO₂ into the atmosphere and domestic flights shorter than 1 hour are disproportionately harmful to the environment
- Electric high-speed rail results in fewer carbon emissions than alternative methods of transportation;
- Quebec City to Windsor is a current corridor well-suited for high-speed rail with 16 million Canadians living between those two cities'
- High-speed rail can radically reduce the commute times of many Canadians and help bring economic development to rural regions

Be it resolved that the Government of Canada:

- Design and create a trans-Canada high-speed rail line that would replace rail networks' current infrastructure along the trans-Canada railway;
- Commits to sharing the operating costs with the respective provinces and VIA Rail;
- Incentivize the expansion of the high-speed rail network by the provinces to unite the rural and urban centres in Canada;
- Ensure any high-speed rail network is carbon neutral;
- Ensure high-speed rail networks be made affordable and accessible for use by all Canadians;
- Study other areas of the country that can support high-speed rail systems in place of air travel between cities as part of phase 2 of a high-speed rail implementation plan.

Young Liberals of Canada

5 - A CANADIAN BASIC INCOME - RETHINKING CANADA'S TOMORROW

Whereas COVID-19 exposed serious gaps in federal and provincial social safety nets;

Whereas economic stability is key to equality of opportunity and dignity; and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, “everyone has a right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being” of themselves and their families;

Whereas income is a primary social determinant of health, yet precarious work is a growing concern and millions of Canadians still live in poverty at great cost to our society;

Whereas a basic income would secure household purchasing power, address the stigma attached to being a welfare recipient, and signal that Canadians are best placed to determine their immediate needs;

Whereas a basic income would simplify benefit applications for Canadians in need, allow for merging of government programs and reduce administrative costs for government;

Whereas the Canada Emergency Response Benefit was a progressive and transformative program that supported 8.8 million Canadians, proving to be both effective and popular;

Whereas Canada’s existing social safety net already includes basic income supports, including for seniors and families with kids; and several basic income experiments have both shown positive results and debunked labour force concerns;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

1. Conduct a basic income cost-benefit analysis, including reviews of basic income projects and studies by subject matter experts;
2. Explore streamlining current federal income supports, while maintaining those for distinct needs, adjusting for regional differences, and identifying new revenue sources;
3. Work with provinces, territories, and First Nations, Métis and Inuit to develop and implement a basic income guarantee.

Sponsored by:

SLC - Senior Liberals’ Commission

Caucus

Liberal Party of Canada - British Columbia

Liberal Party of Canada - Ontario

6 - END SYSTEMIC RACISM IN CANADA'S POLICING, JUSTICE & CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS

Whereas Indigenous people are over-represented in Canada's prison population at over 30% today, from 17% in 2000, despite representing 5% of the Canadian population; Indigenous women are over-represented at 42% of the female prison population; and Indigenous youth are over-represented at 48% of custody admissions and 39% of community admissions.

Whereas Black people are over-represented in Canada's prison population at 8.6% despite representing 3% of the Canadian population.

Whereas there is a lack of data on other People of Colour (e.g. South Asian, Middle Eastern, Latino, etc.) in the policing, justice and correctional systems.

Whereas systemic biases, including racism, the use of profiling, and carding/street check practices by police has contributed to the overrepresentation of Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) people within the justice and correctional systems.

Whereas numerous studies and reports calling for systemic change exist, including, but not limited to, 1996's Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report; the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action; the MMIWG report; and the UN working group of experts report on people of African descent in Canada.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urges that the Government:

- lead the collection and stewardship of data disaggregated by race, colour, gender, ethnicity, national origin, LGBTQ2+ and other identities to determine if and where systemic biases, including racism, exist so as to address them accordingly.
- ban carding and racial profiling by the RCMP and work with all jurisdictions to end this practice nationally, coupling continued funding with compliance.
- implement the related longstanding systemic change recommendations

Liberal Party of Canada - British Columbia

7 - CANADA'S GREEN NEW DEAL

Whereas:

- A changing climate threatens human life, healthy communities, and critical infrastructure.
- Exceeding 2 degrees warming will significantly increase the risk of disease, food and water insecurity, fires, coastal property damage, loss of biodiversity and severe weather including heatwaves, droughts and flooding.
- The economic impact on Canada may be as much as \$43 billion per year by 2050.
- Human activity is the dominant cause of climate change.
- The global temperature increase must be kept under 1.5 degrees to avoid the most severe impacts of climate change, requiring net-zero emissions by 2050.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to implement a Green New Deal to:

- achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 through a fair and just transition;
- secure for all Canadians: clean air and water, climate and community resiliency, healthy food, access to nature and a sustainable environment;
- create jobs and ensure prosperity and economic security for all Canadians;
- sustainably invest in Canadian infrastructure and industry; and
- promote justice and equity by stopping current, preventing future, and repairing historic oppression of indigenous peoples, communities of color, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities and youth.

Be it further resolved that the Green New Deal be implemented by a 10-year national mobilization, developed through an urgent, transparent and inclusive consultation process, involving frontline and vulnerable communities, labour unions, worker cooperatives, civil society organizations, academia and businesses, commenced immediately and completed in no more than one year.

Liberal Party of Canada - British Columbia

8 - ADVANCING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AT POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Whereas

- Data on gender-based violence (GBV) at post-secondary institutions (PSIs) is a critical resource for federal, provincial, and institutional decision-makers, as well as prospective and current students and their families;
- Prevention of GBV at PSIs in Canada must involve all levels of government, and the federal government is funding and spearheading a federal "Framework to Prevent and Address GBV at PSIs";
- The availability and quality of data on GBV against students varies widely across the country and depends on voluntary disclosure by risk-averse institutions; and
- Intergovernmental efforts to prevent GBV at PSIs require standardized and cross-comparable data in order to meaningfully improve the safety of women and populations disproportionately affected by sexualized violence, including LGBTQ2+ people, persons with disabilities, Indigenous people, and people of colour.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urges the Government of Canada to:

- Ensure that the national Framework mandates the annual tabling, by each responsible Minister in their respective legislature, of a Report on the State of Gender-Based Violence Prevention at Post-Secondary Institutions.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urges the Government of Canada to:

- Work with the provinces and territories to set national standards for reporting on GBV at PSIs to complement the evolving national Framework; and
- Provide targeted funding to provinces/territories, PSIs, and student associations to improve the accuracy and scope of provincial/territorial reporting of GBV at PSIs.

Young Liberals of Canada

9 - A GREEN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Whereas carbon dioxide emitted from the use of fossil fuels contributes to global warming and is identified as a toxic substance in the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (1999);

Whereas the Canadian government's involvement in the oil industry contributes to carbon dioxide emissions;

Whereas the Canadian Minister of Environment tabled a motion on May 14, 2019, declaring a climate emergency;

Whereas these undertakings are inconsistent with the commitments made by Canada under the Paris Agreement on climate change and are counter to solutions appropriate to the declaration of a state of climate emergency;

Whereas the oil market's volatility during the COVID-19 pandemic shows that investments in this sector are not guaranteed to be profitable;

Whereas the recession the country is experiencing necessitates investment from the Canadian government to stimulate stock markets and long-term employment, and represents a rare and unique opportunity to redirect the national economy;

Be it resolved that the Canadian government present an economic recovery plan that is focused on the green economic transition required for the planet's survival and that promotes investment in environmental infrastructure projects and divestment from the oil industry.

Be it further resolved that construction projects for power plants that use renewable energy be included in such an economic recovery plan, as well as investments in research and innovation and in green transportation.

Young Liberals of Jean-de-Brébeuf College

Endorsed by the Young Liberals of Canada (Quebec)

10 - POST-PANDEMIC ECONOMY

Whereas Covid-19 has delivered a shock to Canada's economy.

Whereas the focus has been on healthcare, financial and economic interventions to provide support to Canadians and businesses.

Whereas Canada has had to mitigate health risks due to lack of access to personal protective equipment and medical supplies, and knowledgeable data.

Whereas it is unclear how long the pandemic will last and how it will impact global trade essentials, supply chains, businesses, consumer behaviour and investor confidence.

Whereas Covid-19 has created an opportunity for Canada to develop an approach to advance objectives of more nationally self-reliant and transitioning to a cleaner and competitive economy .

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urges the Government of Canada to:

- Re-evaluate its security and restructure its supply chains and 'knowhow' regarding medical and essential supplies, equipment, food, and drugs to achieve national self-reliance.
- Develop a path, with regulatory, fiscal, and financial measures to steer Canada's economy toward more equal outcomes for Canadians.
- Diversify Canada's natural resources, technological knowledge, and manufacturing expertise toward a greener economy.
- Ensure that public and private investments facilitate research and innovative solutions.
- Ensure that federal programs offer opportunities, partnerships for educational, research, innovation, and technological progress.

Liberal Party of Canada - Quebec

11 - CANADA AS AN AGRICULTURAL AND AGRI-FOOD SUPERPOWER

Whereas the world's population is estimated to exceed 10 billion by 2050 and the crops

Whereas needed to feed a growing population may be required to double;

Whereas Canada's agriculture and agri-food industries represent \$111.9 billion of economic activity, comprising approximately 6.7% of national GDP and employing 1 in 8 Canadians equal to 2.3 million jobs;

Whereas the Barton Report emphasized the opportunities available to Canada in positioning itself as an agriculture superpower, driving economic potential in rural communities;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the importance of domestic food supply and supporting Canadian agriculture producers; and

Whereas Canada can extend its growing season by supporting greenhouse infrastructure, thereby increasing the amount of local food available during the winter months;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop a suite of policies to ensure that Canada will be positioned as an agricultural superpower following the cessation of the COVID-19 pandemic, with attention to:

- Focusing on investments to support regional agri-food capacity including extension of growing seasons;
- Bolstering investment in research and innovation to ensure Canadian producers are globally competitive;
- Increasing agricultural exports as a percentage of GDP; and
- Working with industry to help make the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to consult with all the provinces, territories, First Nations and all other relevant stakeholders to position Canada as an agricultural superpower.

Liberal Caucus

12 - IMPROVING INTERNET INFRASTRUCTURE

Whereas only 41% of rural communities have access to broadband at 50/10 Mbps, compared to the Canadian average of 86%;

Whereas 30% of employed Canadian internet users report that their employers expect them to stay connected via the internet outside regular work hours;

Whereas communication and e-commerce for rural businesses are unfairly impacted by lack of internet access;

Whereas the number of Canadians working from home has increased dramatically in recent months;

Whereas students are increasingly expected to access online resources to complete work outside regular school hours; that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

- Invest in improved high-speed internet access in rural and remote areas of Canada;
- Develop a tax benefit for Canadians who are required to spend exorbitant amounts to access high-speed internet;
- Work with private internet providers to develop "equal service for equal price" initiatives.

Liberal Party of Canada - Prince Edward Island

13 - MORE MONEY IN THE POCKETS OF SENIORS

Whereas more than half of seniors are living in precarious situations and rely on their pension for the essentials of life;

Whereas seniors after meeting essential needs, seniors are unable to save enough to pay for necessities such as « eyeglasses, dental work and or hearing aids »;

Whereas according to the Réseau FADOQ (Federation of Seniors in Quebec): "a recipient of both Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) receives a little more than \$18,000 annually which is barely sufficient to cover basic needs";

Whereas in order to lift out of subsistence poverty the more than 40% of seniors who need OAS the GIS and knowing what they have endured and the difficulties they have overcome; and

Whereas the Liberal Party of Canada campaigned in October 2019 on the promise to increase the OAS by 10% as of age 75 and over.

Be it Resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to renew and strengthen this promise by increasing OAS by 10% as of age 70 and over.

Liberal Party of Canada - Quebec

14 - AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING FOR VULNERABLE SENIORS

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Canadian seniors are without a place to call home;

Whereas vulnerable Canadian Seniors are often forced to choose among housing, food or medicine;

Whereas the basic human right to an adequate home is not available to many seniors because of cost;

Whereas vulnerable low-income seniors require financial support to ensure adequate housing;

Whereas most seniors prefer to continue to live independently in order to age in place;

Whereas socially integrated communities develop better social welfare outcomes which, in turn can reduce the strain on the Canadian health and welfare systems;

Whereas community non-profits have the experience and human resources to find, manage and increase affordable rental housing stock to meet the needs of vulnerable seniors;

Whereas financial support and funding from the federal government is critical to ensuring affordable rental housing for vulnerable seniors;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to include in the National Housing Strategy specific provisions for vulnerable seniors, including designated funding for non-profit community organizations to facilitate an increase in affordable rental stock to accommodate the housing needs of vulnerable Canadian seniors, and support for local municipalities to do so.

Senior Liberal's Commission

15 - “NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND” IN TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY

Whereas Canada has committed to dramatic Greenhouse Gas emission reduction;

Whereas the combined effects of the market for oil and of environmental concerns have adversely affected the Canadian fossil fuel industry;

Whereas in the post-industrialization era, the labour market has significantly shifted toward the service and knowledge-based sectors with a rise of authoritarian populism, driven largely by a growing sense of economic precarity on the part of working-class people;

Whereas 6.7 million Canadians aged 25-64 do not have university, college or completed apprenticeship qualifications and they have been most affected by the labour market upheaval;

Whereas the pace of actions to secure for Canada a leading position in the transition to transformational low carbon technologies has been slow, particularly in the move toward a hydrogen-based economy and low carbon transportation;

Whereas providing options for the current skill base of the workforce is critical to acceptance of the needed transitions;

Whereas risk capital for projects of scale in Canada is in short supply,

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to

- Provide meaningful retraining supports, including income and tuition, for workers from designated industries displaced by Greenhouse Gas reduction measures;
- Make direct public investment in transformational projects to create jobs for these displaced workers and facilitate the formation of new Greenhouse Gas reduction industries in the full spectrum of alternate energy sources: wind, solar, hydrogen, geothermal, nuclear, and hydroelectric;
- Encourage the establishment of a hydrogen-based sector, the manufacture of electric vehicles in Canada and the development of non-combustion uses for fossil fuels.

Liberal Party of Canada - Newfoundland and Labrador

16 - STRONGER PROVISIONS TO PROTECT EMPLOYEE PENSIONS IN COMPANY BANKRUPTCIES

Whereas people who give years of contribution to their company pension, on which they are reliant for their retirement, should be assured that their promised pensions are safe;

Whereas the current law allows executives to walk away with huge bonuses, creditors to recoup their investments, while pensioners only get what's left;

Whereas pensions are deferred wages committed by employees to their pensions, and to which companies have an obligation, and therefore should be protected by our government over executives' and shareholder profits;

Whereas over the past 10 years many Canadian companies have gone bankrupt and have left their pensioners with significantly reduced pensions;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urges the Government of Canada to create a Company Pension Insurance Plan funded by employers insuring 100% of their pension liability;

Be it further resolved that insolvency legislation be amended (specifically the CCAA and BIA) to extend super-priority to any unfunded pension liability, placing pensioners ahead of creditors to be paid if a company goes bankrupt;

Be it further resolved that the Government of Canada enforce a requirement for companies to continually maintain their pension liabilities fully funded. In situations where the liability becomes underfunded due to sudden or severe downward economic conditions, a one or two year grace period to allow for the re-establishment of a fully funded pension could be allowed if deemed reasonable by the Government.

Senior Liberal's Commission

17 - CALLS TO JUSTICE FOR MMIWG2T

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the 231 Calls for Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls both call for immediate action from the Government of Canada to address disparities in Canadian Society and discrimination towards Indigenous Peoples'.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to adopt all 231 Calls for Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls immediately.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to always consider a 2SLGBTQQIA+ Indigenous Lens when developing and amending policy and legislation.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada develop a Domestic Violence Framework within by 2022 to address the Calls for Justice and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada develop a National Trauma Allowance to allow for victims of Trauma to seek support at low-to-no cost for the victim.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to commit to addressing Minimum Sentencing policies and legislation that are discriminatory towards Indigenous Offenders by 2022.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to immediately adopt UNDRIP

Indigenous People's Commission

18 - PROTECTION OF PENSIONS

Whereas pensions are not a priority during the bankruptcy process for corporations;

Whereas workers pensions are able to be manipulated and moved, even for government employees;

Whereas pensions should be reliable and predictable;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to ensure that pensions become the first priority in the bankruptcy process;

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to ensure that pensions be legally protected, reliable, and predictable regardless of employment, sector, or source of pension.

Liberal Party of Canada - Alberta

19 - GUARANTEED INCOME FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY DISABILITY

Whereas The Government of Canada has worked to address poverty across Canada by giving more money to families through the Canada child Benefit and increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement.

Whereas nearly 1 in 10 Canadians are still living in poverty including more than 622, 000 children.

Whereas the number of Canadians experiencing poverty and facing hardships has increased significantly due to COVID-19.

Whereas persons with disabilities make up a significant number of Canadians experiencing poverty.

Whereas many families who have a person or persons with disabilities do not have the income to meet the needs of their children.

Whereas in 2014, persons with a disability accounted for almost 20% of the population aged 25 to 64. Of these, 23% were low income, compared with 9% of those without a disability.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the government of Canada to provide a basic income to support the work and initiatives found in the "Poverty Reduction Strategy" and provide an income to families with disabilities sufficient for basic necessities of life.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the government of Canada to implement a negative income tax to implement basic income.

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to intervene in this Provincial jurisdiction, as it did for Universal Health Insurance;

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the government of Canada to match each dollar that the provinces and territories provide as assured income for the severely handicapped up to \$2500 per month.

Liberal Party of Canada - Alberta

20 - NATIONAL INTEGRATED POLICY ON HOMELESSNESS

Whereas homelessness is an issue which affects all Canadian communities both urban and rural;

Whereas homelessness can be linked to poverty, mental illness, drug addictions, and other serious problems affecting a significant portion of the Canadian population and adversely affects First Nations and other marginalized communities in greater proportions;

Whereas there is a need to recognize the differences between individual and family needs for shelter in the short, medium, and long term;

Whereas there is an acute need to provide medical, social, and other support to people living on the streets who may have no fixed address or transient living arrangements;

Whereas the responsibility for dealing with different aspects of homelessness rests with all levels of government, federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations, Metis, Inuit, Indigenous People;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada will urge the Government of Canada to develop a national strategy on homelessness, including the following actions

- Identify the level of government, agency or organization best able to provide the necessary support to various homeless populations
- Institute a program for sharing medical and other relevant information among health and social services which recognizes the transient nature of much of the homeless population
- Develop an integrated strategy involving all levels of government, involved agencies and organizations to provide the homeless with the necessary shelter, health, financial and other services
- Develop an effective exit strategy to get people out of the homelessness cycle.

Liberal Party of Canada - Nova Scotia

21 - ENSURING CANADIAN FOOD SECURITY

Whereas, researchers calculated that 10,000 years of farming practices have released about 100 billion tons of carbon from the soil into the atmosphere, driving the climate crisis, drought and desertification;

Whereas, the benefits of regenerative agriculture include:

- restoring degraded soil and increasing resiliency to droughts and floods;
- sequestering carbon (every additional percentage of organic matter in the soil sequesters 8.5 tons of carbon per acre);
- improving plant health, nutrition and productivity;

Whereas, the 2019 Food Policy for Canada recognizes that the interdependence of social, health, environmental and economic dimensions of food requires a systems approach to deal with food-related societal challenges;

Whereas, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-business Mandate Letter focuses almost entirely on promoting industrial agriculture, with the goal of increasing exports, instead of prioritizing Canadian food security and health;

Whereas, the Covid-19 pandemic and recent trade disputes have exposed the:

- economic costs of policy focused on exporting commodities at the expense of developing domestic markets;
- vulnerabilities in the domestic food supply chain (insufficient production, concentration of meat processing, etc.);
- increased susceptibility of Canadians living with metabolic and other diet-related chronic illnesses (including obesity) to becoming very ill and even dying.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

- reformulate agricultural policy to shift away from industrial towards regenerative agriculture by such measures as:
 - implementing the recommendations in the 2020 National Farmers Union report *Creating the Foundation for a Climate-friendly Post-Pandemic Food System for Canadians*;
 - developing a program to reward farmers for sequestering carbon;
- increase funding to implement the systems approach of the 2019 Food Policy for Canada.

National Women's Liberal Commission

22 - PRAIRIE WATER STRATEGY

Whereas the prairie water basin includes among others, the Bow, Saskatchewan, Red, Winnipeg, Nelson and Churchill Rivers and the major lakes: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Winnipegosis and Lake of the Woods;

Whereas these waterways drain the heartland of Canadian agriculture, sustaining agriculture through their effluent contribution yet contributing to the deterioration of the overall system, particularly lakes;

Whereas Canada's prairie provinces have experienced the worsening effects of climate change, including more extreme weather events, resulting in more costly storms, floods, droughts and wildfires;

Whereas billions of dollars have been spent by all levels of government - including First Nations - businesses, private citizens and insurance companies to recover from these events;

Whereas the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement has paid out more to help offset flood and wildfire losses in the last six years than in the entire previous history of the program (since 1970);

Whereas an integrated scientific approach to planning for water management is essential for the health of these water and land resources in Western Canada;

Whereas all responsible authorities need to coordinate efforts to achieve the benefits of sound water management and address the current and future challenges presented by land use and climate change, including Canadian and American federal Governments, First Nations, Provinces, Municipalities, land use planning entities, Watershed Districts, Red River Basin Authority; that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to consult, confirm and financially support the development and implementation of a Prairie Water Strategy to ensure the long-term purity of these water and soil resources, thus helping to ensure greater resilience in Prairie communities, a sustainable agricultural industry, and a healthy freshwater basin.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to consult, confirm and financially support the development and implementation of a **Prairie Water Strategy** to ensure the long-term purity of these water and soil resources, thus helping to ensure greater resilience in Prairie communities, a sustainable agricultural industry, and a healthy freshwater basin.

Liberal Party of Canada - Manitoba

23 - HEALTH CARE SYSTEM INVESTMENT IN RURAL AREAS

Whereas almost one fifth (18%) of Canadians living in rural communities are served by only 8% of Canadian physicians;

Whereas Canadians living in rural communities are generally older, have less access to resources, and have higher poor health indicators;

Whereas rural communities face difficulties in regards to recruiting and retaining physicians and health care providers;

Whereas many rural communities face difficulties accessing health care and emergency transport;

Whereas Telehealth reduces healthcare expenditures, increases access to healthcare, and improves health outcomes;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Canadian Government to:

- increase the funding and work with the provinces and territories to improve access to Telehealth services in rural communities;
- work with the provinces and territories clarify and improve licensing for physicians and other health care providers delivering Telehealth services;
- collaborate with the provinces and territories to improve transportation of patients from rural communities to urban centres.

Liberal Party of Canada (Prince Edward Island)

24 - WATER RESOLUTION

Whereas water is crucial to our health, our environment, our economy and our spiritual well being; and

Whereas climate change threatens both water supplies and water quality while increasing risk of flooding; and

Whereas new pesticides, industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals and other products are developed each year that pose a potential threat to water quality; and

Whereas the provinces have primary constitutional authority for water; and

Whereas the government of Canada has committed to create a new Canada Water Agency to work together with the provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists and others to find the best ways to keep our water safe, clean and well-managed; and

Whereas a significant challenge in taking action to meet these water challenges is bringing scientific knowledge in an appropriate form to guide decision makers at all levels.

Be it resolved the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to ensure a key role of the new national water agency is to ensure development and transfer of knowledge that will:

- Ensure impact of new products on water is understood before they enter our water supplies;
- help public and private decision makers prepare for the extremes of flood and drought; and
- understand and act on emerging risks to aquatic environments and water quality.

Liberal Party of Canada - Saskatchewan

25 - EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATION AND INTERNET

Whereas due to the results of climate change and extreme weather events increasing in both frequency and intensity, these weather disasters are exposing the vulnerability of cell tower infrastructure and significant regulatory gaps in the telecommunications industry;

Whereas Canadians rely on cellular services and pay among the highest Internet rates in the industrial world;

Whereas access to broadband Internet e-mail, social media and telecommunications can be sporadic across Canada, especially when accessing them in rural and northern regions;

Whereas telecommunications fall under exclusive federal jurisdiction and with that comes a responsibility to mitigate and respond to emergency service disruptions, and research has found availability to mobile phones reduces disaster fatalities;

Whereas presently there are no federal regulations with regards to the "disaster resilience" capacity of cell sites, as well, more Canadians are working from home due to COVID-19 who require access to affordable high-speed broadband Internet;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada will urge the Government of Canada to address regulation, planning, and response for emergency telecommunications and Internet access by the following:

- Regulate disaster resilience and adopt disaster recovery plans for telecommunications service providers.
- Collect relevant data to help with future emergency communications planning.
- Require updates on service disruptions from telecommunications service providers for customers.
- Standardize a 'forgiveness' plan for consumers affected by service disruptions.
- Ensure that the Canadian Armed Forces as part of their regular disaster relief efforts has the capability to assist in restoring a damaged communication network.
- Provide free Wi-Fi access in public buildings.
- Ensure that Canadians are paying rates comparable to other countries.
- Accelerate access to internet services in rural areas to help the Canadian economy.

Liberal Party of Canada - Nova Scotia

26 - NORTHWEST TERRITORIES RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING

Whereas the Devolution agreement for land and resources negotiated by the Conservative government retained 50% of Resource Revenues, and has a maximum benefit of 2% of the previous year's budget;

Whereas the ownership of resource revenues is fundamental to the fundamentals of de-colonizing Canada's territories;

Whereas Indigenous peoples have inhabited the Northwest Territories since time immemorial.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada will encourage the Government of Canada to remove the 2% limit on resource revenues in the devolution agreement; and

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada will encourage the Government of Canada to assign its share of resource revenues to the indigenous groups in the Northwest Territories.

Liberal Party of Canada – NWT