



***FORWARD.***  
**FOR EVERYONE.**

*FORWARD.*  
**FOR EVERYONE.**



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# In the last year and a half, Canadians have faced the crisis of a century. And we have faced it together.

Across the country, you put on your mask to keep your neighbours safe. You cheered on our frontline workers. And, when it was your turn, you rolled up your sleeves to get your vaccine.

You did your part. You stayed true to who we are as Canadians. And so did we.

From day one, our Liberal Government has stood up for the middle class and people working hard to join it. We raised taxes on the wealthiest one percent, so we could lower them for everyone else. We brought in the Canada Child Benefit, putting more money in the pockets of families and lifting 435,000 children out of poverty. We lowered the retirement age from 67 to 65. We welcomed 1,613,000 new Canadians whose hard work and passion for a brighter future make our communities stronger. We committed Canada to net-zero emissions and put a price on pollution. We invested in our communities, in roads, bridges and transit. We committed to doing more for mental health services, for home care and began to transform our economy so that everyone could benefit.

When this crisis hit, we knew we had to continue having your back. From the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to rolling out vaccines, that's exactly what we did.

Canada has weathered this storm better than almost anywhere else in the world because we know we're in this together.

So, as we finish the fight against COVID-19, let's build back better, together.

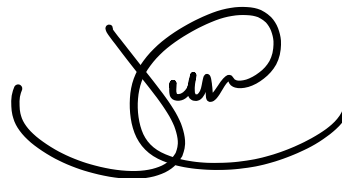
Let's put Canadians' health and safety first. Let's build more homes for the middle class and put a stop to profiteering and unfair speculation. Let's support women and families and give every child the best possible start with \$10 a day child care. Let's fight climate change and leave a safe and healthy environment for our children and grandchildren. Let's keep moving forward on real reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Let's come together to fight systemic racism. Let's find the real solutions to the real problems we face. Let's build a better future that gives everyone a real and fair chance at success.

We can't afford to move backward. Not in the fight against COVID-19 or the climate crisis. Not on healthcare or childcare. Not for seniors, workers, or families.

This is our moment to decide where our country goes from here. This is our time to choose. And this platform is our path ahead for generations to come.

Forward or backward. This is our choice.

I believe in moving forward. For everyone.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Justin', written in a cursive style.

*OUR  
PLATFORM  
AT A GLANCE*





## Finishing the Fight Against COVID-19

- Mandatory vaccines on planes, trains, and in the federal public service.
- Support proof-of-vaccination credentials.
- Safer indoor spaces, like schools and businesses, with better ventilation.
- Free vaccine boosters, for everyone.

## A Home. For Everyone.

- Unlock home ownership for the middle class.
- 1.4 million new homes.
- Protect your rights.
- Take action against speculators.





## Better Healthcare. For Everyone.

- Support to hire 7500 doctors and nurses.
- Better care in long-term care.
- Work to hire 50,000 PSWs and raise their wages to \$25 an hour.
- Publicly accessible Mental Health Care.
- Action to address the opioid crisis and make it easier for people with problematic substance use to access treatment.
- 10 days of paid sick leave for federally regulated workers.
- Protecting your sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## A More Resilient Economy

- \$10 a day child care to make life affordable for families.
- Bring all businesses along to recovery and support them to hire the help they need.
- A better Employment Insurance system to support gig workers, self-employed people, and give workers more financial security.
- Boost world-leading Canadian innovation and research.
- Make sure everyone pays their fair share, including big banks and the wealthiest among us.
- Address underrepresented groups in the workforce to build a more vibrant and diverse workforce.
- Creating opportunities for everyone.





## A Cleaner, Greener Future

- Create green jobs in communities across Canada and across sectors.
- Cut pollution in heavy industry and make sure the oil and gas sector is net zero by 2050.
- Boost clean and renewable power from coast to coast to coast.
- End plastic waste by 2030.
- Protecting more of our nature, including creating ten new National Parks.

## Reconciliation

- Confront the legacy of residential schools.
- Continue our work to eliminate all clean long-term drinking water advisories.
- Action to confront systemic racism against Indigenous peoples, especially in the justice system and health care.
- Launch an Indigenous Urban, Rural, and Northern Housing Strategy.
- Protect the wellbeing of Indigenous children and families.





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**CHAPTER ONE**

# Finishing the Fight Against COVID-19

# Finishing the Fight Against COVID-19

Leadership should always be about putting peoples' health and safety first. Canadians have sacrificed so much over the pandemic and have stepped up to protect themselves and their communities by getting their shots. Colder weather is just around the corner. Canadians have a choice: continue taking action to finish the fight against COVID-19 now or risk a fall and winter with more lockdowns and the tragedy of more lives lost. Canadians have made too many sacrifices to get this far. Canadians deserve a government that will get us through this crisis, not take us backwards.

## A Vaccine Strategy to Save Lives

Vaccination is our best line of defence against COVID-19 and variants of concern. It not only protects those who are vaccinated but protects those who can't get vaccinated, like young children. That is why the Liberal government worked tirelessly to secure enough doses for every Canadian citizen, securing our supply well in advance of our initial target. And it is why we support provinces, territories, and Indigenous communities in rolling out one of the most successful vaccination campaigns in the world.

But the pandemic isn't over. If we don't keep up the fight against COVID-19, our hard-won gains could be lost.

Erin O'Toole won't listen to the experts on vaccinations. He would let unvaccinated people travel on trains and planes. We need leadership to get us through this crisis and get the job done on vaccines, and Erin O'Toole won't deliver that.

## Mandatory Vaccination

To finish the fight against COVID-19, protect people at work, ensure businesses can get back up to speed, and, most importantly, makes sure our kids can safely return to school, we need to do everything we can to keep public spaces safe.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Require that travellers on interprovincial trains, commercial flights, cruise ships, and other federally regulated vessels be vaccinated.
- Ensure vaccination across the federal public service. As the country's largest employer, this will protect the health and safety of the federal public servants and their communities, across Canada.
- We will also keep working with employers in Crown corporations and federally regulated workplaces to ensure vaccination is prioritized for workers in these sectors.

## Proof of Vaccination

Canadians want to finish the fight against COVID-19. Millions of Canadians have rolled up their sleeves and gotten their vaccine shots, doing so to protect themselves, and their community. Across the country, thousands of business owners have demonstrated leadership to support vaccine rollout, and now many want to go further. Whether they are managing a multinational or a small coffee shop, business owners should have no doubt that putting the safety of workers, customers, or clients first is the right thing to do.

Proof of vaccination systems give people the confidence of knowing that others around them are fully vaccinated. They also help drive increased vaccination rates and give Canadians confidence that it's safe to go to restaurants, shops, and out into their communities.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Launch a \$1 billion COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination Fund to support provinces and territories who implement a requirement for proof of vaccine credentials in their jurisdiction for non-essential businesses and public spaces.
- Table legislation to ensure that every business and organization that decides to require a proof of vaccination from employees and customers can do so without fear of a legal challenge.

## Free COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

As the public health situation evolves, keeping Canadians safe and healthy is our priority and we are committed to finishing the fight against COVID-19.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Procure enough vaccines to ensure all Canadians have access to free COVID-19 booster shots and second-generation vaccines as needed.

## A COVID-19 Research Fund

COVID-19 is a new disease and scientists and researchers have come a long way to understand, treat, and prevent it. But we still need to understand its long-term impacts.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Invest \$100 million to study the long-term health impacts of COVID-19, including the effects of “long-COVID” on different groups, including vulnerable populations and children.

## A Health Care System, For Everyone

Canadians are proud to have a public health care system that is a model to the world. That didn't happen by accident. It is the result of Canadians' belief that we take care of each other. Accessible, well-funded public health care is a cornerstone of equality in Canada. And it has been invaluable as we have fought the pandemic. We cannot take our public health care system for granted.

From day one of the pandemic, we made significant investments to ensure Canadians have the health care they need. Eight out of every 10 dollars spent in response to COVID-19 came from the Liberal government. From investing in pandemic surge capacity, public health care and the Safe Restart Agreement, to moving forward on pharmacare and procuring vaccines for every single Canadian, we have had Canadians' backs.

## Key Actions to Build a Better Health Care System, Since 2015

- ✓ Injected \$4.5 billion in one-time top-ups to the Canada Health Transfer since the pandemic started, to help address the extreme pressures that COVID-19 has put on our health systems and reduce backlogs.
- ✓ Provided provinces and territories with \$1 billion to support vaccine rollout campaigns so Canadians could get their first and second doses as quickly as possible.
- ✓ Invested an additional \$6 billion in home care and community care, as well as palliative care services.
- ✓ Invested more than \$600 million to address the opioid crisis and improve access to treatment.
- ✓ Signed the first provincial-territorial agreement to accelerate the implementation of national universal pharmacare as we continue to move forward with new partners and funded a \$500 million a year national strategy for high-cost drugs for rare diseases.

## Eliminating the Backlog of Surgeries and Procedures

Too many Canadians had their care deferred during the pandemic, resulting in a significant backlog of surgeries, procedures, and diagnostics. But waitlists from before the pandemic persist as well. People are waiting longer for important services like MRIs and ultrasounds.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Immediately invest \$6 billion—on top of \$4 billion already committed—to support the elimination of health system waitlists.
- Negotiate agreements with every province and territory to ensure that Canadians who are waiting for care get the treatment they need as quickly as possible, and that the primary care system is positioned for the future and able to deliver the care outcomes that Canadians need.

## Making Sure Every Canadian Has Access to a Family Doctor or Primary Health Team

Millions of Canadians face problems accessing primary care. We want to help solve this problem and improve Canadians' access to universal, public health care.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Provide \$3.2 billion to the provinces and territories for the hiring of 7,500 new family doctors, nurses, and nurse practitioners.

## Expanding Virtual Health Care Services

The pandemic has sparked a transformation in how health care is delivered and how people access it, with more and more tools accessible for virtual care. We have dedicated \$240.5 million to increasing access to virtual care in the pandemic. But we want to and will help ensure that the fast acceleration of care into virtual models is thoughtful and delivers the quality of care Canadians deserve.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Provide \$400 million over 4 years to build on the growing demand for virtual care that arose during the pandemic.

These dollars will help to cover digital infrastructure, and other system improvements, to support more virtual care so that Canadians can access things like virtual medical consultations with doctors and nurses or remote monitoring.

## Increasing Rural and Underserved Communities' Access to Health Care

Rural Canadians have significantly less access to doctors than Canadians in urban settings.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Expand the number of family doctors and primary health teams in rural communities, by increasing by 50% (from \$40,000 up to \$60,000 over 5 years), the maximum debt relief that family doctors, residents in family medicine, nurse practitioners, or nurses are eligible for the under Canada Student Loans forgiveness program.
- Expand the list of professionals eligible for forgiveness to include dentists, pharmacists, dental hygienists, midwives, social workers, psychologists, teachers, and early childhood educators so that rural communities have greater access to the full suite of health and social service providers they need.
- Offer health care professionals, who are just starting out in their careers, a one-time income tax deduction of up to \$15,000 over their first 3 years of practice to help with the costs of setting up a practice.
- Undertake a review to ensure that communities that are indeed rural are fully eligible under the program.

## Standing up for Universal Public Health Care

Canadians cherish their universal, publicly funded health care system. Erin O'Toole says he wants to bring "innovation" to this system by allowing those with money to access their own system of for-profit, private care. A two-tier system would worsen access and health outcomes for all of us.

Liberals believe that innovation in health care comes not from letting wealthy people cut the line, but by improving and expanding our public health care system. We have opposed extra billings and enforced the *Canada Health Act* on provinces who have promoted this practice.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Strengthen federal powers under the *Canada Health Act* and the *Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act* to deduct health transfers from provinces who enable extra billing for publicly insured services, in order to protect the integrity of our universal public health care system.

## Protecting Your Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

In 2021, women's rights should not be up for debate. Yet the Conservatives want to roll back abortion access.

Meanwhile, anti-choice organizations are actively working to spread misinformation about abortion, putting the health and safety of young people and vulnerable women at risk.

Everyone in Canada should have the information they need to freely make decisions over their own bodies and have access to the medical care and services that are their legal rights. And no one should be able to withhold access to care.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish regulations under the *Canada Health Act* governing accessibility for sexual and reproductive health services so there is no question, that no matter where someone lives, that they have access to publicly available sexual and reproductive health services. Failure on the part of a province to meet this standard would result in an automatic penalty applied against federal health transfers.
- Provide up to \$10 million to Health Canada to develop an easily accessible portal that provides accurate, judgement-free, and evidence-based information on sexual and reproductive health and rights, which will include a section that counters misinformation about abortion.
- Provide up to \$10 million over 3 years to youth-led grassroots organizations that respond to the unique sexual and reproductive health needs of young people.
- No longer provide charity status to anti-abortion organizations (for example, Crisis Pregnancy Centres) that provide dishonest counseling to women about their rights and about the options available to them at all stages of the pregnancy.

## Mental Health Care, for Everyone

In a typical year, 1 in 5 Canadians will experience a mental illness or addiction problem. And we know that over the last 18 months, nearly half of Canadians reported that their mental health worsened during the pandemic. Mental health is health. This is why we have made mental health a priority.

### Key Actions to Support Mental Health, Since 2015

- ✓ \$5 billion to the provinces and territories to increase the availability of mental health care.
- ✓ \$500 million in support during the pandemic for Canadians experiencing mental health challenges, homelessness, or substance use.

- ✓ \$598 million for a distinctions-based mental health and wellness strategy for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, including for the Indian Residential Schools Health Supports Program and Crisis Line and Hope for Wellness Line.
- ✓ \$100 million for mental health interventions for populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19.
- ✓ \$140 million for supporting veterans' mental health to cover costs related to PTSD, depressive and anxiety disorders.
- ✓ \$50 million for support to those at risk of COVID-19 related trauma or post-traumatic stress disorder.
- ✓ \$45 million for the development of national mental health care standards.
- ✓ Launched the Wellness Together portal, which has been accessed by more than 1.2 million users.
- ✓ Invested more than \$600 million to address the opioid crisis, including \$182 million for the Substance and Addictions Program.

### A Comprehensive Plan for Mental Health Care Across Canada

We need to ensure that mental health care is treated a full and equal part of Canada's universal public health care system.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish a new federal transfer to provinces and territories—the Canada Mental Health Transfer—to assist jurisdictions to expand the delivery of high-quality, accessible, and free mental health services. Building on the principles of universality and accessibility in the *Canada Health Act*, this transfer will help establish standards in each province and territory, so that Canadians are able to expect services that are timely, universal, and culturally competent. This will help each jurisdiction focus on and solve critical backlogs in service and provide help to those who need it, according to the unique needs in each region.

- Commit to permanent, ongoing funding for mental health services under the Canada Mental Health Transfer, with an initial investment of \$4.5 billion over 5 years. Including the existing bilateral agreement on mental health services signed in 2017, this would bring federal support for mental health services to \$2.5 billion per year by 2025-26. This is in addition to further investments we will make to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities with better access to trauma and mental health services.
- Undertake a comprehensive review of access to the Disability Tax Credit, CPP-Disability and other federal benefits and programs to ensure they are available to people experiencing mental health challenges.
- Include mental health as a specific element of occupational health and safety under the Canada Labour Code and require federally regulated employers to take preventative steps to address workplace stress and injury.
- Fully fund a national, three-digit mental health crisis and suicide prevention hotline.
- Work with partners to ensure timely access to perinatal mental health services.

This funding will mean more access to psychologists, therapists, social workers, counselors, and other community supports. It will mean better care for children and youth, who have sacrificed so much this past year. And it will mean the millions of Canadians who struggle with their mental health—many of whom often don't seek treatment—will be able to access the services they need.

### Addressing Problematic Substance Use

The opioid overdose epidemic has worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tragically, in 2020, there were 6,214 opioid overdose deaths in Canada.

To save lives, we need a whole-of-society approach to the opioid epidemic that addresses the main causes and supports people who use drugs with the respect and dignity they deserve. We will continue to take an evidence-based approach to problematic substance use and work with all orders of government to support innovative approaches so that Canadians have access to the care and support they need.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Introduce a comprehensive strategy to address problematic substance use to end the opioids crisis.
- Invest \$25 million for public education to reduce the stigma associated with problematic substance use.

- Invest \$500 million to support the provinces and territories in providing access to a full-range of evidence-based treatment, recognizing that successful treatment is not determined by long-term abstinence.
- Support provinces and territories in creating standards for substance use treatment programs so that Canadians can access quality and evidence-based support when they need it most.
- Support the many lower-risk and first-time offenders by reforming the *Criminal Code* to repeal relevant mandatory minimum penalties and requiring police and Crown prosecutors to consider diverting individuals out of the criminal justice system.

## Safer, Better Long-term Care

COVID-19 has tragically exposed long-standing issues affecting long-term care facilities across the country, and the frontline workers who care for residents.

To build a better future for seniors and ensure tragedies like this never happen again, we need to make sure the conditions of work reflect the care standards our seniors deserve. That's why we will work with provinces and territories, respecting their jurisdiction, to support seniors with an investment of \$9 billion over 5 years to support safer conditions for seniors and improved wages and working conditions for personal support workers.

### Safer Conditions in Homes

While the management of long-term care facilities is under provincial and territorial jurisdiction, we share the goal of ensuring safer, better care for seniors.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Improve the quality and availability of long-term care homes and beds.
- Implement strict infection prevention and control measures, including through more provincial and territorial facility inspections for long-term care homes.
- Develop a *Safe Long-Term Care Act* collaboratively to ensure that seniors are guaranteed the care they deserve, no matter where they live.

## Better Working Conditions for Personal Support Workers

Better care requires better conditions for our frontline care workers. During the height of the pandemic last year, we provided a wage boost for essential workers, including personal support workers. But we know temporary support is not enough.

#### That's why a re-elected Liberal government will continue working with the provinces and territories to:

- Raise wages for personal support workers, including a guaranteed minimum wage of at least \$25 per hour.
- Train up to 50,000 new personal support workers.

## Protecting Public Health

Throughout the pandemic, we have put public health first. Canadians have adjusted every step of the way, and together we have found new and better ways to fight this virus. We recognize that, when this passes, we have a responsibility to review the federal response to COVID-19 and ensure that the lessons we have learned underpin our pandemic preparedness in the future. But there are things we can do now to keep Canadians safe as we finish the fight.

### Safer Indoor Air

A government's highest responsibility is to keep Canadians safe. Proper ventilation, that exchanges indoor air for outdoor air, is an important tool for preventing the spread of COVID-19. As Canada re-opens and the days get a little colder, we need to make sure our indoor spaces are properly ventilated, so students can get back in the classroom and businesses can welcome customers. We have a plan to make this future a reality.

#### That's why a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Provide a \$100 million top-up to the Safe Return to Class Fund for ventilation improvement projects across Canada, as well as \$10 million for First Nations to improve indoor air quality in on-reserve schools.
- Provide \$100 million to the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative with \$70 million of this funding directed to a new pillar focused on increasing air quality and indoor ventilation.
- Introduce a tax credit for small businesses to make it easier for them to invest in better ventilation.

## 10 Days of Paid Sick Leave

Too many Canadians do not have proper paid sick leave and that can force them into a dilemma of going to work sick or not having enough money to put food on the table. No one should have to make this kind of choice.

#### Within 100 days, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Introduce amendments to the *Canada Labour Code* to provide 10 days of paid sick leave for all federally regulated workers so that no one has to choose between going to work sick or paying their bills.

- Convene provinces and territories to develop a national action plan to legislate sick leave across the country, while respecting provincial-territorial jurisdiction and the unique needs of small business owners.

## Helping Teachers and School kids

This year has underscored just how important our schools and educators are. They make sure our children are engaged and thriving. Proper nutrition is also critical to creating successful learning environments.

### Support for Teachers

Teachers in Canada go above and beyond for their students, often paying out of pocket. In 2016, we created the Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit to address this. During the pandemic, they showed time and time again the lengths they would go at their own expense, to ensure children are learning.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Increase the refundable tax credit to 25% (from 15%).
- Expand eligibility criteria to include tech devices and ensure that teaching supplies purchased to perform employment duties are eligible, no matter where that may be.

### School Nutrition and Healthy Eating

Children need healthy, nutritious food to grow and learn. Currently over 3 million children in Canada are living without guaranteed access to nutritious school meals.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with our provincial, territorial, municipal, Indigenous partners, and stakeholders to develop a National School Food Policy and work towards a national school nutritious meal program with a \$1 billion dollar investment over five years.
- Introduce new restrictions on the commercial marketing of food and beverages to children and establish new front-of-package labelling to promote healthy food choices.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

Women make up most of the front-line health care, long-term care, child care, and education workforce—exposing them to greater risk of infection. Racialized and immigrant workers are particularly affected. Getting everyone vaccinated and creating healthier indoor environments allows us to keep our frontline workers—mostly women—as safe as possible.

Equitable access to the full range of quality health care services mitigates health inequities resulting from differences in the social, geographical, and economic status.

Mental illness affects everyone, but systemic inequalities such as racism, poverty, homelessness, and discrimination often augment the symptoms of mental health especially if support is not available. Our plan to make significant investment in mental health will directly benefit all Canadians and provide a heightened benefit to those who faced barriers due to cost or availability.

Our measures will facilitate access to quality primary care, long-term care, sexual and reproductive health services, menstrual products, mental health and addiction services, medication, and other health related treatments. What is more, our investment to raise the wages of personal support workers will disproportionately benefit racialized women who make up a third of the profession.

Racialized and low-income women, as well as youth, faced compounding burdens because they are over-represented in low-wage positions, and often do not have access to paid sick leave. In fact, 58% of workers in Canada do not have sick leave. Our plan to bring in 10 paid sick days federally and work with provinces and territories to develop a national plan for sick leave will benefit all Canadians.

Food insecurity increased significantly during the pandemic, with one in seven Canadians reporting they experienced food insecurity. Pandemic-related unemployment and poverty are contributing factors, as is low-income status.





**CHAPTER TWO**

**Building a  
Better Canada,  
For Everyone**

## Key Actions to Support Canadians Through the Pandemic

—  
Provided more than \$8 of every \$10 spent in Canada to fight COVID-19 and support Canadians.

### Protecting Your Health and Safety

- ✓ Procured the most diverse vaccine portfolio in the world.
- ✓ Received more than 66 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines—enough to fully vaccinate every eligible person in Canada—two months ahead of schedule.
- ✓ Provided provinces and territories with \$1 billion to support vaccine rollout campaigns across the country, including in Indigenous communities, so Canadians could get their first and second doses as quickly as possible.
- ✓ Became a world leader in vaccination rates, with almost 85% of eligible people in the country vaccinated with their first dose and over 75% fully vaccinated.
- ✓ Provided people with online access to mental health support through the Wellness Together Canada portal, which more than 1.2 million Canadians used in its first year.
- ✓ Invested \$19 billion through the Safe Restart Agreement to help provinces and territories safely restart their economies and make our country more resilient to waves of COVID-19.
- ✓ Invested over \$3 billion to restore Canada's biomanufacturing and life sciences sector.
- ✓ Increased Canada's vaccine manufacturing capabilities, including by launching Canada's Bio-manufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy. We have completed the new Biologics Manufacturing Centre at the NRC, secured an agreement with Moderna to build a state-of-art manufacturing facility in Canada, and made major domestic capacity investments with AbCellera, Medicago, Resilience, and Sanofi.
- ✓ Made sure our provincial and territorial health systems were able to deliver world-class care by providing a one-time top-up of \$4 billion to the Canada Health Transfer in March 2021, and \$500 million in March 2020.

### Support for the Economy

- ✓ Created and rapidly delivered the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) to millions of Canadians, which provided \$2000 a month to workers who lost income because of COVID-19.
- ✓ Protected over 5 million jobs through the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, which helped businesses across Canada keep and rehire their workers.
- ✓ Created three new temporary Recovery Benefits, to help Canadians who are unable to work because of COVID-19: the Canada Recovery Benefit, Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit, and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit.
- ✓ Provided families with children under six with additional support \$1,200 for families through the Canada Child Benefit young child supplement
- ✓ Waived the interest for full-time and part-time students on the federal portion of Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans until March 2023.
- ✓ Created the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to provide small businesses with up to \$60,000 in partially forgivable, interest-free loans.
- ✓ Created the \$2 billion Regional Relief and Recovery Fund which is supporting businesses through Canada's Regional Economic Development Agencies, including business that don't qualify for CEBA.
- ✓ Helped over 150,000 businesses, charities, non-profits, and other organizations afford rent, mortgage, and other expenses.
- ✓ Introduced the Canada Recovery Hiring Program, which provides support so businesses can afford to hire the workers they need to recover and grow as local economies reopen.
- ✓ Provided \$306.8 million to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses, and to support Aboriginal Financial Institutions that offer financing.
- ✓ Created the Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program, to help the hardest-hit industries, including the tourism and hospitality sectors, access low-interest loans.

# Build a Better Canada, for Everyone

We came to Ottawa to stand up for the middle class and people working hard to join it. From day one, we focused on having your back. We cut taxes for the middle class, gave more money to families, and increased benefits for seniors.

But when COVID-19 hit, it laid bare many of the inequalities in our society. Workers were laid off, without any access to income support. Main Street businesses were locked down for months, while big chains reaped record profits. Rising housing costs have put a tight squeeze on middle class Canadians and young people are worried about ever owning a home.

A plan for Canada's future can not be about going back to the way things were. We must build back better. We have to build social infrastructure, put strong support in place for vulnerable workers, and give businesses the tools they need for skyrocketing growth. At the core of our plan is still our unwavering belief that everyone should have a real and fair chance to succeed.

## A Home. For Everyone.

Canadians see owning a home as key to building their future and joining the middle class. But with rent increasing and housing prices continuing to rise, too many young people don't see a clear path to affording the same lives their parents had. Everyone should have a home to call their own. And we have a three-part housing plan to make it happen.

Our plan refuses to pit urban against rural, millennial against boomer, buyer against renter, or those in the middle class against those working hard to join it. We have a plan for everyone. And to finance this plan, we will ask the largest banks and insurance companies to do a little more to share the dividend of their pandemic profitability with Canadians who want to achieve the dream of becoming homeowners.

## Key Actions to Build Homes for Everyone, Since 2015

- ✓ Created Canada's National Housing Strategy, an ambitious ten-year plan to invest over \$72 billion to build supply, making housing affordable, and address chronic homelessness.
- ✓ Introduced legislation recognizing the right of Canadians to access adequate housing.
- ✓ Helped more than 2 million Canadians find places to call home through new builds, repairs, renovations, and rental subsidies.
- ✓ Signed a Canada Housing Benefit agreement with every province and territory, totalling \$4 billion in cost-matched funding and helping over 300,000 Canadians pay rent.

- ✓ Introduced the First-Time Home Buyer Incentive to help eligible first-time home buyers finance a portion of their home purchase through a shared equity mortgage with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).
- ✓ Announced Canada's first national tax on vacant property owned by non-resident, non-Canadians, which will go into effect on January 1, 2022.
- ✓ Tripled the federal government's investment in homelessness prevention and reduction
- ✓ Committed over \$1.7 billion for distinctions-based housing strategies for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities.
- ✓ Launched the Rapid Housing Initiative, investing \$2.5 billion to create at least 9,200 new units of affordable housing across Canada.

We need to support Canadians in their goal of becoming homeowners. That's why our plan will help renters become owners, help young Canadians afford a down payment faster, and help them reduce the closing costs that come with purchasing a home.

By helping our young people unlock homeownership, we will grow the middle class and keep moving Canada forward for everyone.

## A New Rent-to-Own Program

It takes time to save enough money to buy a home. Rent is one of the largest household expenses, and right now, there are few options for people to leverage the rent they pay towards a home purchase.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a new rent-to-own program to help make it easier for renters to get on the path towards home ownership while renting. The program will be designed based on three principles: the landlord must commit to charging a renter a lower-than-market rate to help Canadians build up savings for a down payment; the landlord must commit to ownership in a five-year term or less; and proper safeguards will be in place to protect the future homeowner.
- Create a stream for current renters and landlords, particularly those in condo settings, to immediately enter into a rent-to-own agreement.
- Commit \$1 billion in loans and grants to develop and scale up rent-to-own projects with private, not-for-profit, and co-op partners.

### **A New Tax-free First Home Savings Account**

Young Canadians want the chance to own their home—just like their parents and grandparents did. But higher rent and the increased cost of living are making it harder and harder to afford a down payment.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a tax-free First Home Savings Account will allow Canadians under 40 to save up to \$40,000 towards their first home, and to withdraw it tax-free to put towards their first home purchase, with no requirement to repay it.

Combining the features of both an RRSP and a TFSA, this plan would allow young Canadians to set aside 100% of every dollar they earn up to \$40,000 and shorten the time it takes to afford a down payment.

### **A More Flexible First Time Home Buyer Incentive**

In 2019, we launched the First Time Home Buyer Incentive (FTHBI), an innovative new tool that allows middle class families looking to buy their first home, reduce the size of the mortgage they require, and reduce their monthly housing costs. FTHBI is a shared-equity mortgage, where, upon sale, the government incurs a portion of any increase (or decrease) in a home's value.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Allow you to choose between the current shared-equity approach or a loan that is repayable only at the time of sale.

This would let you keep more of any increase in the value of your home, while still reducing your monthly mortgage costs.

### **Reducing Closing Costs for First Time Buyers**

Buying a house is just the first hurdle to overcome. After that comes closing costs, legal fees, inspections and more, which can amount to thousands of dollars.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Double the First-Time Home Buyers Tax Credit, from \$5,000 to \$10,000, which will put \$1,500 in your pocket to make a home purchase a little bit easier.

### **Reduce Your Monthly Mortgage Costs**

Canadians who have a down payment of less than 20% of the cost of their house or who have a mortgage over \$1 million dollars pay insurance premiums that can be up to 4% of the purchase price of a home. On the average Canadian home, this means a homebuyer could be paying close to \$30,000 in premiums over the life of their mortgage.

Typically, the smaller your down payment is, the higher your premiums. This puts financial pressure on families that can least afford it.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Reduce the price charged by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation on mortgage insurance by 25%. For a typical homebuyer, this will save \$6,100.
- Increase the insured mortgage cut-off from \$1 million to \$1.25 million, and index this to inflation, to better reflect today's home prices.

### **1.4 million New Homes**

Even if more Canadians can afford a down payment, without a greater supply of homes, that would just mean more people lining up to purchase existing available homes. As a country, we need to build more homes—the kinds of homes that meet the different needs of different lifestyles.

We need homes in urban centres that are built for middle class families, with the amenities to match, like accessible child care and public transit. We need affordable housing for vulnerable people like women and children fleeing violence, persons with disabilities, and youth. We need a co-developed housing plan for Indigenous people living in urban, rural, and northern off-reserve communities. And for aging parents and grandparents planning their future, or for newcomers who need more space for a growing family, we need to support multi-generational living to encourage down-sizing and aging well at home.

Our plan will build or revitalize an additional 250,000 homes over 4 years. On top of the 285,000 homes

currently being built each year, this will mean nearly 1.4 million homes will be built, preserved, or revitalized by 2025-26 under a re-elected Liberal government.

### Help Cities Accelerate Housing Construction

Overly complex, backlogged, and under-resourced municipal zoning and permitting systems are slowing the pace of building much-needed homes.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Invest \$4 billion in a new Housing Accelerator Fund which will grow the annual housing supply in the country's largest cities every year, creating a target of 100,000 new middle class homes by 2024-25. This application-based fund will offer support to municipalities that: grow housing supply faster than their historical average; increase densification; speed-up approval times; tackle NIMBYism and establish inclusionary zoning bylaws; and encourage public transit-oriented development. This fund will support a wide range of eligible municipal investments, including red tape reduction efforts, and reward cities and communities that build more homes, faster.
- Help speed up the time it takes to build more homes by investing in e-permitting technology and help communities streamline the planning process.
- Work with municipalities to identify vacant or underused property that should be converted to housing on the principle of use it or lose it.

### Build and Revitalize More Affordable Housing

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Permanently increase funding to the National Housing Co-investment fund by a total of \$2.7 billion over 4 years, more than double its current allocation.

These extra funds will be dedicated to helping affordable housing providers acquire land and buildings to build and preserve more units, extending the model of co-operative housing to new communities, accelerating critical repairs so that housing supply remains affordable and is not lost, and developing projects for vulnerable groups, such as women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

### Convert Empty Office Space into Housing

As the demand for retail and office space has changed due to COVID-19, some commercial property owners, particularly in major urban cores, are facing rising vacancies. This is an opportunity for property owners and communities to explore converting excess space into

rental housing, enhancing the livability and affordability of urban communities.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

Double our existing Budget 2021 commitment to \$600 million to support the conversion of empty office and retail space into market-based housing. We'll convert space in the federal portfolio, and commercial buildings.

Work with municipalities to create a fast-track system for permits to allow faster conversion of existing buildings, helping maintain the vibrancy of urban communities.

### Help Bring Different Generations Under One Roof

As people age, there inevitably comes a time to downsize and sell their family homes. For many, it coincides with the time of life when they start to need a little more care and support, often from adult children. We believe there's a better solution, one that gives families options other than parents and grandparents being forced to move away.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Introduce a new Multigenerational Home Renovation tax credit to help families add a secondary unit to their home for an immediate or extended family member. Families will be able to claim a 15% tax credit for up to \$50,000 in renovation and construction costs, saving up to \$7,500.

### Support Indigenous Housing

Since 2015, we've been working with Indigenous peoples and communities to address the challenges they face when it comes to adequate housing. We know that there is still work to be done and we are committed to doing this work for as long as it takes.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with Indigenous partners to co-develop an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy and support this strategy with dedicated investments.
- Work with Indigenous partners to create a National Indigenous Housing Centre with Indigenous people overseeing federal Indigenous housing programs once fully realized.
- Make additional investments in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation housing, as we continue to work towards meeting our 2030 commitment on closing the gaps for Indigenous Infrastructure.

More details can be found in, "Moving Forward on Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples."

## End Chronic Homelessness

In 2017, we announced that we would reduce chronic homelessness by 50%. So, we got to work, launching over 1,200 projects and helping over a million people find a place to call home. Last fall, in the Speech from the Throne, we upped our commitment and declared our focus to be entirely eliminating homelessness in Canada.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Appoint a new Federal Housing Advocate within the first 100-days of a new mandate to ensure the federal government's work toward eliminating chronic homelessness, as well as other housing commitments, are fulfilled.
- Move forward with our plan to invest in Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy to support communities across the country.

The Liberal Housing Plan will support the construction of 100,000 middle class homes, helping more families achieve the goal of home ownership, while also building more than 20,000 more units of new affordable rental housing, and ensuring 130,000 units are revitalized from a state critical disrepair—an element completely ignored in the Conservative plan—and helping thousands of families per year access better housing that works for them.

## Protecting Your Rights

The desirability of Canadian homes is attracting profiteers, wealthy corporations, and foreign investors. This is leading to a real problem of underused and vacant housing, rampant speculation, and skyrocketing prices. Homes are for people, not investors.

### A Home Buyers' Bill of Rights

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Create a national Home Buyers' Bill of Rights so that the process of buying a home is fair, open, and transparent.
- Convene federal and provincial regulators to develop a national action plan to increase consumer protection and transparency in real estate transactions.

#### The Home Buyers' Bill of Rights will:

- Ban blind bidding, which prevents bidders from knowing the bids of other prospective buyers, and ultimately drives up home prices.
- Establish a legal right to a home inspection to make sure that buyers have the peace of mind that their investment is sound.
- Ensure total transparency on the history of recent house sale prices on title searches.
- Require real-estate agents to disclose when they are involved in both sides of a potential sale to all participants in a transaction.
- Move forward with a publicly accessible beneficial ownership registry.
- Ensure banks and lenders offer mortgage deferrals for up to 6 months in the event of job loss or other major life event.
- Require mortgage lenders act in your best interest so that you are fully informed of the full range of choices at your disposal, including the First Time Home Buyer Incentive.

## Keep Your Rent Fair

### To help better protect renters, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Stop "renovictions" by deterring unfair rent increases that fall outside of a normal change in rent.
- Require landlords to disclose, on their tax filing, the rent they receive pre- and post-renovation, and implement a proportional surtax if the increase in rent is excessive.

## Curb Speculation and House Flipping

### To reduce speculative demand in the marketplace and help to cool excessive price growth, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish an anti-flipping tax on residential properties, requiring properties to be held for at least 12 months.

Canadians who encounter changes in life circumstances due to, for example, pregnancy, death, new jobs, divorce, or disability will be exempt from this policy. As this tax is introduced rules will be established to ensure that sellers subject to this tax are able to deduct legitimate investments in refurbishment.

## Crack Down on Foreign Ownership

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Ban foreign money from purchasing a non-recreational, residential property in Canada for the next two years, unless this purchase is confirmed to be for future employment or immigration in the next two years.
- Extend Canada's first-ever national tax on non-resident, non-Canadian owners of vacant, underused housing, announced to begin on January 1, 2022 to include foreign-owned vacant land within large urban areas.
- Work with provinces and municipalities to develop a framework to better regulate the role of foreign buyers in the Canadian housing market so that this money does not deter housing from being available for, and used by, Canadians.

## Stop Excessive Profits in the Financialization of Housing

Large corporate owners of residential properties such as Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) are amassing increasingly large portfolios of Canadian rental housing, making your rent more expensive.

Homes should be for people to live in, not financial assets for investment funds to speculate on.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Review the tax treatment of these large corporate owners.
- Put in place policies to curb excessive profits in this area, while protecting small independent landlords.
- Review the down payment requirements for investment properties.

## Protect the Stability and Security of the Housing Market

### To strengthen federal oversight of the housing market, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish the Canada Financial Crimes Agency as Canada's first ever, national law enforcement agency solely dedicated to investigating and combatting all forms of major financial crime.
- Increase the power of federal regulators to respond to housing price fluctuations and ensure a more stable Canadian housing market.

## Supporting Families

We know that raising a family can be expensive. Everything from housing, to food, to clothes, to child care,

to new computers for online learning, making ends meet can be stressful. We believe that mothers and fathers should spend more time raising their kids, and less time worrying about how to afford to.

That's why we introduced a transformational plan to bring \$10 a day child care to families across the country. It's why we ended the Conservatives practice of giving child benefit cheques to millionaires, and, instead, introduced the Canada Child Benefit.

## Key Actions to Support Families, Since 2015

- ✓ Started building a \$10 a day Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care System, reaching agreements with seven provinces and one territory, covering almost half of all children in Canada.
- ✓ Created the Canada Child Benefit, which gives more money, tax-free, to 9 out of 10 families than under the last Conservative government and has helped lift 435,000 children out of poverty.
- ✓ Provided a CCB top-up of up to \$1,200 to help parents of children under 6 cope with extra costs during COVID-19.
- ✓ Introduced the Parental Sharing Benefit which gives an extra five weeks of EI benefits to families when both parents, in a two-parent family, agree to take time off with their new child. This promotes equality at home and in the workplace—and makes families stronger.

## \$10 a Day Child Care for Families

Since we introduced our plan for early learning and child care in April, we have worked tirelessly to make agreements with 8 provinces and territories, covering nearly half of children in Canada, to deliver a 50% cut in child care fees next year, and deliver \$10 a day care in five years or less.

But Erin O'Toole's Conservatives want to rip up these agreements. They don't believe that supporting publicly accessible, affordable, and high-quality child care is important for Canada's future. Erin O'Toole has refused to commit to a reduction in child care fees, refused to commit to new child care spaces, and refused to commit to hiring new early childhood educators. And the amount of money that the average family will receive through the Conservative's modest tax credit is smaller, by several magnitudes, than the savings families will see from our plan for \$10 a day child care.

City	Median annual fee (2020)	Savings with the Conservatives' plan	Savings with our \$10-a-day plan
Vancouver, British Columbia	\$13,980	\$2,740	<b>\$11,376</b>
Edmonton, Alberta	\$12,600	\$593	<b>\$9,996</b>
Regina, Saskatchewan	\$10,200	\$2,992	<b>\$7,596</b>
Winnipeg, Manitoba	\$7,812	\$3,499	<b>\$5,208</b>
Toronto, Ontario	\$22,394	\$1,084	<b>\$19,790</b>
Iqaluit, Nunavut	\$16,926	\$82	<b>\$14,322</b>
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories	\$12,180	\$642	<b>\$9,576</b>
Whitehorse, Yukon	\$11,100	\$2,075	<b>\$8,496</b>
Fredericton, New Brunswick	\$10,020	\$3,337	<b>\$7,416</b>
Halifax, Nova Scotia	\$11,481	\$3,158	<b>\$8,877</b>
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island	\$8,854	\$3,479	<b>\$6,250</b>
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	\$11,458	\$1,793	<b>\$8,854</b>

Source: Macdonald, D., *Families would save more with \$10-a-day child care fees*. The Monitor. August 27, 2021.

The fact is, ensuring families have access to early learning and child care is not just a social issue—it is an urgent economic issue. The pandemic has exposed what parents have long known. Without access to affordable child care, parents, mostly mothers, can't work. This is a universal issue that is resonating across sectors, regions, and income brackets.

Building a publicly funded Canada-wide system of accessible, high-quality early learning and child care will not only support working parents and make life more affordable for families, but it will also create jobs, strengthen our economy, grow the middle class, and give every child in Canada the best possible start in life. Affordable, high-quality child care has the potential to add 240,000 workers to the Canadian workforce. Every dollar invested in early childhood education can generate up to \$3 in economic return.

Conservatives want to roll back progress for families. We cannot let Canadian women and children get left behind.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Reduce fees for child care by 50% in the next year.
- Deliver \$10 a day child care within five years or less.
- Build 250,000 new high-quality child care spaces.
- Hire 40,000 more early childhood educators.
- Finalize agreements with all remaining provinces and territories.

- Work with the province of Quebec to build on its world-class, affordable child care system, improve working conditions for educators, and create more spaces for families.
- Work with Indigenous partners to ensure Indigenous children have access to culturally appropriate, affordable, high-quality early learning and child care.
- Enact federal child care legislation to strengthen and protect a Canada-wide child care system.

#### More Support for Caregivers

Canadians place a high premium on taking care of one another. Over the last year, the demands on Canadians, particularly women, who care for family members, be they adult children, aging parents, or a sick relative, have been incredibly high. We believe a government should support the Canadians who take care of our families and communities.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Expand the Canada Caregiver Credit into a refundable, tax-free benefit. This will help 200,000 more Canadians qualify, and increase support for 448,000 people.
- Make the Canada Caregiver Credit refundable, allowing caregivers to receive up to \$1,250 per year.



## Giving New Parents a Break on Student Loans

Being a new parent is expensive. There's a new mouth to feed, new clothes to buy, and new child care costs. Paying back federal student loans at the same time, is an extra stress that we don't think new parents should have to manage.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Let new parents pause repayment of their federal student loans until their youngest child reaches the age of five. This would also include new parents who have graduated but still haven't finished paying off their loans.

## Supporting Seniors

The COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating for our seniors, their families, and for the hardworking people who care for them. This pandemic has shown us that the conditions of work become the conditions of care. Canadians and their families deserve to feel confident in the care seniors receive, and our frontline heroes deserve to be supported for their tireless efforts.

### Key Support for Seniors, Since 2015

- ✓ Reversed the Conservative policy and restored the age of eligibility for OAS and GIS to 65, from 67, preventing 100,000 seniors aged 65 and 66 from plunging into severe poverty each year
- ✓ Provided a one-time payment of \$500 during the week of August 16, 2021 to Old Age Security pensioners who will be 75 years of age or over as of June 30, 2022.
- ✓ Increased the Old Age Security pension by 10% for all seniors aged 75+, providing \$766 over the first year to pensioners receiving the full benefit.
- ✓ Increased the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by 10% for individual seniors, improving the financial security of about 900,000 vulnerable seniors.
- ✓ Created the Age Well at Home Initiative that will help low-income and otherwise vulnerable seniors live in their homes for as long as possible.
- ✓ Created opportunities for seniors to be more connected, supported, and active members of their communities by investing an additional \$20 million a year in the New Horizons for Seniors Program.
- ✓ Worked together with provinces and territories to increase the Canada and Quebec Pension Plan's maximum yearly benefit for future retirees by about 50%, meaningfully reducing the risk of not saving enough for retirement.

- ✓ Since the beginning of our first mandate, the poverty rate among seniors has decreased by 20%.

## Support for Low-income Seniors

All seniors deserve a secure and dignified retirement. One of the first things we did as Liberals was restore the age of eligibility for Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement to 65 years from 67 years, putting thousands of dollars back into the pockets of seniors and reversing a Conservative policy that targeted retirees, including the most vulnerable. Our change prevented 100,000 seniors from plunging into poverty every year. We also increased the Guaranteed Income Supplement for single seniors by up to \$947 annually.

Many seniors are living longer and relying on monthly benefits to afford retirement. And some seniors continue to be at heightened risk of living with a low income.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Move forward with our plan to boost the OAS by 10% next year for seniors 75 and over.
- Increase the GIS by \$500 for single seniors and \$750 for couples, starting at age 65.

## Increase the CPP Survivors' Benefit by 25%

After a lifetime of hard work, Canadians deserve to retire with financial security, and to know that if anything happens to them, their loved ones will have financial security, too.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with all provinces and territories over the next year to increase the support survivors, many of whom are women, receive by increasing the Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan survivor's benefit by 25%.

Over 1.3 million widows and widowers will receive close to \$2,200 every year. And every senior will have greater peace of mind that their loved ones will have the support they need.

## Helping Seniors and People with Disabilities Live at Home

Seniors and people with disabilities want to live independently, in the homes they built, in the communities that support them, for as long as possible. But accessibility challenges at home can force seniors to move out of their homes prematurely.

Sometimes small changes like installing a handrail or widening a doorframe can make a huge difference.

### **A re-elected government will:**

- Double the Home Accessibility Tax Credit, to \$20,000, putting up to \$1,500 back in the of Canadians who need it.
- Establish an expert panel to provide recommendations for establishing an Aging at Home Benefit.

### **A 1-800 number to Help Seniors Access Government Support**

#### **To help seniors navigate government services and access all the benefits they are entitled to, a re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a 1-800 help line for seniors to provide a single point of access to a wide range of government services and benefits.

### **Supporting Young Canadians**

Young Canadians faced some of the worst economic and mental health impacts of the pandemic. We stepped up and put forward one of the largest youth support packages in the world.

We want to double down on our efforts to support young people because we believe that when you invest in young people, you're investing in Canada's future.

#### **Key Actions for Young People, Since 2015**

- ✓ Made the largest-ever investment in young Canadians to respond to the pandemic, totaling \$13.1 billion over six years, including action on student grants, loans, and training.
- ✓ Created 300,000 new work opportunities and experiences for young Canadians and provided income support to over 700,000 students through the Canada Emergency Student Benefit.
- ✓ Created Canada's Youth Policy so the diverse voices of young people can better guide government priorities and actions.
- ✓ Doubled Canada Student Grants to up to \$6,000 for two years, to support young people through the pandemic.

### **Permanently Eliminating Interest on Canada Student Loans**

During the pandemic, we waived interest on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans for two

years because we knew young people were amongst the hardest hit by job losses. As we look towards the future, we believe that no one should be deterred from pursuing an education because interest costs make it unaffordable.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Permanently eliminate the federal interest on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans to support young Canadians who choose to invest in post-secondary education. This will benefit over 1 million student loan borrowers and save an average borrower more than \$3,000 over the lifetime of their loan.

### **More Help to Repay Student Loans**

Young Canadians who have invested in their post-secondary education should be able to focus on important things like saving for a home or starting their career and not be burdened by student debt repayments.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Increase the repayment assistance threshold to \$50,000 for Canada Student Loan borrowers who are single. This means that new grads, working hard early in their careers, won't have to begin repaying their loans until they earn at least \$50,000 annually.

### **Better Mental Health Support for Students**

Post-secondary students face a lot of stress and report higher rates of mental health challenges than the rest of the Canadian population, including elevated rates of depression and anxiety. COVID-19 has exacerbated this issue. Three quarters of mental illness begin before 24, but proper care can prevent or lessen the impacts of mental illness. But students who need mental health care often experience long wait times and limited access to care from on-campus health providers.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a new fund for student well-being to improve wait times and increase access to mental health care at colleges and universities. The fund will support the hiring of up to 1200 new mental health care counsellors, including those who can support the needs of BIPOC students, at post secondary institutions across Canada. We will invest \$500 million over four years and dedicate 10% annually to support Indigenous-governed and operated post-secondary institutions.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

55% of people in core housing need are women-led households. Immigrant women are at an even greater risk of housing insecurity because they are often financially dependent on their spouse or family. Increasing the supply of affordable housing, protecting renters from evictions, facilitating multi-generational living, and working to end chronic homelessness will benefit women in all their diversity, as well as other vulnerable groups including LGBTQ2, Indigenous persons and youth.

Persistent social norms mean that women continue to spend more time unpaid care work, including child care. Statistics Canada shows nearly one in 10 parents (mostly women) of children under six have had to change their work schedule due to a lack of available child care. Our planned investments in early and learning child care are essential in ensuring that women can fully participate in the economy and that no family is unable to send their children to child care because of cost.

According to the OECD, women are 50% more likely than men to report that they regularly take care of ill, disabled or elderly adult relatives. Our plan to address the burden of unpaid work will facilitate women's participation in the paid labour force and create good jobs in sectors where women work. Additionally, the increase in the Home Accessibility Tax Credit will support the creation of new jobs and allow caregivers, mostly women, to return to the labour market.

Our plan to increase the GIS and the CPP Survivors' benefit will have a particularly positive impact on women. 75% of seniors living in poverty are women.

Young people have suffered some of the worst economic and mental health impacts of the pandemic. Our support for students will particularly benefit young women, who represent 66% of those who participate in the Repayment Assistance Plan. What is more, 75% of mental illnesses begin before age 24, and LGBTQ2 and Indigenous students are particularly vulnerable to experiencing mental disorders.

A photograph of two men in a warehouse setting. The man on the left is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and a dark blue face mask with a red maple leaf logo. The man on the right is wearing a dark polo shirt, glasses, and a light blue face mask. They are both looking towards each other, suggesting a conversation. The background is a blurred warehouse with shelves and equipment.

**CHAPTER THREE**

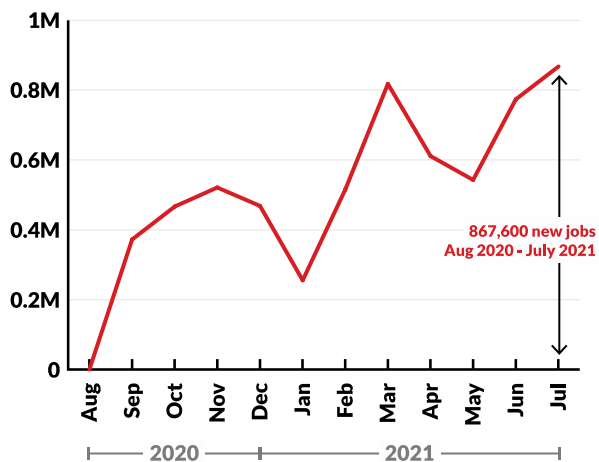
# A More Resilient Economy

# A More Resilient Economy

The COVID-19 pandemic caused the greatest economic contraction since the Great Depression. We acted swiftly and decisively to support workers and businesses, launching one of the most generous support packages in the G7. Not everyone agreed with our decision. Conservatives opposed support for workers and businesses. But we had Canadians' backs. We want to invest in homegrown small businesses, keep supporting workers, and create jobs and growth. Because we know that our recovery had to be a recovery for everyone.

## Creating Beyond a Million Jobs

Nearly One Million Jobs Created in One Year



Source: Statistics Canada.

One year ago, we launched a campaign to create over one million jobs and backed it up with major investments to extend supports, assist people and businesses with transition, and invest in the recovery.

Thanks to our emergency programs and the hard work of Canadians, we are almost at our goal of creating one million jobs. To date, Canada has recovered 92% of jobs lost during the pandemic. By comparison, the United States has only recovered 75% of jobs lost. We have nearly reached this milestone of a million jobs created despite second and third waves, because we committed to do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to get Canadians through the pandemic.

Recovery is underway in Canada. But recovery can't just be about getting back to the way things were before. It should be about making things better. It's about making work fairer, so that no one working full-time in Canada earns a wage that isn't livable. It's about equipping Canadians with the skills they want and need to be able to earn a good living. It's about making Canada a global leader in the race for talent and making it easier and fairer

for Canadians to get a job by removing barriers to work such as child care. It's about securing our ability to harness the resources we have in Canada to drive clean growth around the world and securing our own supply chains in critical goods and services. It's about helping our businesses grow, especially small businesses, and making them competitive in our digital future. It's about the innovation, entrepreneurship, and determination of Canadians.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Restore employment to pre-pandemic levels—going *beyond* one million jobs—and ensure that the jobs that are created are good, well-paying jobs.

## Supporting Workers

### Key Actions to Support Workers, Since 2015

- ✓ Established a \$15 federal minimum wage, which comes into effect this December, and will rise with inflation.
- ✓ Permanently extended the EI sickness benefits from 15 to 26 weeks, coming into effect in summer 2022.
- ✓ Created the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) to provide direct support for eligible workers who have lost their income due to COVID-19.
- ✓ Introduced the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), which has helped businesses keep more than 5 million Canadians at work since the start of the pandemic.
- ✓ Introduced the Canada Training Credit (CTC), which is a new refundable tax credit to help Canadians with the cost of eligible training fees.

### Better Support for Low-income Workers

The worst economic impacts of the pandemic have been suffered by those who could least afford it. Low-wage workers are around six times more likely to suffer layoffs than wealthy Canadians.

Too often, low-income workers live below the poverty line—including full-time workers earning a minimum wage. And too often, the people who work these jobs are racialized Canadians or newcomers. No one working full-time in Canada should live in poverty.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Continue to expand the Canada Workers Benefit to support about 1 million additional Canadians in low-wage jobs, helping them return to work and increasing benefits for Canada’s most vulnerable, who will be eligible for up to \$1,400 a year.
- Ensure that Canadians who qualify are automatically enrolled, and that the benefit is delivered on a quarterly basis.
- Continue to ensure that secondary earners—mostly women—can exclude up to \$14,000 of their working income when income-testing the Canada Workers Benefit, so that families can receive up to \$2,400.

### An EI System that Works for Everyone

Canada’s Employment Insurance (EI) system is one of the most important protections workers have. Yet, prior to COVID-19, as many as 1 in 3 unemployed workers were denied EI coverage. Self-employed people—such as freelancers, contractors, and gig workers—are unable to contribute to the system.

COVID-19 has taught us that having programs we can all rely on matters. We believe that if you work, you should be covered.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a new EI benefit for self-employed Canadians, delivered through the tax system, that would provide unemployment assistance comparable to EI and lasting for as much as 26 weeks. This could provide support of nearly \$15,500 when it is needed most.
- Self-employed Canadians seeking to access this benefit would only be responsible to contribute the portion they would normally pay if they were a salaried employee. Further details regarding this benefit will be developed over the coming year with the launch of this new benefit happening in January 2023.
- Strengthen rights for workers employed by digital platforms so that they are entitled to job protections under the *Canada Labour Code* and establish new provisions in the *Income Tax Act* to ensure this work counts toward EI and CPP while also making these platforms pay associated contributions as any employer would.

- Move forward with a stronger and more inclusive EI system that addresses gaps made obvious during COVID-19. Based on the input received from consultations on the future of EI that are currently underway, we will bring forward a vision for a new and modern EI system that covers all workers, including workers in seasonal employment, and which is simpler and more responsive for both workers and employers.

### Career Insurance Benefit

Losing a job at any time is hard. But transitioning out of a job you’ve had for years can be especially difficult because of the time and effort it takes to start a new career.

This leaves workers vulnerable to having to accept a job just to get by, even if the better long-term investment might have been to go back to school and train for something else.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Establish an EI Career Insurance Benefit. This benefit will be available to people who have worked continuously for the same employer for five or more years and are laid off when the business closes. The Career Insurance Benefit will kick in after regular EI ends, providing an additional 20% of insured earnings in the first year following the layoff, and an extra 10% in the second year. This will give workers up to an almost \$16,900 over two years, providing significant help at a difficult time.

### Extending and Expanding the Home Expense Deduction

In response to the record number of Canadians working remotely during COVID-19, we created a simplified home expense deduction that enabled you last year to claim up to \$400 in expenses for things like new office equipment, without the need to keep receipts.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Extend the Home Expense deduction for an additional 2 years, through the 2022 tax year, and increase the deductible amount to \$500.

### Making Workplaces Fairer, For Everyone

People in Canada work hard, and they deserve a workplace that treats them well. But there is a widening imbalance between workers and the large organizations who employ them. This is making it harder for workers to stand up for their needs, affecting their well-being, infringing on work-life balance, and putting their rights to collective bargaining at risk.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Provide up to 5 new paid leave days for federally regulated employees who experience a miscarriage or still birth, which can happen in up to 1 in 5 pregnancies.
- Strengthen provisions in the *Canada Labour Code* to better support women that need to be temporarily re-assigned to other duties during pregnancy and while breast-feeding.
- Create a fairer collective bargaining process by introducing legislation to prohibit the use of replacement workers, “scabs,” when a union employer in a federally regulated industry has locked out employees.
- Work with federally regulated employers and labour groups to co-develop a new policy for the right to disconnect so that workers can disconnect at the end of a workday without worrying about job security and restore healthy work-life balance.
- Protect public post-secondary educational institutions, such as Laurentian University, from being subject to corporate restructuring.

### **Doubling the Union Training and Innovation Program**

The Canadian economy is showing signs of a strong recovery, but the boom in construction has led to a shortage in skilled workers.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Double the Union Training and Innovation program to \$50 million a year to support more apprenticeship training opportunities and additional partnerships in the Red Seal trades across Canada, and target more participation from women, Indigenous people, newcomers, persons with disabilities, and Black and racialized Canadians.
- Move forward on our plan to establish a new Apprenticeship Service which will connect 55,000 first-year apprentices in Red Seal trades with opportunities at small and medium-sized employers.

### **Supporting Canadian Businesses**

When we support Canada’s businesses, we support the workers, families, and communities that rely on them. Supporting businesses and their workers is at the heart of our plan to create jobs, strengthen the middle class, and grow the economy.

### **Key Actions to Support Businesses, Since 2015**

- ✓ Introduced the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy which has helped employers across the economy keep their workers on payroll.

- ✓ Created the Canada Emergency Business Account which has provided interest-free loans to almost 900,000 businesses.
- ✓ Made sure that Canada has the lowest combined small business tax rate in the G7.
- ✓ Moved forward on a plan to lower credit card fees for small businesses.
- ✓ Successfully renegotiated a new NAFTA deal that safeguards tariff-free access for Canadian goods.
- ✓ Introduced the Accelerated Investment Incentive to provide accelerated capital cost allowances for businesses of all sizes, in all sectors, and boost investment in Canada.

### **Bringing All Businesses Along to Recovery**

Throughout the pandemic, we’ve helped hundreds of thousands of businesses keep the lights on and protected over 5 million jobs. But we know that for some areas of the country and for certain sectors, the recovery remains uneven.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Extend the Canada Recovery Hiring Program to March 31, 2022, so businesses can hire more workers and Canadians can get back on the job.
- Provide Canada’s hard-hit tourism industry with temporary wage and rent support of up to 75% of their expenses to help them get through the winter.

### **Helping Small Businesses Grow**

Small businesses create good local jobs in every corner of Canada, including rural Canada. We know that supporting them is key to supporting a strong economic recovery.

### **Seizing the Opportunities of the Digital Economy**

During the pandemic, we did more business online than ever. As the digital economy grows, we have to make sure that Canadian businesses are poised to compete and win. That’s why we have a plan to help almost 160,000 small and medium-sized businesses adopt new technologies and digitize their offerings. And we’ll create jobs for almost 30,000 young people in the process.

### **We will move forward with our plan to implement the Canada Digital Adoption Program which will:**

- Give microgrants of up to \$2,400 to smaller Main Street businesses so they can afford the costs of new technology.
- Create training and work opportunities for as many as 28,000 young people so they can assist small and medium-sized businesses in adopting new technology.

- Offer zero-interest loans to small and medium-sized businesses so they can finance larger technology adoption projects.

### Making it Easier for Small Businesses to Invest and Grow

Canada's small businesses and our innovative entrepreneurs who scale-up their companies and create good jobs need access to financing in order to recover, create good jobs, and invest their long-term growth.

We will move forward with our plan to unleash investments by improving the Canada Small Business Financing Program. This will increase annual financing by an estimated \$560 million, supporting approximately 2,900 additional small businesses.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Increase the maximum loan amount from \$350,000 to \$500,000 and extend loan coverage from 10 to 15 years for equipment and leasehold improvements.
- Expand borrower eligibility to include non-profit and charitable social enterprises.
- Introduce a new line of credit.
- Expand loan class eligibility to include lending against intellectual property as well as start-up assets and expenses.

### Boosting Business Investment

When businesses are able to invest in the projects and capital assets they need to grow, it strengthens our recovery and creates more good middle class jobs for everyone.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Keep moving forward with our plan to boost business investment by allowing privately owned, Canadian-controlled businesses to immediately expense up to \$1.5 million of growth-enhancing investments, including in areas like software, patents, and machinery.

### Matching Workers with Jobs

One of the signs of the strength of our recovery is that, in some sectors, businesses' growth is outpacing their ability to find workers. In the spring, we made the largest investment in training for workers in Canadian history to help them reskill to meet the needs of employers. Action to address labour shortages will make sure businesses can grow and capitalize on the opportunities of our recovery. And create even more opportunities for workers.

#### We have a plan to:

- Welcome talented workers to Canada.

- Make it easier for workers to relocate for good jobs.
- Keep experienced workers in the workforce.
- Boost the participation of diverse Canadians in the skilled trades.
- Address the specific needs of evolving sectors.

We will make it easier for workers to connect employers, attract global talent, and provide the training workers and businesses need to succeed.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Reform economic immigration programs to expand pathways to Permanent Residence for temporary foreign workers and former international students through the Express Entry points system.
- Build on the Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot and work with employers and communities across Canada to welcome 2,000 skilled refugees to fill labour shortages in in-demand sectors such as health care.
- Establish a Trusted Employer system to streamline application process for Canadian companies hiring temporary foreign workers to fill labour shortages that cannot be filled by Canadian workers.
- Grow and improve the Global Talent Stream program by simplifying permit renewals, upholding the 2-week processing time, and establishing an employer hotline, to allow Canadian companies to attract and hire highly skilled workers.
- Continue to work with provinces, territories, and regulatory bodies to improve foreign credential recognition.
- Introduce a new Labour Mobility Tax Credit to allow workers in the building and construction trades to deduct up to \$4,000 in eligible travel and temporary relocation expenses giving them a tax credit of up to \$600 a year.
- Make it easier for women and vulnerable groups to access training by requiring businesses supported through the Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program to include wrap-around supports. This could include transportation to and from the training program, computers, food, referral to counselling, housing, and legal support, support in finding child care, and mentoring or coaching.
- Introduce a Career Extension Tax Credit to help seniors who want to stay in the workforce, stay in the workforce. The tax credit will let people 65 and over, who earn a working income, reduce their taxes. Seniors who earn a minimum of \$5,000 at their jobs will be able to eliminate tax payable on a portion of their income and receive a tax credit of up to \$1,650.



- Develop a sector-specific Agricultural Labour Strategy with employers and unions to address persistent labour shortages.
- Continue to deliver on our \$80 million investment to train workers for green jobs.
- Opportunities to reskill for energy workers, through a Just Transition. More details are available in “A Cleaner, Greener Future.”

## Quebec Bridge

In April 2021, we announced a major step in rehabilitating the Quebec Bridge, confirming that our Liberal government would buy back the bridge and appointing Yvon Charest as negotiator, who has our entire confidence.

### A re-elected liberal government will:

- Deliver on this important commitment for the region and correct this historical mistake and buy back the bridge.

## Protecting Rights and Competitiveness in the Digital World

Canadians now live in a digital world—many of us work online, buy groceries online, our children even go to school online. We connect with loved ones online, we post pictures of life’s milestones online, and we do some of our most sensitive transactions online.

A digital society must be built on a foundation of trust. In 2019, we launched Canada’s Digital Charter, which lays out 10 principles to build that foundation of trust. In November 2020, we proposed legislation to implement the Charter.

- We will move forward on legislation that will implement the Digital Charter, strengthen privacy protections for consumers, and provide a clear set of rules that ensure fair competition in the online marketplace.

## Innovation, Science, and Research

Over the last six years, we have made big investments in Canadian research, innovation, and talent. After nearly a decade under attack by the last Conservative government, we restored funding and integrity back to our scientific ecosystem.

We know that the spirit of innovation requires more than just tax cuts. It requires a belief in science, ambitious partnerships between government, academia and the private sector, and a plan to invest in the freshest, most innovative ideas out there.

## Key Actions to Support Innovation, Research, and Science, Since 2015

- ✓ Brought in the country’s first ever innovation and skills plan.
- ✓ Introduced the first-ever national Intellectual Property Strategy.
- ✓ Invested more in clean tech than any other government in Canada’s history.
- ✓ Created the Strategic Innovation Fund and Net Zero Accelerator to spur innovation and accelerate growth in Canada’s businesses.
- ✓ Attracted highly skilled global talent through the Global Skills Strategy we introduced.

## Making It Easier to Invest in Research and Development

We have done the hard work needed to streamline federal innovation programs. We have consolidated duplicative programming, created new ones where there were gaps, and created a concierge service to help innovators navigate government programs. But there is still red tape that can get in the way of research and development.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Reform the Scientific Research and Experimental Development Program to reduce red tape and the need for consultants, better align eligible expenses to today’s innovation and R&D and make the program more generous for those companies who take the biggest risks, promoting productivity, new inventions, and the creation of good jobs.

## Strengthening Canadian Research

The mRNA technology behind many of the vaccines keeping us safe from COVID-19 is the product of decades of research, some of which first began at the University of British Columbia. One of the key lessons of COVID-19 is that fundamental science and research is vital to our long-term well-being and prosperity.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Add 1,000 Canada Research Chairs to help attract and retain top talent at Canadian universities and support graduate research, with a focus on improving gender and racial equity among Canadian faculty, promoting inter-disciplinary research, and reinforcing Canada’s world leading capabilities in life sciences and bio-medical research.

- Establish a \$75 million a year fund for colleges and universities to help commercialize leading research, including identifying and securing patent rights for research done within their institutions and connecting researchers with people and businesses to help put these innovations into action and grow our economy.
- Drawing on Canada's contribution to mRNA science and vaccines, introduce a new \$100 million a year fund to pursue moonshot research into high-impact illnesses where a vaccine may be possible.

## Building the Canadian Advantage in Cutting-edge Innovation

Artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and photonics are leading to some of the greatest technological transformations of our age. Canada is home to leading researchers and institutions in these fields, a network of cutting-edge talent, and a diverse ecosystem of start-ups and scale-ups.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Move forward with our plan to invest in the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy, supporting artificial intelligence innovations and research in Canada; investing in the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research to attract and retain top academic talent; providing dedicated computing capacity for researchers at the national artificial intelligence institutes; and advancing the development and adoption of AI standards.
- Move forward with a National Quantum Strategy that will amplify Canada's significant strength in quantum research, and grow our quantum-ready technologies, companies, and talent.
- Move forward with our plan to invest in the National Research Council's Canadian Photonics Fabrication Centre and reinforce Canada's leadership in photonics research, testing, and prototyping done by academics and other innovative businesses.

## A New Advanced Research Agency

To help unleash bold new research and ideas, protect Canada's competitive advantage, and help Canadian companies grow and create highly skilled jobs, a **re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Establish a Canada Advanced Research Projects Agency (CARPA) as a public-private bridge for research that helps develop and maintain Canadian-led technology and capabilities in high-impact areas.

Modelled on the Defense Advanced Research Projects (DARPA) in the United States, which has helped pioneer

the development of several iconic technologies, including GPS mapping, the agency would be established with an initial endowment of \$2 billion.

## Arts & Culture

Arts and culture draw us together and help tell us who we are. Culture is a shared experience, but for a year and a half, we have had to stay apart. Many of Canada's stages are dark, concert halls sit empty, and exhibit halls are bare. The reality is that cultural workers and businesses are facing challenges that put their future at risk.

## Key Supports for Artists, Creators, and Cultural Organizations, Since 2015

- ✓ Committed \$1.9 billion to support the arts, culture, heritage, and sport sectors through the pandemic and help them recover.
- ✓ Created a \$200-million two-year Major Festivals and Events Support Initiative that will help keep flagship Canadian festivals and events alive and ready when all visitors can come back.

## Helping Artists and Cultural Industries Recover

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Launch a new Arts and Culture Recovery Program that will match ticket sales for performing arts, live theatres, and other cultural venues to compensate for reduced capacity.
- Extend COVID-related insurance coverage for media production stoppages to support 150,000 Canadian jobs.
- Implement a COVID-19 transitional support program to provide emergency relief to out-of-work artists, craftsmen, creators, and authors who are primarily self-employed or independent contractors.
- Ensure the realities of artists and cultural workers are considered in upcoming reforms to the Employment Insurance (EI) system.
- Protect Canadian artists, creators, and copyright holders by making changes to the *Copyright Act*, including amending the Act to allow resale rights for artists.
- Hold a summit, within the first 100 days, on plans to restart the industry.

## Supporting Canadian Music, Film and Television

As more and more of us stream shows, movies, and music on multinational digital platforms instead of tuning into Canadian TV and Radio, Canadian creators and audiences are at real risk of being edged out by foreign giants. We need a *Broadcasting Act* that's built for today's world.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Within the first 100 days, reintroduce legislation to reform the *Broadcasting Act* to ensure foreign web giants contribute to the creation and promotion of Canadian stories and music.
- Modernize the institutions (Telefilm, National Film Board, Canada Media Fund) and funding tools that support Canada's audio-visual sector, including video games, in order to make funding platform-agnostic and open to more traditionally underrepresented storytellers, while favouring Canadian productions over foreign ones and ensuring that Canadians are better equipped to own and benefit from the content that they produce.
- Support Canadian feature films by permanently increasing funding to Telefilm Canada by \$50 million.
- Support Canadian television productions by doubling the government contribution, over three years, to the Canada Media Fund.
- Increase the proportion of funding for French audiovisual content at Telefilm and the Canada Media Fund from 33% to 40% to support a better presence of French-language productions.
- Ensure better and stable funding for the music sector by increasing the annual contribution to the Canada Music Fund to \$50 million by 2024-2025.
- Provide the Indigenous Screen Office with \$13 million per year, permanently, so more Indigenous stories can be told and seen.

### **Bringing Canadian Culture to the World**

Canada has some of the best artists and performers in the world, but there is very little support available for creative industries to share their creations abroad. By finding ways to bring the work of Canadian artists and creators to the world stage, we can harness the impact of their extraordinary talents and reputations to increase the impact of Canada's diplomacy.

#### **A re-elected Liberal Government will:**

- Help Canadian cultural industries succeed abroad by issuing a mandate to BDC and EDC to support the growth of creative industries in new markets.
- Launch a new cultural diplomacy strategy with an annual budget of \$20 million per year to leverage the work done by our artists and cultural industries to support Canada's diplomatic goals.
- Forge an international coalition to work on a new UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Content Online.

- Celebrate Canada's unique francophone cultures through the promotion of the French language across our diplomatic missions and in our work to transform the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.

### **Supporting Canada's Authors**

Book sales hit a record in Canada during COVID-19, but Canadian authors struggle to get the recognition and market share that their talent deserves.

#### **A re-elected Liberal Government will:**

- Invest \$43 million per year to support Canadian authors and books publishers by increasing, by 50%, funding for through the Canada Book Fund, the Canada Council for the Arts, and the Public Lending Right Program.

### **Levelling the Playing Field with Digital Giants**

In 2021, most Canadians get their news from digital platforms which drives key advertising revenues away from Canadian news organizations and towards platforms owned by social media companies and digital giants.

#### **A re-elected Liberal Government will:**

- Introduce legislation, within 100 days, that would require digital platforms that generate revenues from the publication of news content to share a portion of their revenues with Canadian news outlets. This legislation would be based on the Australian model and level the playing field between global platforms and Canadian news outlets. The bill will also allow news publishers to work together to prepare for collective negotiation.

### **Modernizing CBC/Radio-Canada**

CBC/Radio-Canada is a fundamental Canadian institution. Decreasing advertising revenues for all broadcasters are putting Canada's public broadcaster under increasing pressure. In our rapidly evolving world, CBC/Radio-Canada's mandate needs an update.

#### **A re-elected Liberal Government would:**

- Update CBC/Radio-Canada's mandate to ensure that it is meeting the needs and expectation of today's Canadian audiences, with a unique programming that distinguishes it from private broadcasters.
- Reaffirm the role of the public broadcaster in protecting and promoting the French language and Francophone cultures in Quebec and across the country.

- Increase production of national, regional, and local news.
- Strengthen Radio Canada International, our voice for peace, democracy, and universal human values on the world stage.
- Ensure that Indigenous voices and cultures are present on our screens and radios.
- Bring Canada's TV and film productions to the world stage.
- Provide \$400 million over 4 years to CBC/Radio-Canada so that it is less reliant on private advertising with a goal of eliminating advertising during news and other public affairs shows.

## Vibrant Rural Communities

As our economy recovers, we need to make sure communities in every corner of the country are brought along. And that we continue to make life better for people living in small communities.

### Key Action to Support Rural Success, Since 2015

- ✓ Created the Universal Broadband Fund to connect rural communities to high-speed internet.
- ✓ Launched the \$2 billion Regional Relief and Recovery Fund which is supporting local businesses through Regional Economic Development Agencies, including business that don't qualify for CEBA.
- ✓ Created a fund to build public transit in rural communities.
- ✓ Helped rural and remote communities get off diesel and have cleaner air.
- ✓ Built community centres and recreation centres in 97 rural communities.
- ✓ Launched a Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot to bring skilled newcomers to smaller communities and help local economies grow.

## Connecting Rural Canada

The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted much of our lives online and transformed how we live, work, learn, and do business. Rural communities without access to broadband are worried about getting left behind.

Since 2015, we have invested more than \$8 billion to accelerate the delivery of high-speed internet and wireless service across Canada. That is more funding committed to broadband investments than all previous federal governments, combined. We have partnered with provincial governments, municipalities, and telecom providers so that we can deliver for rural Canadians.

Because of our investments, this year alone over 400,000 more Canadians will have access to high-speed internet.

But we know there are still rural and remote communities without access, and broadband projects waiting to be developed.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Require those that have purchased the rights to build broadband actually do so. With this use it or lose it approach, Canada's large national carriers will be required to accelerate the roll-out of wireless and high-speed internet in rural and northern Canada by progressively meeting broadband access milestones between now and 2025. If these milestones are not met, we will mandate the resale of spectrum rights and reallocate that capacity to smaller, regional providers.

## Strong Economic Development

For over three decades Canada has had only 6 Regional Development Agencies. Canada has grown and changed a lot since then. That's why we created two standalone agencies for Western Canada, PacifiCAN, and PrairieCAN, and one for Northern Ontario, FedNor. We need all our economies to grow, thrive, and be part of our economic recovery.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to strengthen Canada's Regional Development Agencies, so that rural and small communities have the support they need right where they are.

## More Doctors, Nurses, Dentists and Teachers

We know that lots of rural communities are facing a shortage of doctors, nurse practitioners, and other health care and social service workers that keep communities strong. We believe everyone should have access to primary care.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Expand the number of family doctors and primary health teams in rural communities.
- Work to give rural communities greater access to a full suite of health and social services professionals, including dentists, pharmacists, dental hygienists, midwives, social workers, psychologists, teachers, and early childhood educators.
- Help health care professionals set up new practices.

More details can be found in: *Finishing the Fight Against COVID-19*.

## Support for Dairy, Poultry, and Egg Farmers

### Key Supports, Since 2015

- ✓ \$2.7 billion has been made available to compensate eligible dairy, poultry, and egg farmers as a result of CETA and CPTPP.
- ✓ Dairy farmers will receive cash payments of \$468 million in 2020-21, \$469 million in 2021-22 and \$468 million in 2022-23.
- ✓ A further \$100 million has been provided for dairy processors to adapt to CETA.
- ✓ To date, all import rights created in recent trade agreements have been provisionally allocated to the industry free of charge.

We stand fully behind our supply managed sector, which supports our family farms and the vitality of our rural areas. We are committed to full and fair compensation with respect to the new NAFTA.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with supply-managed sectors to determine compensation within the first year of a new mandate.

## A Fairer Financial System

Over the last six years we have brought in tough new penalties to crack down on predatory sales practices and to increase transparency in the way banks deal with you.

To help Canadians struggling through the pandemic we made sure lenders provided Canadians with options to ease their debt payments. We will take action to ensure that, as we come out of COVID-19, there are even stronger protections to level the playing field between you and your financial institution.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Require financial institutions offer flexible repayment options by default if you fall on hard times or face a life event that causes financial stress. This will include a mandatory option for a 6-month deferral of mortgage payments in qualifying circumstances.
- Establish a single, independent ombudsperson for handling consumer complaints involving banks, with the power to impose binding arbitration.
- Crack down on predatory lenders by lowering the criminal rate of interest.
- Enhance the powers of the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada to review the prices charged by banks and impose changes if they are excessive.
- Move forward with a made-in-Canada model of open banking that will launch no later than the beginning of 2023. This system will ensure that you, not your bank, control your data.
- Modernize Canada's payments technology to deliver faster and lower cost options so that you can securely and conveniently manage money, pay bills, and transfer funds to loved ones around the world.

## Canada Financial Crimes Agency

Fraud, money-laundering, insider trading, organized crime, and other financial crimes put Canadians at risk, and put our economy at risk.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish Canada's first ever, nation-wide agency whose sole purpose is to investigate these highly complex crimes and enforce federal law in this area. Coupled with an investment of \$200 million over the next four years, and new federal powers, this agency will bring together, under one roof, existing law enforcement resources of the RCMP, the intelligence capabilities of the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre (FINTRAC), and expertise of the Canada Revenue Agency.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

We estimate that 100,000 Canadians will be lifted out of poverty by expanding the Canada Workers Benefit. This will particularly impact women, racialized Canadians, Indigenous persons and youth. Women accounted for 53.7% of year-over-year job losses between March 2020 and February 2021, due in part to the high number of women working in the service sector. Similarly, racialized Canadians, youth, Indigenous persons and LGBTQ2 people are overrepresented in low-paying jobs.

The impact of COVID-19 has also been hard felt in the tourism and hospitality industry, as well as in the arts and culture sectors. Women represent half of workers in the tourism industry and youth make up a third. Similarly, women represent more than half of workers in the arts and culture sector, though women of colour and Indigenous women tend to be underrepresented. The support programs we are proposing will therefore directly benefit these groups.

Expanding borrower eligibility of the Canada Small Business Financing Program to include non-profit and charitable social enterprises, will not only benefit women—who represent 80% of those working in the sector—but it will also contribute to the growth of organizations working on poverty reduction, systemic racism, or accessibility, serving Indigenous persons, LGBTQ2 people, newcomers or racialized Canadians, and people with disabilities.

With an increased reliance on the internet to access services, work remotely and attend school, rural communities in Canada have been disproportionately affected by the digital divide. Just under 50% of rural communities have access to Broadband at 50/10 Mbps and the CRTC estimates that only 30% of First Nations households have access to internet. Ensuring that companies accelerate the roll-out of their broadband projects will contribute to the economic growth of those communities and the wellbeing of Canadians.



**CHAPTER FOUR**

# An Equal Canada, For Everyone

## Key Actions to Build a More Equal Canada for Everyone, Since 2015

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- ✓ Raised income taxes on the wealthiest 1%, so that we could cut them for nine million middle class Canadians.
- ✓ Helped lift 435,000 children out of poverty through the Canada Child Benefit.
- ✓ Reduced the number of seniors living in poverty in Canada by 20% since 2015.
- ✓ Formed Canada's first gender-balanced cabinet and appointed women to high profile leadership positions within government.
- ✓ Passed the *Pay Equity Act*, which went into effect on August 31, 2021 and will ensure women and men in federally regulated workplaces get equal pay for equal work.
- ✓ Expanded the Canada Workers Benefit to one million more low-income workers which will help lift nearly 100,000 people out of poverty.
- ✓ Reinstated the Court Challenges Program, which provides financial support to Canadians in important court cases that advance equality and language rights.
- ✓ Introduced the EI Parental Sharing Benefit to support equality in parenting by providing up to five additional weeks of benefits when both parents agree to share parental leave.
- ✓ Invested close to \$5 billion to strengthen capacity within the entrepreneurship ecosystem and close gaps in service for women entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Set a target for gender equality in sport at every level by 2035 and provided an initial \$30 million over three years to support new practices to promote women and girls' participation in sport.
- ✓ Created the Task Force on Women in the Economy to address issues of equality in the wake of the pandemic.
- ✓ Introduced legislation to protect the dignity and equality of LGBTQ2 people by criminalizing conversion therapy
- ✓ Created the first-of-its kind Black Entrepreneurship Program that will provide loans of up to \$250,000 to Black business owners and entrepreneurs across the country.
- ✓ Provided support to Black-led non-profits so they can better serve their communities and offer mental health and wellness support, sports and fitness programs, and arts and culture programming.
- ✓ Provided support for community-led projects for Black Canadian youth that develop leadership skills and civic engagement, provide opportunities, and promote Black history, culture, and identity.
- ✓ Established the *Accessible Canada Act* to create a barrier-free Canada for people with disabilities.
- ✓ Helped to improve workplace accessibility and access to jobs.
- ✓ Moved forward on a Disability Inclusion Action Plan.
- ✓ Made important changes to the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) to improve financial security.
- ✓ Created the COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group to advise the federal government, in recognition that Canadians with disabilities have been disproportionately affected by the health, social, and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ In 2017, Justin Trudeau delivered a formal apology in the House of Commons to people harmed by federal legislation, policies, and practices that led to the oppression of, and discrimination against LGBTQ2 people in Canada.
- ✓ Established an LGBTQ2 Secretariat within the Privy Council Office to support government initiatives on LGBTQ2 issues.
- ✓ Helped support a strong LGBTQ2 movement in Canada through the creations of the new LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Projects Fund which has provided \$15 million in grants to over 75 organizations.
- ✓ Declared trans rights as human rights and passed legislation to fully protect gender identity and expression.
- ✓ Initiated the process for Canada's first LGBTQ2 Action Plan, to make Canada a more equal place and improve the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and two-spirit people in Canada.



# An Equal Canada, For Everyone

From the very start, we have been dedicated to advancing gender equality and diversity in Canada. True equality benefits us all. When parents get equal pay, families are better off. When we empower communities and address discrimination, our communities are stronger and more vibrant. When we take action to protect rights and promote diversity, we build a Canada where everyone sees opportunity.

## Protecting and Promoting Our Official Languages and Linguistic Duality

Like Indigenous languages, French and English are part of the rich culture and history of Canada. Our two official languages, French and English, are fundamental to our identity. They connect us to each other, to our past, our present and our future. They help make Canada unique.

Every year, the Grand Tintamarre reminds us of the strength of our minority language communities, and their fight to keep their culture alive. But in a changing, interconnected world, our two official languages are not on equal footing. As stated in the 2020 Speech from the Throne: "There are almost 8 million Francophones in Canada within a region of over 360 million inhabitants who are almost exclusively Anglophone. The Government therefore has the responsibility to protect and promote French not only outside of Quebec, but also within Quebec."

### Key Actions to Protect Official Languages, Since 2015

- ✓ Tabled *Bill C-32, An Act for the Substantive Equality of French and English and the Strengthening of the Official Languages Act*, which recognizes the right to work and be served in French in companies under federal jurisdiction, in Quebec and in regions with a strong francophone presence in the rest of Canada; ensures that the Supreme Court of Canada is truly bilingual, without the assistance of an interpreter; and strengthens the powers of the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- ✓ Took action to eliminate waiting lists for French immersion schools, with the goal of reaching a bilingualism rate of 25% by 2036.
- ✓ Released the Action Plan for Official Languages 2018-2023, with an historic investment in official languages.

## Securing the future of the French language in Canada

Official language minority communities continue to need the support of the federal government in order to maintain, develop and flourish. The reform document we

presented, *English and French: Towards a substantive equality of official languages in Canada*, and Bill C-32 go further than any federal government since the *Official Languages Act* was adopted in 1969.

Contrary to what the Bloc Québécois thinks, we know that protection of Canada's French language and francophone communities does not stop at Quebec's borders.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Fully implement the legislative and administrative measures outlined in the reform document. Work with official language communities, both French and English, to introduce, within the first 100 days, the proposed *An Act for the Substantive Equality of French and English* and the *Strengthening of the Official Languages Act*.
- Counter the lost demographic weight of francophones in Canada through an ambitious national strategy to support Francophone immigration outside of Quebec.
- Support the maintenance and vitality of official language minority communities by helping build, renovate, and develop educational and community spaces that serve official language minority communities.
- Permanently increase funding for post-secondary institutions in official language minority communities to \$80 million per year. This new commitment of \$240 million over 4 years could be used to strengthen the Université de l'Ontario français, Campus Saint-Jean at the University of Alberta, and post-secondary institutions in Northern Ontario and New Brunswick and counter cuts made by Conservative governments.
- Continue to contribute to the funding of Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day celebrations in Quebec and across the country
- Protect the institutions of Quebec's English-speaking community and support the creation of new organizations in support of this community through initiatives such as the Leadership Institute.

- Continue to offer federal services in both official languages in every province.
- Continue to support the French-language knowledge of immigrants in Quebec.
- Create a strategy to support entrepreneurs in official language minority communities to ensure their vitality through the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs).

## Ensuring Children Can Learn in Both Official Languages

For every child who misses an opportunity to attend French immersion school, we lose a future bilingual citizen. That's why, in our budget this spring, we took action to eliminate waiting lists and set a goal of reaching a rate of 25% bilingualism by 2036.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Invest \$120 million to ensure that federal funding is sustainable and directed towards improving access to French immersion and French second-language programs across the country.

## Gender Equality

We have always been, and always will be, a proudly feminist government. But we know there is more to do to address longstanding gender inequities in Canada.

## Promoting Diversity in Corporate Canada

The lives of millions of Canadians are affected by decisions made in corporate boardrooms. Too often these boards do not reflect the diversity of Canadians.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Adapt and apply the *Canada Business Corporations Act* diversity requirements to federally regulated financial institutions, applying an intersectional lens to ensure diversity among senior ranks of the financial sector.
- Move forward with our commitment to require Crown corporations to implement gender and diversity reporting, beginning next year.

## Women in the Economy

Women-led businesses face persistent barriers and stereotypes that limit their growth, especially businesses led by racialized and Indigenous women. And too often, small businesses in fields that are predominantly female get shortchanged in the market for growth opportunity.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Update the definition of entrepreneur used across government to make sure it includes a diversity of entrepreneurs and includes small and medium-size businesses that operate in the care economy, retail, and service sectors.
- Building on the Budget 2021 investment of \$146.9 million to the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy, create a community stream to the Ecosystem Fund to support smaller community-level organizations in providing mentorship at the local level to diverse women.

## Moving Forward on a National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence

We are committed to building a country free of gender-based violence. Every 2.5 days a woman or girl is killed in Canada. In the last year alone, there were over 160 women violently killed.

### Progress to End Gender-Based Violence, Since 2015

- ✓ Launched the Gender-Based Violence Strategy, committing nearly \$200 million starting in 2017-18 until 2022-23, and over \$40 million per year ongoing.
- ✓ Created a \$100 million Feminist Response and Recovery Fund, creating building blocks for long-term, lasting change to advance women's equality.
- ✓ In 2021, we committed \$601.3 million towards a National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to move forward on the development of a 10-year National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and begin negotiations with the provinces and territories within a year.
- Accelerate the establishment of the Secretariat announced in Budget 2021 and put in place an accountability framework to ensure anyone facing gender-based violence has reliable and timely access to services, no matter where they live.
- Work with community-based anti-violence experts to track progress of the National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence.
- Work with provinces and territories to enact Clare's Law so that domestic partners who fear for their safety can request from police information about their partner's violent history, whether that includes sexual assault, domestic violence, convictions, arrests, or restraining orders.
- Work with provinces and territories to support the development of specialized sexual violence courts.

## Free Menstrual Products

One in 3 Canadians who need pads, tampons, or other menstrual products struggle to afford them. Menstrual products are a basic need and are essential to uphold Canadians' sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as to ensure women's participation in school, work, and society.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Provide free tampons and pads in federally regulated workplaces.
- Create a \$25 million Menstrual Equity Fund for women's shelters, not-for-profits, charities, community-based organizations, and youth-led organizations to make menstrual products available to vulnerable women.

## Growing a Strong and Diverse Canada

Diversity is our strength. That's why we want to build a Canada that welcomes and celebrates all cultures and all people.

### Supporting Black Canadian Communities

Data shows that Canada's Black community is one of the most disadvantaged, with a higher prevalence of low-income households, lower employment rates, and a much higher likelihood of enduring discrimination at work. Inequality of any kind holds us all back. That's why we have moved forward to support and empower Black-led organizations that are at the heart of their communities, committing \$200 million to a new Black-led Philanthropic Endowment Fund.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Swiftly implement the Black-led Philanthropic Endowment Fund. This fund will be administered independently by Black Canadians and will help support Black-led and Black-serving community organizations.

### Supporting Black Researchers

While research institutions are making progress to better reflect the Canada of today, it is not fast enough. Black Canadians are less likely to attend post-secondary education, less likely to be represented among faculty at these institutions, and less likely to succeed in research grant applications.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Strengthen equity targets for federally funded scientific research delivered through the granting councils to include a specific target for the representation of Black Canadians.

- Provide funding of \$30 million over 5 years to help promising graduate students, support the mentorship and development of younger researchers, and increase opportunities for Black Canadians in Canadian post-secondary institutions.

## Empowering Racialized Artists and Journalists

Breaking down systemic barriers in our media and cultural sectors ensures that Canadians from all backgrounds have their experiences and perspectives represented.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Move forward on supporting productions led by people from equity-deserving groups working in the Canadian audiovisual industry.
- Support the production of news in underserved communities with \$50 million over five years through the Local Journalism Initiative.
- Develop a new \$50 million Changing Narratives Fund to empower diverse communities, including BIPOC journalists and creatives, with the tools to tell their own stories and promote diverse voices in arts and culture and across media.

## Improving Diversity in the Public Service

Canada's public service should reflect the diversity of Canada. We need to ensure that we hire and retain diverse talents and build a strong public service, where all workers can reach their full potential.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Create the Diversity Fellowship in the Public Service to mentor and sponsor diverse groups in the public service and implement an action plan to increase representation in hiring and appointments, and leadership development within the Public Service.
- Create a fellowship for 1000 students and new graduates and offer French Language Training to 3rd and 4th year students to help bridge current gaps including language barriers.
- Increase diversity by offering language programs to racialized employees and expanding the public service recruitment program to international students and permanent residents.
- Help community organizations foster students to enter the public service.
- Establish a mental health fund for Black public servants, and support career advancement, training, sponsorship, and educational opportunities for Black workers.

## Eliminating Citizenship Application Fees for Permanent Residents

Permanent residents are deeply committed members of our communities. They work hard, start new businesses, pay taxes, raise their families, and do so in hope that they will one day be full citizens. Becoming a citizen allows new immigrants to fully participate in Canadian society. It should not be subject to a user fee.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Make the application process free for permanent residents who have fulfilled the requirements needed to obtain it.

## Strengthening Family Reunification and Reducing Processing Times

We have worked hard to reverse damaging Conservative policies that led to delays and deep cuts to immigration levels. We know immigration is important for economic growth and have worked to increase immigration levels, reduce wait times, and build a fairer system.

Many people leave their families behind to build a better future in Canada, in hopes that they can be re-united in Canada. But the wait is difficult and COVID-19 has caused further delays.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Reduce processing times that have been impacted by COVID-19 to under 12 months.
- Introduce electronic applications for family reunification.
- Implement a program to issue visas to spouses and children abroad while they wait for the processing of their permanent residency application, so that families can be together sooner.

## Supporting LGBTQ2 People

We believe in a Canada where everyone can live as their true, authentic self in every aspect of life. Improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and Two-Spirit communities is essential to building a Canada where everyone is able to participate fully.

### Ban Conversion Therapy

Conversion therapy has not only been scientifically discredited, but it also perpetuates harmful anti-LGBTQ2 stereotypes and exacerbates rates of LGBTQ2 poverty, discrimination, homelessness, and suicide. More than half of sitting Conservative Members of Parliament voted against our bill to ban this harmful practice.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Re-introduce legislation within the first 100 days in office, to eliminate the practice of conversion therapy for everyone, and extend coverage of the ban to include people over 18 years of age.

## Support Implementation of Federal LGBTQ2 Action Plan

### To better support LGBTQ2 people and build a society where everyone has equal rights and opportunities, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Complete the Federal Action Plan within the first 100 days in office.
- Provide \$40 million over 4 years starting in 2021-2022 for capacity funding to Canadian LGBTQ2 service organizations.

## Pathways to Parenthood, for Everyone

More and more Canadians are becoming parents via adoption or surrogacy. For LGBTQ2 people, it is often the only way they can have the family they have always wanted. But there are still many barriers these couples face.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Ensure the cost of in vitro fertilization (IVF) becomes an eligible health expenditure under the *Assisted Human Reproduction Act*.
- Expand the Medical Expense Tax Credit to include costs that have been reimbursed to a surrogate mother for her IVF expenses.
- Move forward on providing adoptive parents an additional 15-weeks of leave to make sure they get the same level of support to care for their children as other parents.

## Support for Canadians with Disabilities

Over the past six years we've made accessibility and disability inclusion a priority. We have focused on removing barriers and addressing disability discrimination and exclusion and forge new opportunities for Canadians with disabilities to work, contribute to their communities, and enjoy the same quality of life all Canadians deserve.

### Introduce a Disability Benefit

Over 1 million Canadians with disabilities live in poverty. People with disabilities have a higher rate of unemployment, and those with more severe disabilities had an after-tax income of just \$12,520, well below the poverty line. Furthermore, the costs of specialized equipment, custom supports for cars or homes, and

medical procedures adds to the financial burdens of Canadians with disabilities.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Re-introduce a *Disability Benefit Act* which will create a direct monthly payment, the Canada Disability Benefit, for low-income Canadians with disabilities ages 18-64.

Once implemented this new benefit will reduce poverty among persons with disabilities in the same manner as the Guaranteed Income Supplement and the Canada Child Benefit.

### Developing an employment strategy for Canadians with disabilities

Canadians also face significant barriers in the labour market and in the workplace. Furthermore, young people with disabilities are far more likely to be living in poverty than youth without disabilities. Yet thousands of young people with disabilities who have the potential to work remain unemployed.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Develop and implement an employment strategy for Canadians with disabilities. This strategy will be focused on supports for workers and employers and creating inclusive and welcoming workplaces. It will also include an investment in the Ready, Willing and Able inclusive hiring program to support individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- Create a new stream of the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program (YESS) to support 5000 opportunities a year for young people. This would help young Canadians with disabilities gain the skills, experience, and abilities they need to make a successful transition into the labour market and build successful careers.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

The measures announced in this section will directly benefit women, Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, newcomers, youth, people living with disabilities and members of the LGBTQ2 communities that face increased barriers in accessing supports and services due to systemic inequalities, such as sexism, homophobia, transphobia, racism, and poverty.

Support for Black Canadians will mostly benefit young people, especially those in urban settings. Compared to the Canadian average, Black Canadians are more likely to face financial insecurity, and they are more likely to be newcomers to Canada.

Gender equality and diversity in leadership is essential to a fair and democratic society. In 2018, only 11% of boards had one woman director and 27% had two. That number is even lower if you apply an intersectional lens.

Experiences of gender-based violence are quite common in Canada, with women reporting about 536 incidents of police-reported intimate partner violence per 100,000 population in 2019. Those at highest risk live in rural and remote areas, Indigenous women, racialized women, women with disabilities, gender diverse, and LGBTQ2 people.

In 2018, youth between 15-24 years old represented 30% of the LGBTQ2 population and one third of all same-sex couples in Canada in 2016 were married while two-thirds were living common-law, and about 12 % of same-sex couples had children living with them in 2016. We expect that the measures announced will therefore mostly benefit young LGBTQ2 Canadians living mainly in Canada's largest metropolitan areas.

One in five Canadians aged 15 years old and over has a disability. Of those, 14.3% identify as racialized Canadians. Additionally, women (24%) are more likely to have a disability than men (20%). Income for people with disability falls short of those without disabilities and women in this group have a median income 25% lower than their male counterpart.



**CHAPTER FIVE**

# A Cleaner, Greener Future

## Key Actions to Fight Climate Change Since 2015

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- ✓ Introduced Canada's first-ever national climate plan in 2016, becoming the first government to set a climate target and lay out a path to meeting it.
- ✓ Invested over \$100 billion towards climate action and clean growth.
- ✓ Took action to get to net-zero emissions by 2050 and enshrined Canada's net-zero goal into law.
- ✓ Advanced a ban on harmful single-use plastics, committed to eliminating plastic waste by 2030, and have already banned microbeads in toiletries.
- ✓ Made sure pollution isn't free anywhere in Canada and put more money in the pockets of hard-working families wherever the federal system applies.
- ✓ Laid out a plan to plant 2 billion trees over the next ten years and support other nature-based climate solutions like the conservation of wetlands, peatlands, croplands, and grasslands that sequester carbon and keep ecosystems intact.
- ✓ Committed to help Canadians improve the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce their energy bills by providing homeowners with up to \$5,000 in grants to retrofit their homes and moving forward on a plan to make interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 available.
- ✓ Offered rebates of up to \$5,000 to 100,000 Canadians who have purchased electric vehicles and helped build enough charging stations that you can drive from St. John's to Victoria in an electric vehicle.
- ✓ Committed to ensuring 100% of vehicles sold in Canada be zero-emission by 2035 and supporting automakers and auto-workers to produce in Canada.
- ✓ Helped people get where they need to go in cheaper, cleaner, and faster ways by making historic investments of over \$25 billion in public transit.
- ✓ Exceeded Canada's goal of protecting 10% of our oceans by 2020, going from less than 1% in 2015 to just under 14% in 2020.
- ✓ Made the largest investment in nature conservation in Canada's history—\$1.3 billion in Budget 2018 and \$3.3 billion in Budget 2021—which will allow us to reach our goal of protecting 25% of our lands and waters by 2025.
- ✓ Funded Indigenous leadership in nature conservation, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas and establishing the Indigenous Guardians programs which supports Indigenous peoples' connections with their traditional lands, waters, and ice.
- ✓ Launched a network of new national urban parks, with seven locations across seven provinces currently underway in Montreal, Edmonton, Colwood near Victoria, Halifax, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, and Windsor.
- ✓ Established the Natural Infrastructure Fund which is supporting community-led projects in six cities across the country: the Toronto Ravine Strategy, Vancouver's Rain City Strategy, the City of Montreal's Vision 2030 Strategic Plan, Halifax's Green Network Plan, Saskatoon's Green Strategy, and Winnipeg's Parks Strategy.
- ✓ Launched the \$8 billion Net-Zero Accelerator Fund to decarbonize heavy industry like steel and aluminum, secure Canada's clean industrial advantage, and create green jobs.
- ✓ Cut taxes in half for businesses that manufacture zero-emissions products.
- ✓ Ensured a stable market transition to a low-carbon economy by requiring Canada's Crown corporations to adopt the public reporting standards of Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures and working with provinces and territories to make it a part of regular disclosures by a broad spectrum of the Canadian economy.
- ✓ Introduced tougher rules for managing chemicals that will enshrine Canadians' right to a healthy environment for the first time in our history.
- ✓ Initiated the development of Canada's first-ever National Adaptation Strategy.
- ✓ Invested over \$3.4 billion towards the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund to ensure Canadians are prepared for and protected from the impacts of climate change.

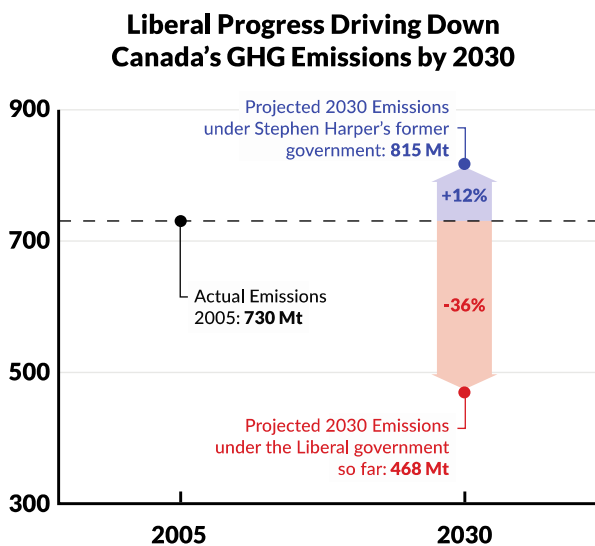
# A Cleaner, Greener Future

Climate change is real. And Canadians want real action to fight it.

We put in place Canada's first-ever climate plan, a plan that has grown more ambitious every year. Together, we've assembled the building blocks for a safe, healthy, and prosperous net-zero emissions future. We cannot let the Conservatives rollback climate action. We need to move forward with an even more ambitious plan to tackle climate change, one that seizes the opportunities of the green economy and positions Canada for long-term economic growth, in every province and territory.

## Cutting Pollution

Under the previous Conservative government, Canada's emissions were on a path to be 12% higher in 2030 than they were in 2005, despite Stephen Harper's promise to lower emissions by 30% by 2030. We knew this wasn't acceptable and got to work on a serious plan. Today, Canada's emissions are projected to be 36% lower in 2030 compared to 2005 levels. But we know there is more to do.



Source: Budget 2021, *A Recovery Plan for Jobs, Growth, and Resilience*

## Delivering on Our Climate Commitments

We have invested over \$100 billion to fight climate change and build a clean economy for all Canadians, including \$53.6 billion for a green recovery. But for these investments to deliver, Canadians need a government with a real plan to meet our climate goals.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Deliver on all policy and fiscal measures outlined in our Strengthened Climate Plan from December 2020, implement the recently passed *Net Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, and advance new measures to achieve an ambitious 40-45% reduction in emissions by 2030 compared to 2005 levels.
- Work with all Canadians and the Net Zero Advisory Body to identify ways to further accelerate climate action that will put us on trajectory to achieve net-zero emissions as soon as possible and no later than 2050.

## A Price On Pollution

Pollution always has a cost and that's why we made sure it is no longer free to pollute, anywhere in Canada. Despite the objections of Conservatives every step of the way, our price on pollution is internationally recognized as a model system. Together, we proved to the world that what people really want is good climate policy, not political obstruction. And we know that a strong price on pollution can have a strong impact on reducing our emissions.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to put a rising price on pollution, while putting more money back into the pockets of Canadians.
- Keep protecting Canadian jobs and competitiveness through smart carbon pricing design.
- Move forward, in collaboration with key trading partners, like the United States and European Union, on applying Border Carbon Adjustments to imports from countries that aren't doing their part to reduce carbon pollution and fight climate change. This includes considering applying Border Carbon Adjustments on imports of steel, cement, aluminum, and other emissions-intensive industries, similar to the European Union's approach.



## Cap and Cut Emissions from Oil and Gas

Greenhouse gas emissions from the oil and gas sector have risen 20% since 2005 and now makes up 26% of Canada's total emissions, making it the largest emitting sector in the country.

Climate change isn't just an environmental issue, it's a competitiveness issue for the oil and gas sector. The climate science is clear and global investors are clear, the oil and gas sector must accelerate its efforts to get on a path to net-zero emissions.

That is why a re-elected Liberal Government will put in place a decisive plan to ensure the oil and gas sector reaches net-zero emissions by 2050.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Make sure the oil and gas sector reduces emissions at a pace and scale needed to achieve net-zero by 2050, with 5-year targets to stay on track to achieving this shared goal. And driving down pollution starts with ensuring that pollution from the oil and gas sector doesn't go up from current levels.
- Set 2025 and 2030 milestones based on the advice of the Net-Zero Advisory Body to ensure reduction levels are ambitious and achievable and that the oil and gas sector makes a meaningful contribution to meeting the nation's 2030 climate goals.

Fortunately, Canada's largest oil and gas companies are already committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. These actions will incentivize clean innovation and the adoption of clean technologies, including carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS).

## Cutting Methane Emissions

Methane causes 80 times the amount of warming of carbon dioxide emissions in the first 20 years after being released into the atmosphere. Slashing methane emissions is one of the fastest ways to slow the rate of climate change in our lifetimes. We put in place regulations to make sure oil and gas companies reduce their methane emissions by 40 to 45 % by 2025, relative to 2012 emissions. But we know more needs to be done.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Require oil and gas companies to reduce methane emissions by at least 75% below 2012 levels by 2030 and work to reduce methane emissions across the broader economy.
- Seek similar commitments from other major economies at the upcoming G20 and COP26.

- Make the National Research Council a global centre for excellence on methane detection and elimination, to address the global issues of under-reporting of methane emissions.

## Eliminating Thermal Coal Exports

Science has proven that phasing out coal from the electricity sector is the single most important climate action any country can take. It also means cleaner, healthier air for everyone.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Ban thermal coal exports from and through Canada no later than 2030.

## Eliminating Subsidies and Public Financing for Fossil Fuel

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Accelerate our G20 commitment to eliminate fossil fuel subsidies from 2025 to 2023.
- Develop a plan to phase-out public financing of the fossil fuel sector, including from Crown corporations, consistent with our commitment to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

## Our Clean Power Advantage

Canada has one of the cleanest power grids in the world. But a key challenge is that we do not have a national power grid. And our regional grids do not all connect. This limits the reach of our clean power sources. Just as past Canadian governments invested in the national railway and highways, we can partner with provinces and territories to develop a truly national power grid that will secure affordable and net-zero power for all Canadians and create good jobs.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Introduce a Clean Electricity Standard that will set Canada on a path to cut more emissions by 2030 and to achieve a 100% net-zero emitting electricity system by 2035.
- Develop additional investment tax credits for a range of renewable energy and battery storage solutions, to accelerate the deployment of clean energy.
- Create a Pan-Canadian Grid Council to promote infrastructure investments, smart grids, grid integration, and electricity sector innovation with the goal of making Canada the most reliable, cost-effective, and carbon-free electricity producer in the world.

This will build on work we have already done to make clean power more readily available, including working with Atlantic Canada and Quebec on the Atlantic Loop, to improve how electricity is generated and moved within and between those provinces.

## Green Jobs

Canadian green jobs are booming in sectors new and old, in regions across the country. Auto workers are manufacturing electric vehicles. Construction workers and tradespeople are building homes with new energy efficient materials and methods. Mill and smelter workers are making some of the cleanest aluminum and steel in the world. Aerospace workers are building the next-generation electric planes and helicopters. Small business entrepreneurs are dreaming up the next big idea to ensure we have a better, net-zero future.

The Conservatives want to freeze the economy in a time gone by. But in 2021, job growth means green growth. Anyone with a credible plan for the economy must have a credible plan to seize the opportunities of the green economy.

## Accelerating Our Net-zero Industrial Transformation

Through the Net Zero Accelerator, Liberals have a plan to invest \$8 billion to accelerate green jobs and Canada's industrial transformation, with an extra \$1.75 billion of targeted support for the aerospace sector to accelerate the transition. These funds have already unlocked private investments that will reduce our GHG emissions by up to 6 million tonnes per year. This is equivalent to taking more than 1.9 million passenger vehicles off the road.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Advance green industrial strategies and continue investing funds from the Net Zero Accelerator in strategic opportunities and make sure that Canada claims more than our fair share of growing clean growth opportunities.

## A Retrofit Economy that Cuts Pollution and Creates Jobs

The more energy efficient we can make our homes and buildings, the lower our monthly bills are and the less we pollute.

In order to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, we have to retrofit almost every building in Canada. This presents a real opportunity to kickstart a vibrant retrofit economy, with good middle class jobs in all our communities.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to help Canadians improve the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce their energy bills, providing grants of up to \$5,000 for home retrofits and interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 for deep retrofits.
- Launch a National Net-zero Emissions Building Strategy, which will chart a path to net-zero emissions from buildings by 2050 with ambitious milestones along the way.
- Accelerate the development of the national net-zero emissions model building code for 2025 adoption.
- Accelerate the transition from fossil fuel-based heating systems to electrification through incentives and standards, including investing \$250 million to help low-income Canadians get off home-heating oil.
- Require EnerGuide labeling of homes at the time of sale.
- Create a Low-Carbon Building Materials Innovation Hub to work directly with entrepreneurs, municipalities, provinces and territories, and Indigenous governments to ensure Canadian innovations are best positioned to succeed.
- Enhance investments in the Forest Industry Transformation program, working with partners to create jobs in the forest-based economy and bring forward new innovations in sustainable, low-carbon building materials.
- Launch a community-led net-zero homes initiative that supports projects that pursue multiple concurrent retrofits in a community or neighbourhood, to reduce overall costs. This initiative will be modeled on the Dutch "Energiesprong" program.

## Zero Emissions Vehicles

Almost a quarter of our emissions come from the transportation sector, and half of these emissions come from the cars and trucks that get Canadians around everyday. We know action is needed to reduce pollution from transportation. That's why we launched the iZEV program in 2019 to provide purchase rebates of up to \$5000 to Canadians who want to get behind the wheel of an electric vehicle. And this June we set a mandatory target that all new light-duty cars and passenger trucks sales be zero-emissions by 2035, accelerating Canada's target by 5 years.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Invest an additional \$1.5 billion in the iZev rebate program and broaden eligibility to a wider range of vehicle types, including used vehicles, to help over 500,000 Canadians get into a zero emissions vehicle.

- Invest an additional \$700 million to add 50,000 new electric vehicle chargers and hydrogen stations to Canada's network.
- Work with industry, labour, and other stakeholders to develop a regulated sales requirement that at least 50% of all new light duty vehicle sales be zero emissions vehicles in 2030.
- Provide \$100 million to make sure existing buildings can install charging stations, removing a barrier to adopting a clean car.
- Double down to attract investments and jobs in manufacturing zero emissions vehicles in Canada through the \$8 billion Net Zero Accelerator
- Accelerate our Greening Government commitments to electrify the entire federal fleet of light duty vehicles by 2030, up from our existing target of 80% by 2030.
- Require 100% of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles sales to be zero emission by 2040, where feasible.
- Invest \$200 million to retrofit large trucks currently on the road to cut pollution now.

### Critical Minerals and Batteries

As the market for batteries grows, the global race is on to attract new manufacturing facilities and jobs. Canada has all the right ingredients to win the race.

We initiated the Mines to Mobility Strategy to attract investments that build up Canada's battery supply chain, from mining and processing raw materials to assembling road-ready electric vehicles. In just the last year, the strategy has attracted \$6 billion in planned investments in Canada's automotive sector.

#### **To position Canada as a world leader in the global battery economy, a re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Build an end-to-end, sustainable battery supply chain.
- Work to attract near-term multi-billion anchor investments in key areas like minerals processing and cell manufacturing.
- Double the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for materials on the Canadian list of critical minerals which are essential to the manufacturing of vital clean technologies, such as batteries.
- Establish Canada as a global leader in battery recycling and reuse, to improve the environmental impact and build a competitive advantage.
- Launch a Canada-U.S. Battery Alliance for stakeholders in both countries to identify shared priorities and create environmental requirements that lead to an integrated, world-scale battery supply chain

- Work with stakeholders to identify new strategic priorities, including future battery types, ways to optimize batteries for cold weather performance and long-duration storage, and applications in heavy-duty transportation.
- Address gaps in training and upskilling to ensure that all Canadians workers can take advantage of battery industry opportunities.
- Use all tools, including the *Investment Canada Act*, to ensure the protection and development of our critical minerals from both an economic and national security perspective.

### Ensuring Workers and Communities Prosper as We Move to Net Zero

Our goal is a future in which the energy workers and communities that built this country have even greater opportunities than they do today.

As we move towards a net-zero future, it is estimated that the growth in clean energy jobs will more than offset the declines in fossil fuel sectors. There will be opportunities for workers to drill for geothermal energy, install solar panels, and build carbon capture and storage projects. And a diverse and growing economy will create opportunities outside the energy sector, too.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Establish a \$2 billion Futures Fund for Alberta, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador that will be designed in collaboration with local workers, unions, educational institutions, environmental groups, investors, and Indigenous peoples who know their communities best. We will support local and regional economic diversification and specific place-based strategies.
- Move forward with Just Transition Legislation, guided by the feedback we receive from workers, unions, Indigenous peoples, communities, and provinces and territories.
- Create more opportunities for women, LGBTQ2 and other underrepresented people in the energy sector. Because when we include everyone, we get the best.
- Launch a Clean Jobs Training Centre to help industrial, skill and trade workers across sectors to upgrade or gain new skills to be on the leading edge of zero carbon industry.

### Making Sure Canada is a World-Leader in Clean Technology

Creative solutions and innovative technologies are key to helping the world tackle climate change, plastic waste,

biodiversity loss, and other environmental challenges we face.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Develop an investment tax credit of up to 30% for a range of clean technologies including low carbon and net-zero technologies with input from external experts on what technologies should be covered.
- Build on existing advisory services for emerging clean technology firms to guide them, from formation to export, on the opportunities and challenges before them.
- Provide support and incentives for domestic procurement of Canadian clean technology. By partnering with other levels of government and existing large companies, we can help emerging Canadian clean technology firms secure customers here in Canada.
- Triple funding for cleantech on farms, including for renewable energy, precision agriculture, and energy efficiency.
- Partner with post-secondary institutions and Indigenous organizations to accelerate the creation and growth of Indigenous clean technology businesses.

### Growing the Market for Made-in-Canada Low Carbon Products

Canada is home to some of the cleanest products in the world thanks to our low-carbon electricity grid, abundant natural resources, and ability to draw on cutting-edge research and technology. Since 2017, our Greening Government Strategy has been prioritizing low-carbon building materials in federal infrastructure projects, greening the federal government's vehicle fleet, and creating data-sharing tools for low-carbon products.

**To expand this work beyond the federal government, a re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Introduce a new Buy Clean Strategy to support and prioritize the use of made-in-Canada low-carbon products in public and private infrastructure projects.

### Sustainable Finance

We know that Canada needs to be at the vanguard of the global transition to a low-carbon economy. It is essential for our prosperity today, and for the next generation of Canadians. Markets, investors, and governments are looking to take advantage of the trillion-dollar economic opportunity that comes with the low-carbon transition. We need to galvanize private sector resources to build a climate-resilient economy.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Deliver on the commitment that we made with G7 Finance Ministers earlier this year to move toward mandatory climate-related financial disclosures that provide consistent and decision-useful information for market participants and that are based on the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) framework, in cooperation with provinces and territories.
- Require climate-related financial disclosures and the development of net-zero plans for federally regulated institutions, which includes financial institutions, pension funds, and government agencies.
- Issue green bonds, annually, worth a minimum of \$5 billion.
- Develop a climate data strategy to ensure that the private sector and communities have access to decision-useful climate information and to inform infrastructure investments.
- Work with financial experts through the Sustainable Finance Action Council to develop a net-zero capital allocation strategy to move capital into the types of investments needed to accelerate Canada's transition to a prosperous net-zero future.

### Better, Cleaner Transportation

People are looking for faster, cheaper, cleaner ways of getting around. Better transit makes life better for everyone.

Our investments in public transit up until this year were ten times those of Stephen Harper's. We were just getting started. Earlier this year we invested an additional \$14.9 billion, including establishing Canada's first permanent public transit fund.

**A re-elected Liberal government will continue to transform public transit in Canada by:**

- Accelerating major public transit projects.
- Supporting the switch to zero-emission buses.
- Developing rural transit solutions.
- Advancing a National Active Transportation Strategy to build bike lanes, wider sidewalks, pathways, and multi-use trails.
- Committing to make High Frequency Rail a reality. We will move forward with the project in the Toronto to Quebec City corridor, with stops in Trois-Rivieres and Peterborough, among others, using electrified technology. We will launch a procurement process by the end of 2021 and also explore other opportunities to extend the rail toward London and Windsor.

## An Adaptation Plan to Protect Against the Impacts of Climate Change

The extreme heatwaves and wildfires across Canada this summer have underscored the urgency of fighting and adapting to climate change. Canadians need leadership that is prepared to face up to the realities of climate change and to take strong action to prepare for future extreme weather events and keep Canadians safe and healthy.

### Fighting Wildfires

**To protect Canadians from wildfires, a re-elected Liberal government will dedicate \$500 million to:**

- Train 1,000 new community-based firefighters to ensure we are ready for future fire seasons.
- Work with provinces and territories to provide firefighters with the equipment they need to fight fires and stay safe, like Canadian-made planes to increase provincial aerial firefighting capacity.
- Support and expand Indigenous-led fire crews and build capacity to better incorporate Indigenous traditional knowledge strategies in fire management

### Protecting Our Homes and Communities from the Impacts of Climate Change

Strong action is needed to help Canadians prepare for flood, wildfire, drought, coastline erosion, and other extreme weather events worsened by climate change. We have taken real action to protect our environment and grow our economy, but we know that we need to be bigger and bolder in the fight against climate change. The safety and security of Canadians is at stake.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Support retrofits and upgrades to protect against extreme weather.
- Complete our work with provinces and territories to develop flood maps for higher-risk areas in the next three years.
- Create a nation-wide flood ready portal so that Canadians have the information they need to make decisions on where and how to build their homes and communities, and how they can protect their homes and communities from flood risk.
- Take action to protect homeowners who are at high risk of flooding and don't have adequate insurance protection, by creating a low-cost national flood insurance program.

- Develop strategies, in partnership with the insurance industry and private sector to lower insurance premiums by identifying cost-effective ways to better protect communities and homes from climate impacts and save people money.
- Expand the office of the National Security and Intelligence Advisor to keep Canadians safe as climate change increasingly impacts our domestic and global contexts.
- Create a Climate Adaptation Home Rating Program that will be developed as a companion to the EnerGuide home energy audits.
- Expand the eligibility requirements of the CMHC deep home retrofit program and Canada Greener Home Grants to include more climate resilience measures.
- Finalize Canada's first-ever National Adaptation Strategy by the end of 2022, which will set clear targets and indicators to measure progress on—and strengthen the business case for—adaptation.
- Finalize and applying a climate lens to ensure climate adaptation and mitigation considerations are integrated throughout federal government decision-making.
- Work with provinces, territories, and farmers—including Indigenous and young farmers—to update business risk management agriculture programs to fully integrate climate risk management, environmental practices, and climate readiness.

### Climate-Ready Infrastructure

The infrastructure we build today will last decades, to 2050 and beyond. Every project we build—whether a water treatment facility, public transit project, or community rec centre—has to reduce pollution and be built to be resilient to the impact of climate change such as flooding, fires, coastal erosion, and extreme heat. But to do this, project builders need access to the right resources and knowledge.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Create open-access climate toolkits to help infrastructure owners and investors develop projects that ensure Canada is on the path to a net-zero emissions and resilient future. Building on our existing climate lens requirement for federally funded infrastructure projects, these toolkits will offer resiliency assessment methodologies, opportunities for incorporating low-carbon technologies and building materials, and carbon-emission calculation guidelines.

## Protecting Nature

Nature is central to our lives, our communities, and our national identity.

Globally, nature is under enormous stress. Human activity has altered three quarters of the earth's surface, creating a biodiversity crisis that is threatening a million species worldwide and uprooting the essential nature we need to absorb and store carbon.

We have a responsibility to act, to protect this nature for today and for the next generations of Canadians.

### More National Parks and Marine Conservation Areas

To protect and conserve nature across the country, the Liberal government made the two single-largest investments in nature conservation in Canadian history—\$1.3 billion in Budget 2018 and \$3.3 billion in Budget 2021—which will allow us to protect a quarter of our lands and marine areas by 2025.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will build on this progress and continue to protect more nature by:**

- Establishing 10 new national parks and 10 new national marine conservation areas (NMCAs) in the next 5 years—doubling the size of the existing national parks and NMCA system in Canada.
- Working with Indigenous communities on co-management agreements of these national parks and NMCAs.
- Continuing to work with partners to ensure Canada meets its goals to conserve 25% of our lands and waters by 2025 and 30% of each by 2030.
- Working to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 in Canada and achieving a full recovery for nature by 2050. This includes championing this goal internationally to ensure that the world protects the intact nature required to reverse the biodiversity collapse and protect our climate.

### Indigenous-Led Nature Conservation

Indigenous peoples have stewarded these lands and waters since time immemorial. That's why we launched the Indigenous Guardians pilot in 2017, and helped establish Canada's first-ever Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Work with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to support new Indigenous Guardians programs and establish new Indigenous Guardians Networks.
- Support Indigenous communities to build capacity to establish more IPCAs.

## Urban National Parks and Access to Nature

During the pandemic, Canadians have escaped their homes by going outdoors, rediscovering the benefits to health and well-being of green spaces and waterfronts. We think everyone in Canada should be able to access nature, wherever they live.

#### **To ensure that everyone has access to green spaces in their communities, a re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Establish at least one new national urban park in every province and territory, with a target of establishing 15 national urban parks by 2030.
- Invest an additional \$200 million in the Natural Infrastructure Fund to continue funding community-led public green space projects in collaboration with municipalities, Indigenous communities, and non-profit organizations.
- Continue building and connecting the TransCanada Trail, and creating new opportunities for Canadians to access it, by increasing annual funding to \$13 million, growing the trail network by 10% helping create 10,000 jobs over the next five years.
- Build a national trails tourism strategy and increase youth employment opportunities in partnership with Destination Canada to enhance local economic development opportunities.
- Every Canadian should have access to nature and green space in their community. Simply put, it's part of who we are.

### Helping Protect Old Growth Forests in British Columbia

Permanently protecting more old growth forests in British Columbia will help fight climate change and ensure that these iconic and globally significant ecosystems can thrive for generations.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will help support British Columbia protect these iconic and ecologically important old growth forests by:**

- Reaching a nature agreement with the province of British Columbia to protect more of the province's old growth forests and expand protected areas.
- Establishing a \$50 million B.C. Old Growth Nature Fund and working with partners to attract additional funding to further support the protection of important old growth forests.
- Ensuring First Nations, local communities, and workers are partners in shaping the path forward on nature protection.

## Natural Climate Solutions

Resilient and protected nature is essential for fighting climate change. Nature offers a two-fold benefit, capturing and storing carbon from the atmosphere and protecting communities from climate change's impact by acting as a buffer to flooding and extreme heat.

### To continue protecting more nature and fighting climate change, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue planting 2 billion trees across the country, creating roughly 4,300 jobs.
- Restore and enhance more wetlands, grasslands, and peatlands, to capture and store carbon.
- Increase support to farmers to develop and adopt agricultural management practices to reduce emissions, store carbon in healthy soil, and enhance resiliency. Cover cropping, rotational grazing and nitrogen management are all part of a green farming plan for Canada.

This plan will not only protect nature and help fight climate change, but also create jobs, help farmers, and help preserve biodiversity across the country.

## Clean and Healthy Oceans

Oceans are an important part of our culture and a lot of us rely on healthy oceans and clean coastlines. That's why we launched the Oceans Protection Plan in 2016, which has put in place world-leading shipping safety; strengthened protections for our coasts and marine life, including endangered whales, and opened and reopened Coast Guard stations, to keep people safe.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Renew and expand the Coastal Restoration fund so that we can restore aquatic habitats.
- Make new investments in areas like tidal wetlands, seagrass meadows, and riparian habitats that have a high potential to absorb and store carbon.
- Modernize the *Oceans Act* to explicitly consider climate change impacts on marine ecosystems and species in regional ocean management with measurable progress indicators tied to management objectives.
- Expand the Ghost Gear Program to continue to clean up our oceans and coasts from lost and abandoned fishing gear and oceans plastics that endanger sea life, impact fish stocks, and pollute the ocean.
- Invest \$50 million over the next 5 years to support community shoreline and oceans plastic cleanup.

- Create a national, interdisciplinary working group around climate-resilient ocean conservation planning.
- Expand climate vulnerability work to better inform marine conservation planning and management.
- Continue to protect key marine species, including the Southern Resident Killer Whale, the North Atlantic Right Whale, and the St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga.
- Advance the historic \$647 million Pacific Salmon Strategy launched in June and make new investments to conserve and restore Wild Atlantic Salmon.

## Freshwater

Fresh, clean water sustains life. But while it seems abundant and constantly flowing, it is ultimately a finite natural resource. The protection of our lakes, rivers and underground aquifers is a critical concern, especially as pollution continues to impact our major waterways, and as droughts and floods become more frequent and severe.

### To tackle all these complex challenges together, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish and fully fund a Canada Water Agency in 2022, working with partners to safeguard our freshwater resources for generations to come, including by supporting provinces, territories, and Indigenous partners, in developing and updating river basin and large watershed agreements.
- Modernize the 50-year-old *Canada Water Act* to reflect our new freshwater reality, including addressing climate change, Indigenous water rights.
- Implement a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, including an historic investment of \$1 billion over 10 years. This plan will provide essential funding to protect and restore large lakes and river systems, starting with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System, Lake Simcoe, the Lake Winnipeg Basin, the Fraser River Basin, and the Mackenzie River Basin.
- Invest \$37.5 million in the Experimental Lakes Area in northern Ontario, the world's only large-scale centre for freshwater science and which the Harper government tried to close. This new funding will also support international freshwater science and research by encouraging international cooperation efforts, including that with the African Great Lakes.
- Offer willing municipalities means to manage and regulate boating on their lakes and rivers so that they promote free access, while ensuring the safety of boaters and the protection of the environment.

## Strengthening Canada's Blue Economy

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue working with business, academic institutions, provincial and territorial governments, and leading not-for-profits, including in freshwater economies like the Great Lakes, to ensure Canada is positioned to succeed in the fast-growing global sector of the blue economy.

## Protecting Canadians from Harmful Chemicals and Advancing Environmental Justice

The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the land on which we live is central to our health and well-being. Too often, when toxic substances pollute our environment, it is Indigenous, lower income, or racialized communities that are most likely to suffer the consequences.

### That's why a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Pass a strengthened *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* to protect everyone, including people most vulnerable to harm from toxic substances and those living in communities where exposure is high.
- Recognize the "right to a healthy environment" for the first time in federal law.
- By Spring 2022, move forward with mandatory labelling of chemicals in consumer products, including cosmetics, cleaning products, and flame retardants in upholstery, that may have impacts on our health or environment.
- Increase testing of imported products for compliance with Canadian standards to ensure that they are safe for Canadian consumers and that Canadian producers are not at a disadvantage.
- Table legislation to require the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to examine the link between race, socio-economic status, and exposure to environmental risk, and develop a strategy to address environmental justice.
- Identify and prioritize the clean-up of contaminated sites in areas where Indigenous, racialized, and low-income Canadians live.
- Implement a comprehensive action plan to protect Canadians, including firefighters', from exposure to toxic flame retardants found in household products.

## Reducing Pesticide Risks

When misused, pesticides pose a serious risk to our health and safety, and to the environment that surrounds us all.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Strengthen the *Pest Control Products Act* to better protect our health, wildlife, and the environment.
- Align with world-leading approaches to transparency when reassessing pesticides already on the market and increase opportunities for independent scientists to have input into the decision-making process.
- Invest in further government and independent science, including on water and soil monitoring and on the cumulative effects of multiple pesticides on health and the environment.
- Ensure that the impacts of pesticides on wildlife are fully considered, and support food producers who choose alternative pest management approaches that reduce the need for chemical pesticides.

## Protecting Animals

We need to move forward on improving protections for our animals, and species around the world.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Introduce legislation to end cosmetic testing on animals as soon as 2023 and phase out toxicity testing on animals by 2035.
- Work with partners to curb illegal wildlife trade and end elephant and rhinoceros ivory trade in Canada.
- Introduce legislation to protect animals in captivity.
- Ban the live export of horses for slaughter.
- Work with our partners to help women and children fleeing violence stay united with their companion animals.

## Tackling Plastic Pollution and Building a Circular Economy

Canadians are tired of seeing plastics littering our oceans, lakes, rivers, and parks. That's why we are banning harmful, unrecyclable single-use plastics and have set a goal of eliminating plastic waste by 2030. A circular economy keeps plastics, and other materials, in our economy and out of our environment

### Zero Plastic Waste by 2030

Currently, only 9% of the plastics that we use are recycled, and tonnes of plastics, worth billions of dollars, are being thrown into landfills. Increasing recycling rates and extending the life cycle of plastics isn't just an environmental imperative, it's an economic opportunity.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Require that all plastic packaging in Canada contain at least 50% recycled content by 2030.



- Accelerate the implementation of our zero plastic waste action plan, in partnership with provinces and territories, and ensure Canada's actions are consistent with other leading jurisdictions.
- Continue to work with provinces and territories to ensure that it's producers, not taxpayers, who are responsible for the cost of managing their plastic waste.
- Work with provinces and territories to implement and enforce an ambitious recycling target for plastic beverage bottles.
- Strengthen federal procurement practices to prioritize reusable and recyclable products and support our goal of zero plastic waste.
- Introduce labelling rules that prohibit the use of the chasing-arrows symbol unless 80% of Canada's recycling facilities accept and have reliable end markets for these products.
- Support provincial and territorial producer responsibility efforts by establishing a federal public registry and require producers to annually report the amount, type, and end-of-life management for plastics in the Canadian economy.

### Investing in new Plastic Recycling Innovation

Leading companies have taken up the challenge to build up a circular economy that reduces plastic pollution. To capitalize on this, we need to invest in innovators who are finding new ways to eliminate plastic waste.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Create a new \$100 million infrastructure and innovation fund over the next 5 years that will scale-up and commercialize made-in-Canada technologies and solutions for the reuse and recycling of plastics.

### Supporting International Action to Combat Plastic Pollution

Since 2015, Canada has demonstrated international leadership in combatting plastic pollution. We launched the Oceans Plastics Charter which has been endorsed by 27 governments and over 70 businesses and organizations. We also invested \$100 million to help developing countries prevent plastic waste from polluting our oceans and shorelines.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Accelerate the global shift to a circular economy as host of this year's World Circular Economy Forum.

- Build on the Ocean Plastics Charter by working with leading countries on the development of a new global agreement on plastics.

### A Right to Repair Your Home Appliances

The lifetime of our home appliances has dramatically reduced over the past decade and it is often cheaper to replace it than repair it. That means people are paying more for appliances they are using for less time. And more and more appliances are ending up in landfills. This is costing the middle class and creating a real environmental problem. It shouldn't be this way.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Implement a "right to repair" to extend the life of home appliances, particularly electronics, by requiring manufacturers to supply repair manuals and spare parts and facilitate their replication after the part is no longer produced.
- Introduce a new 15% tax credit to cover the cost of home appliance repairs performed by technicians (up to \$500).
- Introduce a bill that includes provisions to better inform citizens of the environmental impacts of consumer products.
- Require businesses to inform Canadians of the environmental impacts of consumer products.
- Amend the *Copyright Act* to ensure that its provisions cannot prevent the repair of digital devices and systems, even when nothing is being copied or distributed.

### Tackling Food Waste

Reducing food waste in Canada can help save consumers money, improve food security, support efficiency in the agriculture and food sector, and significantly cut our pollution.

We created Canada's first ever Food Waste Reduction Challenge, investing \$20 million into innovative ways across the economy to cut food waste.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Create a new No-Waste Food Fund to help build a circular food economy in Canada where no food is wasted, from farm to table. The fund will help all players along the food supply chain to commercialize and adopt ways to eliminate, reduce, or repurpose food waste. We will continue to partner with, and support, community-based food security organizations to make sure all Canadians have access to healthy food.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

The indirect and long-term benefits of the measures outlined in this section are expected to be gender balanced as climate change directly and indirectly affects the health and wellbeing of all individuals and communities. Nonetheless, coastal, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities, as well as minority groups, low-income communities, women, youth, and elderly people are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Climate change is a global reality, and our policies will have an indirect impact on individuals internationally. For example, according to the United Nation's Development Program, 80% of people displaced by climate change are women.

We are committed to facilitating a just and equitable transition to clean growth. 75% of workers in the mining, oil and gas sectors are men. Our green jobs and clean tech investment plan applies an intersectional lens so that women, Indigenous people, and youth can benefit from these opportunities.

Census data shows that women, people of colour, and low-wage workers are the predominant transit riders, so accelerating major public transit projects would be directly beneficial to them. Those projects will be developed using an intersectional lens to ensure accessibility, safety, and fairness.

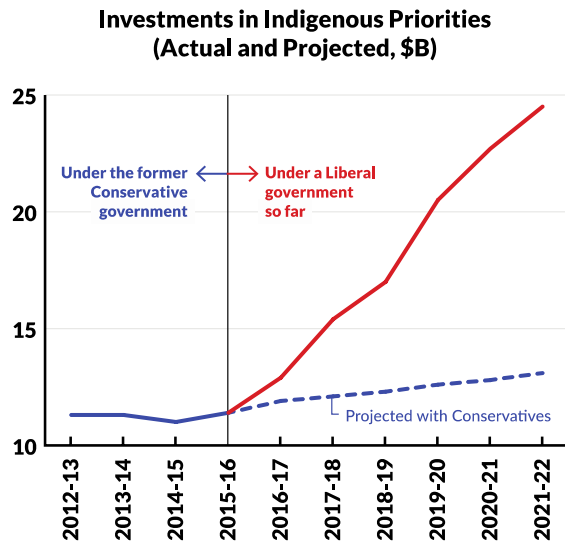


**CHAPTER SIX**

**Moving Forward on  
Reconciliation with  
Indigenous Peoples**

## Key Actions to Support Indigenous Peoples Since 2015

- ✓ Made historic investments to support Indigenous Peoples from coast to coast to coast.



Source: Budget 2021, *A Recovery Plan for Jobs, Growth, and Resilience*

- ✓ Worked across the federal government, and with our partners, so that 80% of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action involving the Government of Canada are now completed or well underway.
- ✓ Working with residential school survivors, Indigenous Peoples, provinces, territories, and educators to incorporate aboriginal and treaty rights, the history of residential schools and Indigenous contributions into the school curricula.
- ✓ Introduced Bill C-15 to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which received Royal Assent on June 21, 2021, National Indigenous Peoples Day.
- ✓ Passed the *Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Children, Youth and Families*, which affirms the inherent right of First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services.
- ✓ Built and refurbished almost 200 schools so that tens of thousands of Indigenous kids have a better education.

- ✓ Continued to invest in Child and Family Services including an additional \$3 billion to support communities in providing child and family services.
- ✓ Launched the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Released Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ People this June, which outlines concrete actions we will take to end systemic racism, sexism, and economic inequality that has perpetuated violence against Indigenous women and girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.
- ✓ Invested in Violence Prevention to provide shelter and support for Indigenous women, children and 2SLGBTQIA+ People facing gender-based violence.
- ✓ Accelerated the government's 10-year commitment to close the infrastructure gap in Indigenous communities.
- ✓ Invested over \$4 billion in 535 water infrastructure projects, including 99 new plants and 436 upgrades.
- ✓ Lifted 109 long-term water advisories, including reaching the milestone of lifting 105 water advisories this past April, matching the number in place when Liberals committed to eliminating all long-term drinking water advisories on public systems on reserves, a testament to five and a half years of real progress.
- ✓ Prevented 188 short-term drinking water advisories from becoming long-term.
- ✓ Invested to help Indigenous women and girls participate in sports.
- ✓ Made sure First Nations, Inuit, and Métis were prioritized for vaccination in all jurisdictions and supported engagement and vaccination campaigns.
- ✓ Announced \$5.4 billion of targeted COVID-19 support for Indigenous and Northern communities and organizations since March 2020.
- ✓ Committed to making high-quality health care designed to meet the unique needs of Indigenous communities a reality.

# Moving Forward on Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed fundamental gaps in our society. Challenges that existed before the pandemic remain and others have been exacerbated. These are especially felt by Indigenous peoples who face overcrowded housing, lack of access to health services, and systemic discrimination. Recent events have shone a light on the tragic legacy of colonialism. We must work to address these difficult issues and move forward on the path of reconciliation, together.

## Addressing the Legacy of Colonialism and Residential Schools

The legacy of residential schools is a dark chapter in Canada's history. Thousands of children were sent to these schools, ripped from their homes and communities, deprived of their cultures and robbed of their languages. Tragically, many of these children never came home.

While we cannot bring back those who were lost, we can—and we will—tell the truth of these injustices, support communities and survivors, and forever honour their memory.

We have and we will continue to support and provide funding to Indigenous communities: in their work to uncover burial grounds; for commemoration ceremonies, honouring memorials, and re-burial in their home communities; and to manage the buildings of former residential schools, such as demolition, rehabilitation, or construction of new facilities.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue work to build a national monument in Ottawa to honour residential school survivors and all the children who were taken from their families and communities.
- Move forward on work with Indigenous partners to appoint a Special Interlocutor who will work with Indigenous communities, provincial and territorial governments, to develop the necessary legal and regulatory framework to advance justice regarding unmarked graves and make recommendations relating to federal laws, regulations, policies, and practices surrounding unmarked and undocumented graves and burial sites at residential schools.

## Support for Mental Health

A critical component of our continued support will be expanding the availability of culturally appropriate, trauma-informed mental health support and services.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Commit an additional \$1.4 billion for a distinctions-based mental health and wellness strategy with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, expanding on our recent commitment of \$597.6 million, for a total investment of \$2 billion over five years.

We understand that this work will take time and will need to be guided by communities, survivors, and their families.

## Uncovering Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites at Other Federally Run Institutions

Residential schools were not the only federal institutions Indigenous peoples were forced to attend. Institutions such as Day Schools and Indian Hospitals also furthered colonial and racist policies of assimilation. These sites should also be explored to uncover remains of ancestors and loved ones.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Provide the necessary supports for communities who wish to continue to undertake the work of burial searches at the former sites of these institutions.

## National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation was established in response to the *Calls to Action* of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. The Centre is a critical hub for research, teaching, and healing, particularly in light of the recent findings of unmarked graves at sites of former residential schools.

### To support the continued work of the Centre, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Provide funding towards the construction of a permanent home for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

- Provide sustained financial support for the Centre for core operations in fulfilling the mandate issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission with dedicated support for the work on Missing Children and Unmarked Graves.

We will also continue to accelerate implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Calls to Action*.

## Protecting the Wellbeing of Indigenous Children

Protecting the well-being of Indigenous children has always been a top priority for us. For far too long, Indigenous children have been overrepresented in the child welfare system—part of the troubling legacy of colonialism. All children in Canada deserve to grow up in their communities, immersed in their cultures, and surrounded by loved ones

### Supporting Indigenous Children and Families

Over the last six years, we worked to reduce the number of Indigenous children in care and make sure Indigenous communities have the support they need to keep families together.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to fully implement the *Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Children, Youth and Families* and continue to support communities looking to lift up jurisdiction over child and family services.
- Continue to reform child and family services in Indigenous communities.
- Continue to work with Indigenous communities to help children and families stay together.
- Permanently ensure that First Nations youth who reach the age of majority receive the supports they need for up to two additional years and implement the orders of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

As Liberals, we agree that First Nations children who suffered harms under the First Nations Child and Family Services program deserve fair and just compensation.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to work with Indigenous partners to ensure fair and equitable compensation for those harmed by the First Nations Child and Family Services program.

### Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care

In 2018, we co-developed Canada's Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework because we believe that programs for Indigenous communities are developed by Indigenous communities, especially when it comes to

children. Every child in Canada should have the best possible start in life. But there is still progress to be made.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Move forward on building an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care system that meets the needs of Indigenous families, wherever they live.
- Ensure more Indigenous families have access to high-quality programming.
- Create 3,300 new spaces.
- Invest in Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern communities.
- Continue to support before and after school care for First Nations children on reserve.

### Making Sure Indigenous Children Get the Care They Need

First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children deserve the same access to health care, social services, and education as every other child in Canada.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to fully fund Jordan's Principle.
- Continue to fully fund Inuit Child First Initiative.
- Continue to work with the Métis Nation to fund the unique needs of Métis children.

### Clean Water

Decades of neglect led to the unacceptable reality of the people who live on First Nations' reserves not having access to safe, clean, and reliable drinking water.

We have taken strong action and invested over \$4 billion in 535 water infrastructure projects, including 99 new water plants and 436 plant upgrades. As a result, Indigenous communities have been able to lift 109 long-term water advisories, which includes lifting all advisories in British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada; prevent 188 short-term advisories from becoming long term ones; provide communities with funding to cover up to 100% of the costs, of maintaining their water infrastructure and ensure clean water for their communities. In every community with a long-term drinking water advisory, there is a project team and action plan in place to resolve it.

We cannot, and will not, abandon our obligation to ensure First Nations peoples on reserve have safe and clean drinking water.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Make any investments necessary to eliminate all remaining advisories.

- Make sure that resources and training are in place to prevent future ones.
- Continue to move forward on our agreement in principle to resolve national class action litigation related to safe drinking water in First Nations communities.
- Maintain our commitment to invest \$6 billion to ensure sustainable access to clean water for First Nations.

## Continuing Progress on Reconciliation and Self-Determination

Since day one, we have been committed to working with Indigenous peoples to build a nation-to-nation, Inuit-Crown, government-to-government relationship that is based on respect, partnership, and the affirmation and recognition of rights. We have made good progress with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation. But this work must continue.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to support Indigenous-led processes for rebuilding and reconstituting nations, advancing self-determination and work in partnership on implementation of treaties, land claim and self-government agreements with appropriate oversight mechanisms to hold the federal government accountable.
- Continue to support First Nations-led processes to transition away from the *Indian Act*.
- Accelerate resolution of outstanding land claims.
- Continue to advance the priorities of Indigenous communities to reclaim full jurisdiction in the areas that matter to them such as child and family services, education, health care, policing, tax, and the administration of justice.
- Further support and fund the revitalization of Indigenous laws, legal systems, and traditions.
- Host a First Ministers Meeting on First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation priorities.

## Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, or UNDRIP, provides a road map to advance lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. That's why we made sure to pass legislation to implement the Declaration here in Canada. But full implementation of the Declaration requires a whole-of-government approach.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Include, in all cabinet ministers' mandate letters, the requirement to implement UNDRIP, and ensure their offices and ministries work alongside Indigenous peoples to advance their rights.

## Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People

The violence endured by generations of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people is a national tragedy. We understand that addressing this tragedy requires a new approach that recognizes the full breadth of the problem and addresses root causes. This year, we released the federal portion of the 2021 National Action Plan, the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People, and have made significant investments to support its implementation.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Accelerate the implementation of the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People with Indigenous partners.
- Accelerate our work with all partners in our collective and shared priorities in the 2021 National Action Plan.
- Create a standing Federal-Provincial-Territorial table on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People to facilitate and coordinate this work.

## Better Housing for Indigenous Peoples

COVID-19 pandemic has further exposed the acute need for safe and affordable housing in Indigenous communities that were already facing housing shortages, overcrowding, and a critical need for repairs.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Invest a further \$2 billion in Indigenous housing for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation, with over half of the funding available by the upcoming summer construction period.
- Co-develop a new Indigenous Urban, Rural, and Northern Housing Strategy with Indigenous partners and organizations that will be a stand-alone companion to the National Housing Strategy, supported by a \$300 million initial investment.
- Co-develop and fund Canada's first-ever National Indigenous Housing Centre, through which Indigenous people will fully oversee federal Indigenous housing programs once fully realized.

- Continue to support the establishment of Indigenous-led institutions in housing and infrastructure, such as the First Nations Infrastructure Institute, that assists First Nations with their infrastructure needs.

### Fair Access to Health Care

Joyce's Principle aims to guarantee to all Indigenous peoples the right of equitable access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services, as well as the right to enjoy the best possible physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Fully implement Joyce's Principle and ensure it guides our work in co-developing distinctions-based Indigenous Health legislation to foster health systems free from racism and discrimination where Indigenous peoples are respected and safe.

### A New Framework for Indigenous Long-term Care

The pandemic has widened existing health gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and highlighted the lack of long-term care services in or near Indigenous communities. In addition, COVID-19 made it even more difficult for Indigenous peoples to access culturally appropriate programming and services. Furthermore, the complexity of various health systems can further impede Indigenous peoples' ability to access the care they deserve. But we know more work is necessary to close the gap.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Co-develop a distinctions-based, community-led, Indigenous Long-term and Continuing Care Framework that prioritizes ensuring Indigenous peoples can receive long-term and continuing care services in or near their own communities and culturally appropriate care and programming, whether they are in urban, rural, and northern areas.
- Bolster Indigenous health system navigators so they can provide dedicated support to Indigenous people and their families to specifically help them navigate services related to long-term and continuing care.

### Helping Indigenous Businesses Grow

We are committed to renewing and strengthening Canada's economic relationship with Indigenous communities including by mandating that First Nations, Inuit, and Métis businesses and entrepreneurs hold at least 5% of the total value of federal procurement contracts.

But often Indigenous businesses face barriers.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Expand the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program to enable businesses to access a new, zero-interest loan when a 10% advance is not possible.
- Create a navigator position to help Indigenous entrepreneurs find programs that apply to their situation.
- Work with all government departments to analyze and, as appropriate, adjust eligibility criteria to ensure that programs are as inclusive as possible.

### Supporting First Nations Priorities

Co-developing and continuing to invest in a distinction-based Mental Health and Wellness Strategy that meets the deep and unique needs of all First Nations to address the ongoing impacts of colonization and residential schools. A co-developed mental health and wellness strategy could also respond to the prevalent opioid crisis, include culturally appropriate wraparound services for addictions and trauma, suicide and life promotion, and the building of treatment centres based on the priorities of First Nation communities.

Working with First Nations to ensure that the *Indigenous Languages Act* continues to be fully implemented, in order to preserve, promote, and revitalize Indigenous languages in Canada, supported with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding.

Working with First Nations to continue to fully implement *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding to support its full implementation.

Continuing – in close collaboration with First Nations – to deliver distinctions-based support in response to COVID-19.

Continuing to develop a new national benefits-sharing framework to ensure that First Nations communities directly benefit from major resource projects in their territories.

We will continue to work in partnership with First Nations through the economic recovery to support the growth of First Nation economies.

Continuing ongoing work with First Nations to redesign federal policies on additions-to-reserves, and the Specific Claims process to provide just and timely resolution.

Fully implementing *An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and co-developing the Action Plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration.



Continuing to work in partnership with First Nations on addressing climate change, specifically in tracking the impacts of climate change on their traditional lands and waters and charting collaborative strategies forward.

Working with First Nations to implement \$2.2 billion over 5 years beginning in 2021-22, and \$160.9 million ongoing, to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people through implementation of the Federal Pathway and the 2021 National Action Plan.

As set out in our permanent bilateral process, we commit to meet regularly with the Assembly of First Nations to make progress on First Nations priorities.

### **Supporting Inuit Priorities**

Work with Inuit to finalize a co-developed Inuit Nunangat Policy and accelerate its implementation.

Co-developing and continuing to invest in a distinction-based Mental Health and Wellness Strategy that meets the deep and unique needs of all Inuit to address the ongoing impacts of colonization and residential schools. A co-developed mental health and wellness strategy could also respond to the prevalent opioid crisis, include culturally appropriate wraparound services for addictions and trauma, suicide, and life promotion, and the building of treatment centres based on the priorities of Inuit communities.

Continuing—in close collaboration with Inuit—to deliver distinctions-based support in response to COVID-19.

Work to establish a new national benefits-sharing framework to ensure that Inuit communities directly benefit from major resource projects in Inuit Nunangat.

We will continue to work in partnership with Inuit through the economic recovery to support the growth of Inuit economies.

Continuing work to fully implement Inuit land claims agreements.

Fully implementing *An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and co-developing the Action Plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration.

Working with Inuit to implement \$2.2 billion over 5 years beginning in 2021-22, and \$160.9 million ongoing, to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people through implementation of the Federal Pathway and the 2021 National Action Plan.

Continuing to support Inuit-specific approaches on the elimination of tuberculosis in Inuit Nunangat.

Continuing to fully implement the *Indigenous Languages Act*, in order to preserve, promote, and revitalize Indigenous languages in Canada, supported with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding.

Working with Inuit to continue to fully implement *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding to support its full implementation.

Continuing to work in partnership with Inuit on addressing climate change, specifically in tracking the impacts of climate change on their traditional lands and waters and charting collaborative strategies forward.

Continuing to work with Inuit to improve food security in Inuit Nunangat, including through the Harvester Support Grant, and amending the Nutrition North Canada program to make the program more transparent and responsive to Inuit needs.

As set out in our permanent bilateral process, we commit to meet regularly through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee to make progress on Inuit priorities.

### **Supporting Métis Nation Priorities**

Continuing to move forward on self-government with Métis Nation partners to implement their visions of self determination by:

Continue working with the Manitoba Métis Federation to move forward on their Manitoba Métis Self Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement.

Continue working with the Métis Nation of Alberta to move forward on their Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement.

Continue working with the Métis Nation of Ontario to move forward on their Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government.

Continue working with the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan to move forward on their Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government.

Moving forward on the Self Government Framework Agreement with the Northwest Territory Métis Nation.

Co-developing and continuing to invest in a distinction-based Mental Health and Wellness Strategy that meets the deep and unique needs of all Métis Nation to address the ongoing impacts of colonization and residential schools. A co-developed mental health and wellness strategy could also respond to the prevalent opioid crisis, include culturally appropriate wraparound services for addictions and trauma, suicide, and life promotion, and the

building of treatment centres based on the priorities of Métis Nation communities.

Working with Métis Nation to ensure that the *Indigenous Languages Act* continues to be fully implemented, in order to preserve, promote, and revitalize Indigenous languages in Canada, supported with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding.

Working with Métis Nation to continue to fully implement *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding to support its full implementation.

Continuing—in close collaboration with Métis Nation—to deliver distinctions-based support in response to COVID-19.

Continuing to develop a new national benefits-sharing framework to ensure that Métis Nation communities directly benefit from major resource projects in their territories.

We will continue to work in partnership with Métis Nation through the economic recovery and to support the growth of Métis Nation economies.

Fully implementing *An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and co-developing the Action Plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration.

Working with Métis Nation to implement \$2.2 billion over 5 years beginning in 2021-22, and \$160.9 million ongoing, to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people through implementation of the Federal Pathway and the 2021 National Action Plan.

Continuing to work in partnership with Métis Nation on addressing climate change, specifically in tracking the impacts of climate change on their traditional lands and waters and charting collaborative strategies forward.

As set out in our permanent bilateral process, we commit to meet regularly with Métis Nation partners to make progress on Métis priorities.

### Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

In 2016, close to 5% of Canada's population self-identified as Indigenous. The Indigenous population is the fastest growing in Canada and is also the youngest population with 44% under the age of 25 in 2016. Our approach to reconciliation takes into account the different lived experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation communities and key socio-economic indicators like income, education, employment, housing, gender, geography, health, and justice.

Indigenous children are significantly overrepresented in the child welfare system. In 2016, Indigenous children represented 7.7% of all children ages 1-14, but they represented 52.2% of children in foster care. The measures to protect the wellness of Indigenous children will most benefit Indigenous children from low-income families and single parent—majority women-led—households.

Intimate partner violence is more prevalent for Indigenous women (61%) and even more prevalent for LGBTQ2 Indigenous women (86%). Additionally, they face challenges in securing housing due to financial insecurity. The lack of accessible and affordable housing means Indigenous women in abusive relationships may choose to stay in an unsafe environment.

A close-up portrait of Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a dark blue tie with small white polka dots. A microphone is visible in front of him, partially obscured by the text.

**CHAPTER SEVEN**

# **A Stronger Canada**

# A Stronger Canada

Peace, order, and good government. These are foundational principles of Canada. Canada needs leadership that won't back down in the face of rising extremism. That will take action to put an end to gun violence in our communities. That will hold our institutions to the highest standards. And that will make sure Canada stands strong and upholds our values on the world stage.

## A Canada Where Everyone Feels Safe

Around the world, there has been a troubling rise in hate-motivated crimes and, tragically, Canada is no exception. Canadians have been devastated by recent crimes driven by Islamophobia, antisemitism, homophobia, transphobia, and anti-Black, anti-Asian, anti-Indigenous, and anti-Arab racism. This is not who we are. We need to take a strong stand to make sure all Canadians feel safe.

### Key Actions to Build Safer Communities, Since 2015

- ✓ Banned assault-style firearms in Canada to remove dangerous firearms from our communities.
- ✓ Launched Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy
- ✓ Hosted a National Summit on Antisemitism and a National Summit on Islamophobia.
- ✓ Provided funding for communities at risk of hate-motivated crime to enhance security at places of worship, school, and other community gathering places.

## Ending Gun Violence

Our communities should be safe and peaceful places to live and raise children, but American-style gun violence is rising. 2019 saw the rate of firearm-related offences rise for the fifth straight year, and the homicide rate was the highest in a decade, with 40% of homicides involving firearms. That is why, in May 2020, we took action to put a ban on the use, sale, or import of assault weapons most used in mass shootings and implement a buyback program for owners.

At the same time, we are investing in prevention efforts and are providing \$250 million directly to municipalities and Indigenous communities to give at-risk youth the opportunity to be engaged in activities to stop the spread of gang activity.

Conservatives vowed to repeal this ban with the support of the gun lobby, which would resume the proliferation of assault-style firearms in Canada. Liberals believe even stronger action is needed to get weapons designed for

mass casualties off our streets and out of our communities.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Toughen our laws on banned assault weapons by making it mandatory for owners to either sell the firearm back to the government for destruction and fair compensation or have it rendered fully and permanently inoperable at government expense.
- Crack down on high-capacity magazines and require that long gun magazines capable of holding more than 5 rounds be permanently altered so that they can never hold more than 5 rounds
- Ban the sale or transfer of magazines that could hold more than a legal number of bullets, regardless of how they were intended to be used by the manufacturer.
- Set aside a minimum of \$1 billion to support provinces or territories who implement a ban on handguns across their jurisdiction, to keep our cities and communities safe.

We would also continue to combat gender-based violence and fight gun smuggling with measures we have introduced such as:

- Lifetime background checks to prevent those with a history of abuse against their spouse or partner from obtaining a firearms license.
- "Red flag" laws that would allow immediate removal of firearms if that person is a threat to themselves or others, particularly to their spouse or partner.
- Increased maximum penalties for firearms trafficking and smuggling from 10 to 14 years imprisonment.
- Enhancing the capacity of the RCMP and the Canada Border Services Agency to combat the illegal importation of firearms.

Conservatives do not support these reasonable and important measures and will weaken protections that currently keep Canadians safe.

## A National Action Plan on Combatting Hate by 2022

The troubling rise in hate crimes is an issue that should deeply concern all of us. Leadership must begin with

acknowledging the realities of racism and prejudice, something not all parties are prepared to do. Only when we acknowledge the extent of the problem can we begin addressing it head on.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Present a National Action Plan on Combating Hate by 2022 as part of a renewed Anti-Racism Strategy. It will include recommendations from the Antisemitism and Islamophobia summits and specific action on combatting hate crimes in Canada, including possible amendments to the *Criminal Code*, training and tools for public safety agencies, and investments to support digital literacy and prevent radicalization to violence.

### Continuing the Fight Against Systemic Racism and Discrimination

All Canadians need to stand up and work together eradicate racism, discrimination, and xenophobia. We will continue to take meaningful steps to tackle systemic racism and discrimination ensuring that we build a more inclusive society where every Canadian, no matter their background, can reach their full potential.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Strengthen and boost funding to both the Anti-Racism Strategy and the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat.
- Build on the progress made over the last 6 years and increase funding to multicultural community programs. These programs play an important role in supporting community organizations across the country as they fight racism.

### Protecting Canadians from Online Harms

Too many people in Canada are victims of hate speech, which is often amplified and spread on social media. Canadians want action and they want leadership that will put a stop to harmful online content and hold platforms accountable.

**A re-elected Liberal Government will:**

- Introduce legislation within its first 100 days to combat serious forms of harmful online content, specifically hate speech, terrorist content, content that incites violence, child sexual abuse material and the non-consensual distribution of intimate images. This would make sure that social media platforms and other online services are held accountable for the content that they host. Our legislation will recognize the importance of freedom of expression for all Canadians and will take a balanced and targeted approach to tackle extreme and harmful speech.
- Strengthen the *Canada Human Rights Act* and the *Criminal Code* to more effectively combat online hate.

### Support for Survivors of Hate-Motivated Crimes

From hateful vandalism, to violent attacks, these horrific actions can leave debilitating, lifelong scars if victims can't access the care they need. Anyone who has been victims of hate-motivated crimes should not have the worry about having resources to make a full and complete recovery.

**A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Establish a National Support Fund for Survivors of Hate-Motivated Crimes to help survivors with any uninsured costs that they have had to bear such as, mental health care, physiotherapy, medical equipment, and paramedical services.

### Fair Justice and Policing

All Canadians have right to fair and just treatment before the law. But discrimination and outdated practices prevent true access to Justice. Canadians deserve better.

### Key Action to make Justice and Policing Fair, Since 2015

- ✓ Reinstated the Court Challenges Program, which provides financial support to Canadians in important court cases that advance equality or language rights.
- ✓ Passed legislation mandating training for all federally appointed judges in sexual assault law and social contexts, including systemic racism and discrimination.
- ✓ Put in place Impact of Race and Culture Assessments which call on sentencing judges to consider the disadvantages and system racism that contributed to racialized Canadians' interactions with the criminal justice system.

- ✓ Passed legislation on medical assistance in dying.
- ✓ Committed funding for a new national program to provide survivors of sexual assault free Independent legal services.
- ✓ Clamped down on human trafficking.
- ✓ Put in place stronger protections against intimate partner violence.
- ✓ Introduced Bill C-22 which reforms mandatory minimum sentences and addresses systemic discrimination and overrepresentation in the criminal justice system.
- ✓ Funded 25 additional drug treatment courts, providing access to programs including substance use treatment and social services support.
- ✓ Supported implementation of Gladue Principles in the justice system and eliminated peremptory challenges.

### RCMP Reform

All Canadians should be treated fairly and safely by our public safety agencies. However, Black and Indigenous people are far more likely to have fatal encounters with the RCMP. Furthermore, the RCMP was revealed as having limited external oversight and found, in a 2020 report, to have a culture that permits harassment within its own ranks.

As our federal law enforcement agency, with a motto "*Maintiens le droit*," we must hold it to a highest standard, and ensure that it protects and respects all Canadians. This means ensuring stronger external oversight and bringing about cultural change to eliminate harassment within its own ranks.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will reform the RCMP with seven key measures:**

- Enhance the current Management Advisory Board to be in line with other Canadian police services to have full oversight over the RCMP.
- Bring forward clear timelines for compliance with the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission recommendations.
- Support an external review of the RCMP's sanctions and disciplinary regime to review the adequacy of existing sanctions and whether sanctions are being properly applied.
- Prohibit RCMP against using neck restraints and prohibit the use of tear gas or rubber bullets for crowd control.

- Make the new Independent Centre for Harassment Resolution fully external to the RCMP to ensure there can be no conflicts of interest while reviewing complaints.
- Commit to a full external review of current de-escalation training to ensure this training results in the safest possible outcomes for both officers and Canadians.
- Work with the provinces, territories, and municipalities that contract RCMP services to make the service better connected to community social support workers.

### Black Canadians Justice Strategy

Anti-Black racism and discrimination are a reality in Canada, and they are acutely felt in Canada's policing and criminal justice system. Black Canadians are significantly overrepresented in the federal prison system, accounting for 7.3% of the prison population when they represent only 3.5% of the greater population. The work of grassroots organizations like Black Lives Matters have raised their voices to bring global attention to this issue. Systemic racism, discrimination, and violence against Black Canadians will persist as long as inequality is not called out and addressed.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Develop a Black Canadians Justice Strategy to address anti-black racism and discrimination in the criminal justice system.

### Increasing Access to Mental Health Courts

According to the Mental Health Commission of Canada, 40% of people living with mental illness are arrested at least once in their lives. People facing mental health problems and illnesses need treatment, not to be criminalized.

Mental Health Courts are designed to address the needs of people before the criminal justice system who have mental health conditions and help them access the treatment and community supports they need to get better and avoid reoffending.

#### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Work with provinces and territories to help all Canadians have greater access to mental health courts and provide people suffering from mental health illnesses with a path to recovery.
- Expand access to culturally appropriate, trauma-informed mental health services for Indigenous peoples that access treatment through mental health courts.

## Access to Justice

Access to justice is fundamental to a just and fair Canadian society, and timeliness is an important part of that. The pandemic has created a backlog in the system. This is on top of pandemic travel restrictions that have limited the ability to appear before in-person proceedings, especially for people who live in rural and remote areas. At the same time, the pandemic has pushed courts to find new ways to use technology. This provides an opportunity for Canada to lead the advancement of court modernization.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Re-introduce *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Identification of Criminals Act and to make related amendments to other Acts (COVID-19 response and other measures)* to make criminal procedure reforms that adopt virtual means such as the use of virtual remote proceedings and expanded use of the telewarrant process.
- Further support technological modernization of federal courtrooms and tribunals.
- Support provinces and territories in the digitization and modernization of their court systems and facilitate partnerships to develop specialized technological and digital services for court operations that are safe, secure, and lead to greater and fairer access to justice.

## Protecting the Integrity of the Justice System

Canada needs a justice system that is well equipped to confront the most pressing issues of the day.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Continue to support the Court Challenges program by doubling the program's funding and increase Canadians' support for legal cases of national significance that clarify official languages rights and human rights.
- Move forward on reviving the Law Commission of Canada so it can provide independent legal advice for reforms needed on the complex legal issues Canadians face, such as systemic racism in the justice system, issues around climate change, establishing a new relationship with Indigenous peoples, and rapid technological shifts in the world.
- Re-introduce Bill C-22 which reforms mandatory minimum sentences, within the first 100 days.

## A Principled Approach to Foreign Policy

Global challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis underscore how the health, security, and prosperity of Canadians are profoundly impacted by the world around us. Rising authoritarianism and the re-

emergence of great power competition is undermining international peace and security, the rule of law, and respect for human rights. Canada's prosperity depends on preserving open, rules-based trade, but managing economic shocks also requires new investments in national resilience and efforts to mitigate vulnerabilities in our supply chains.

Now, more than ever, Canadians understand that building a safer and more stable world requires investments in our strength at home and active engagement with our partners abroad.

## Promoting Democracy and Human Rights

With foreign threats and interference on the rise and the impact of authoritarian trends more widespread, now more than ever, it is time to place the promotion of democracy, human rights, and rule of law at the centre of our foreign policy. We stand with citizens and activists around the world who are risking their safety to demand democratic rights and freedoms and will continue to promote democracy and human rights alongside civil society and international partners.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Make Canada's commitment to democracy and human rights a core strategic priority, including expanding fast and flexible support for fragile and emerging democracies, increasing Canada's diplomatic presence in regions of strategic importance, and working more closely with democratic partners to promote open, transparent, and inclusive governance around the world.
- Establish a Canadian Centre for Peace, Order and Good Government to expand the availability of Canadian expertise and assistance to those seeking to build peace, advance justice, promote human rights, inclusion, and democracy, and deliver good governance.
- Establish Canada as a safe haven for those facing persecution by leading the world in providing safe resettlement to those fleeing political or security crises, especially human rights defenders, journalists, feminists, LGBTQ2 activists, members of religious or ethnic minorities at risk, and other persecuted groups who remain under threat. We will expand the new immigration stream for human rights defenders and work with civil society groups to ensure safe passage and resettlement of people under threat, including from Afghanistan.

- Continue to help support Afghan citizens through humanitarian assistance and to work with our allies to protect democratic and human rights, including for women, girls, and minorities. We will continue to facilitate the safe passage and resettlement of Afghan citizens and will increase the number of eligible refugees from 20,000 to 40,000. Many of these individuals will be women, children and minorities fleeing the Taliban, or individuals who supported Canada and our allies over the past two decades. As with the Syrians who have resettled in Canada over the past five years, these individuals will enrich our communities and make invaluable contributions to Canadian society.
- Expand the broad coalition of more than 65 states that have supported Canada's initiative to condemn and eradicate the practice of arbitrary detention and advance an action plan to coordinate collective international responses to specific incidents of arbitrary detention.
- Enable staff at Canada's embassies around the world to support the work of feminists, LGBTQ2 activists, and human rights defenders by quadrupling our annual investment in the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives.
- Defend the right to free expression and oppose the mistreatment or arbitrary detention of journalists, building on the Media Freedom Coalition that we established with the UK.
- Support women leaders and feminist groups who are leading efforts to promote peace and protect the rights of women and vulnerable groups, including new funding through the Women's Voice and Leadership program.
- Help establish an International Anti-Corruption Court, to prevent corrupt officials and authoritarian governments from raiding the resources of their citizens and impeding development.
- Continue to engage with our international allies and partners and convene a multilateral meeting to raise additional humanitarian funds and build consensus on how to support and establish an enduring democracy in Lebanon.

### Help for the World's Most Vulnerable People

Through the Feminist International Assistance Policy, we have made historic investments to improve the lives of women, girls, and vulnerable populations—from raising \$4.3 billion towards girls' education during our G7 Presidency, to committing \$14 billion over ten years towards the health of women and girls, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we took a leading role in galvanizing international response to the pandemic, including mobilizing over \$2.5 billion in international assistance and facilitating the donation of 40 million doses to vulnerable populations through COVAX.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will continue to:

- Increase Canada's international development assistance every year towards 2030 to realize the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.
- Donate at least 200 million vaccine doses to vulnerable populations around the world through COVAX by the end of 2022 and provide additional funding to support enhanced testing and production capacity in developing countries.
- continue to build on Canada's historic support for education so the world's most marginalized children have access to the inclusive, equitable and quality education they need and deserve, including new funding for girls' and refugees' education.
- double our funding to grassroots women's rights organizations and continue to make significant investments in comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services as well as the global care economy.
- provide greater assistance to people living with disabilities in developing countries.

### Trade that Works for Everyone

Canada is a trading nation and trade has an important part to play in our plan for a robust economic recovery. Under our leadership, Canada became the only G7 country to have free trade agreements with all other G7 countries.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish a new federal hub to help Canadian businesses and entrepreneurs take full advantage of the opportunities created by CUSMA, CETA, CPTPP, and other trade agreements.
- Launch a new comprehensive Asia-Pacific strategy to deepen diplomatic, economic, and defence partnerships in the region, including by negotiating new bilateral trade agreements, expanding FIPAs, and building stronger economic linkages.
- Reinforce economic cooperation in our hemisphere, including by continuing trade negotiations with the Pacific Alliance and pursuing bilateral trade agreements with key partners.
- Develop a strategy for economic cooperation across Africa, including support for the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, facilitation of increased infrastructure investment, and expanding partnerships in research and innovation.



- Establish a digital policy task force, comprised of industry experts, academia, and government, to integrate efforts across government and provide additional resources in order to position Canada as a leader in the digital economy and shape global governance of emerging technologies, including with respect to data and privacy rights, taxation, online violent extremism, the ethical use of new technologies, and the future of work. This will build on our work to implement Canada's first Digital Charter and reform our laws to protect the personal information of individuals.
- Introduce legislation to eradicate forced labour from Canadian supply chains and ensure Canadian businesses that operate abroad are not contributing to human rights abuses.
- Enhance and expand Canada's Responsible Business Conduct strategy and ensure Canadian companies and crown corporations are upholding the highest environmental and social standards of corporate governance.

### Strong, Secure, Engaged, and Inclusive

Canada faces a host of global threats, including rapidly evolving risks posed by cyber attacks, foreign interference, and climate change. Canadians deserve a 21st century military that is equipped to respond to emerging threats to our national security and in which all members feel safe and included. Building on Strong, Secure, Engaged, the comprehensive, long-term defence policy we released in 2017, a re-elected government will ensure that our military has the equipment and resources needed to keep Canadians safe, secure our Arctic sovereignty, and respond to the full range of hostile, cyber, and environmental threats we face.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with the United States to modernize NORAD, including by upgrading the North Warning System, deploying new technological solutions to improve surveillance and monitoring, improving command and control systems, and investing in the infrastructure and capabilities necessary to deter and defeat threats to North America. These investments will also support northern communities and further strengthen Canada's sovereignty in the Arctic, including with respect to the increasing navigation of Arctic waters
- Expand Canada's long and short-range strategic airlift capability in order to increase Canada's contribution to NATO, coalition and allied military operations abroad, and improve support for domestic and international emergency response.

- Expand cooperation and assistance to partners, allies and international organizations, such as the United Nations, NATO, and regional organizations, in humanitarian assistance and disaster recovery, including health and climate emergencies, and conflict response.
- Remain a leading contributor to NATO operations, including by extending Operation Reassurance in Eastern Europe and maintaining Canada's regular participation in NATO's aerial and maritime patrol operations. We will also extend Canada's support to Ukraine and opposition to Russian aggression, through Operation Unifier.
- Work with international partners to establish a NATO Centre of Excellence on Climate and Security in Canada, to ensure that Canada and its allies are equipped to respond to threats posed by climate change.
- Lead international efforts to establish a global coalition to respond to wildfires and other climate emergencies.

### Ending Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, and Gender-based Violence in the Military

Members of the Canadian Armed Forces have the right to work in an environment that is free from violence, harassment, and discrimination. Allegations of sexual misconduct, homophobia, and xenophobia in the Canadian Armed Forces have shocked Canadians and revealed an unacceptable culture of discrimination and impunity. The women and men of the armed forces make tremendous sacrifices to keep us safe and protect Canadian values. They are owed nothing less than the same.

#### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Implement the recommendations of the Independent External Comprehensive Review led by Justice Arbour to address sexual harassment and misconduct in the Canadian Armed Forces, including instituting external oversight and independence over the processes of reporting, investigating, and adjudicating complaints, outside of the chain of command.
- Modernize the military justice system and ensure survivors are treated with respect and have the full range of options and services available in the civilian system, including implementing recommendations from the Third Independent Review of the *National Defence Act* led by Justice Fish.

- Expand resources available to survivors through the Sexual Misconduct Response Centre and make these services available to all members of the defence team, including DND employees, veterans, and members of military families.
- Expand health services available to women in the CAF, ensuring comprehensive access to sexual and reproductive health resources, child care, and mental health resources. We will increase investments to address the clinical, occupational and deployment health needs of CAF women in cooperation with the newly established National Institute of Women's Health.
- Co-design and fully fund a permanent peer-to-peer support program for CAF members who have experienced military sexual trauma and make it accessible to all members of the defence team.
- Work to root out all sources of anti-Indigenous and anti-Black racism, LGBTQ2 prejudice, gender bias, and white supremacy in the Canadian Armed Forces and implement the recommendations of the Advisory Panel on Systemic Racism, Discrimination to ensure that all members of the defence team work in a safe and respectful workplace.
- Undertake ambitious efforts to improve the diversity of the CAF, including women, LGBTQ2, Indigenous, Black, and racialized Canadians and persons with disabilities.

## Combatting Authoritarianism and Foreign Interference

With authoritarianism, geopolitical competition, and foreign interference on the rise, safeguarding Canada's national and economic security requires strong action both at home and abroad. We will continue to implement domestic measures to protect Canadians and work closely with our friends, allies, and partners to respond to illegal and unacceptable behaviour by authoritarian states, including China, Russia, and Iran.

### Specifically, a re-elected Liberal government will:

- Work with G7, NATO, and likeminded partners to develop and expand collective responses to arbitrary detention, economic coercion, cyber threats, foreign interference in democratic processes, and egregious violations of human rights, including through the use of sanctions, support for international institutions, and coordinated action to reinforce the rules of international trade.

- Review and modernize the *Investment Canada Act* and provide additional resources to support national security agencies in tracking, assessing, and mitigating economic security threats from foreign investment.
- Expand collaboration and information sharing with Canadian partners and across all levels of government with respect to addressing security risks in foreign research and investment partnerships.
- Introduce legislation to safeguard Canada's critical infrastructure, including our 5G networks, to preserve the integrity and security of our telecommunications systems.
- Continue to work with international partners to hold Iran accountable for the illegal shutdown of PS752 and continue to provide support to the families and loved ones of the victims as they fight for justice and reparations. We will also continue to advance Canada's Safer Skies Initiative, to prevent such tragic events in the future.
- Increase resources available to our national security agencies to counter foreign interference and to the RCMP to protect Canadians from unacceptable surveillance, harassment, and intimidation by foreign actors.

## Honouring Our Veterans

### Key Actions to Support Veterans, Since 2015

- ✓ Invested, in six years, nearly \$11B in new funding for better care, services, and supports for Veterans and their families.
- ✓ Reintroduced the Veteran's Service Card, which helps members as they transition to post-military life and acknowledges their incredible service to our Forces.
- ✓ Developed a new Joint Suicide Prevention Strategy between the Canadian Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Canada to prevent suicide among our military members and Veterans.
- ✓ Reopened all nine Veterans Affairs offices closed by the Conservative government to improve Veterans' access to services.
- ✓ Adopted a motion to end Veterans homelessness by 2025.

### Ending Veteran Homelessness

Veterans have a higher likelihood of experiencing chronic homelessness. One homeless veteran is too many. Veterans have dedicated themselves to serving Canadians; no veteran should be without a home or the care, support, and opportunities that they deserve. We believe that every Veteran deserves a home.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Move forward on our plan to launch a pilot program next year that will provide rent supplements and wrap-around supports to homeless Veterans, so that they can get the housing and services they need.
- Introduce a Veterans stream to the Rapid Housing Initiative which will see new affordable housing become available for Veterans.

### **Reducing Benefit Wait Times for Veterans**

Under Erin O'Toole's watch, as the Conservative's Minister of Veterans Affairs, Veterans support offices were shuttered, and staff were laid off. When we formed government, we re-opened all nine offices, so our Veterans and their families had access to the personalized, quality services they deserve.

We have invested nearly \$200 million to reduce wait times for Veterans and hired 350 additional staff. We also invested \$140 million to ensure that Veterans don't have to wait for their benefits to get high-quality mental health care.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Continue our work to reduce wait times and ensure Veterans and their families receive decisions on their applications in a timely manner.
- Invest the necessary resources to accomplish this, such as hiring more case workers and adjudicators, continuing to enhance disability benefit processing, and by enhancing innovative digital solutions.
- Ensure the benefit system and Veterans Affairs services are responsive and meet the needs of underrepresented Veterans including women, LGBTQ2, racialized, and Indigenous Veterans.

### **Veterans' employment strategy**

Too many veterans struggle to find meaningful work in their post-service careers. Veterans leave the military with

a broad set of skills that are valuable to employers across the economy. We think that a key part of building back better is making sure that everyone who wants to work has access to the support they need to find a good job.

### **A re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Launch Canada's first National Veteran Employment Strategy, with a goal of ensuring that every Veteran can find meaningful work after releasing from the Canadian Armed Forces. A part of this strategy will include improving qualification recognition so that certifications earned while in service can be used in civilian life.

### **Commemoration**

Canadians are proud of their military heritage, but as time passes, it is critical that we not forget the sacrifices made by Veterans in the fields of Belgium, to the mountains of Afghanistan, and beyond. Not nearly enough is known about the extraordinary contributions of modern Veterans or the contributions of Canada's women, Indigenous, racialized, and LGBTQ2 Veterans. We have an obligation to make sure they receive the honour and recognition they deserve.

### **To ensure that the legacies of those who have served live on, a re-elected Liberal government will:**

- Support Commemorate Canada and ensure this program recognizes modern Veterans as well as women, Indigenous, racialized, and LGBTQ2 Veterans from all conflicts.
- Ensure that we recognize the valuable contributions of Canadian Armed Forces Veterans who have served our country in domestic operations such as wildfires, ice storms, and floods.

## Gender and Diversity Impact Summary

The measures announced in this section will have a positive impact on those who experience higher rates of violence and crime, as well as those who experience discrimination and racism. Gun violence is a growing problem in Canada's biggest city. Young men, in particular, are at disproportionate risk of firearm injuries: of all firearm deaths among 15- to 24-year-olds between 2008 and 2012, 94% were in males.

In 2019, almost 50% of hate crimes reported to the police were motivated by hate of an ethnicity or race. Additionally, since the pandemic began, there has been an 88% increase in reports to Cybertips.ca of sextortion and online exploitation, and between 2010 and 2017 there were 364 cyber hate crimes in Canada reported to the police.

We know that discrimination and racism in the police force and in the justice system is also a big problem and in 2019, 35% of racialized Canadians and 30% of Indigenous peoples reported not having confidence in the police. What is more, 40% of people living with mental illness are arrested at least once in their lives.

Of veterans with disabilities the majority are 65 years and older. While rates of employment for veterans are generally low, women veterans are even less likely to be employed.

Our foreign policy is guided by a commitment to create economic growth for everyone; to promote equality, diversity, and inclusion; to protect the environment; and to defend democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. We know that women and children, LGBTQ2, and people with disabilities are disproportionately impacted by persecution, arbitrary detention, conflict, climate change, economic disparities, and food insecurity. Our Feminist International Development Assistance Policy requires that 95% of programming include a gender element and why we include gender and environmental chapters in new trade agreements. That's also why we take a gendered approach to defending democracy and human rights everywhere.

Our measures to end discrimination, sexual misconduct, and gender-based violence in the military will directly benefit women in all their diversity, racialized Canadians, and LGBTQ2 people as well as their families.



**CHAPTER EIGHT**

# A Plan for Fairness and Growth

# A Plan for Fairness and Growth

Canada entered COVID-19 with one of the best records in the G7: an AAA credit rating, the lowest debt-to-GDP ratio, one of the most highly skilled workforces, and a fast-growing population. And we were consistently among the most sought-after places in the world to live.

While the pandemic has required an unprecedented amount of spending in order to stabilize the economy, those same advantages that positioned Canada so well before, are still intact. This gives Canada a unique opportunity to build back better.

Our plan focuses on investing in people, innovation, and communities in order to position Canada as a leader in clean growth, and to be a healthier, fairer, and more prosperous society. By doing this, we will make the Canadian economy more resilient, productive, and sustainable and, most importantly, grow the middle class.

Our fiscal and costing plan is responsible, fair, transparent, and prudent.

It is responsible because it invests in the things that Canadians need now and into the future, to lead us out of COVID-19 and to build the foundation for strong growth in the future. It recognizes that COVID-19 has exposed major problems that require major solutions, where the federal government needs to step up to make real change happen. And it invests in these priorities in a targeted way.

## **The three biggest components of our plan will improve our health and raise our long-term economic growth:**

- A real plan to achieve universal \$10 a day child care and reduce the fees parents pay by 50% by next year.
- A real plan to strengthen Canada's universal public health care.
- A real plan to help make homeownership a reality for more Canadians.

Our investments in building and revitalizing more housing, for example, constitute the highest fiscal multiplier available, according to the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO). Our investments in early learning and child care alone will add 1.2% of GDP and help bring nearly a quarter of a million people into the workforce. Our plan for a Canada-wide \$10 a day child care system has the potential to be the biggest economic boost since NAFTA.

Our plan is fair because, as we make these important and necessary investments, we are asking those who have done well through COVID-19, like Canada's largest and most profitable financial companies, to pay more. Erin O'Toole won't do this.

As the first federal party to release a fiscal and costing plan this election, we are setting a new bar for transparency. In building this plan we have been consulting with the PBO, having submitted many of our largest, and most complex initiatives to them for review and fully utilizing our allocated resource. This plan is based on PBO's August 2021 economic baseline and includes assumptions for incremental debt and debt charges based on their publicly available model.

Finally, our plan is prudent. We have built a provision for risk into our planning framework. Given the unknowns and evolving natures of the pandemic, and other factors, we have included a \$15 billion provision for potential deviations over the next two and a half years.

As part of this framework, we are committed to fulfilling our long-term fiscal anchor. This plan will continue to reduce Canada's debt as a share of the economy over time and our deficit is decreasing every single year.

Canada's recovery is already well underway, and we are within reach of our original goal of creating 1 million jobs, with a renewed goal of restoring employment to pre-pandemic levels, going beyond one million jobs. Though there is still much more work to do, we are already seeing stronger growth today than was expected even just a few months ago.

Thanks to this growth and the hard work of Canadians, our economic and fiscal outlook is even brighter today as we look toward the end of COVID-19. Canada's debt-to-GDP ratio is now 5 percentage points lower than forecast in the April federal budget. Of this 5 percentage points, our plan uses approximately half of that space (including prudence) in order to invest in people and communities, while preserving fiscal firepower for future crises.

This is a responsible plan to promote fairness and growth.

## **A Fair Tax System**

An economy that works for everyone requires everyone to pay their fair share. Since 2015, we have made significant strides to make the tax system fairer and simpler, so that middle class families and small businesses are able to keep more of what they earn, while asking the highest earners among us to pay their fair share.

## Key Actions to Build a Fairer Tax System, Since 2015

- ✓ Increased taxes on the top 1% of earners so that middle class people could get a break.
- ✓ Closed tax loopholes used predominantly by wealthy individuals and companies such as the stock option deduction.
- ✓ Modernized the tax system to recognize the growing importance of digital tech giants and made sure Canadian companies are able to compete on an equal basis with their competitors online.
- ✓ Helped to set a global minimum corporate tax.

## Making Sure Everyone Pays Their Fair Share

To finish the fight against COVID-19 and build a better, fairer, and more prosperous Canada for everyone, we will ask those who have done well to pay a bit more.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Raise corporate income taxes on the largest, most profitable banks and insurance companies who earn more than \$1 billion per year and introduce a temporary Canada Recovery Dividend that these companies would pay in recognition of the fact they have recovered faster and stronger than many other industries.
- Create a minimum tax rule so that everyone who earns enough to qualify for the top bracket pays at least 15 % each year (the tax rate paid by people earning less than \$49,000), removing their ability to artificially pay no tax through excessive use of deductions and credits.
- Implement a tax on luxury cars, boats, and planes as outlined in Budget 2021.
- Significantly increase the resources of the Canada Revenue Agency to combat aggressive tax planning and tax avoidance that allows the wealthiest to avoid paying the taxes they owe. This will increase CRA's resources by up to \$1 billion per year in order to close Canada's tax gap.
- Modernize the general anti-avoidance rule regime in order to focus on economic substance and restrict the ability of federally regulated entities, including financial institutions such as banks and insurance companies, to use tiered structures as a form of corporate tax planning that flows Canadian-derived profit through entities in low-tax jurisdictions in order to reduce taxes back in Canada.

- Work with our international partners to implement a global minimum tax so that the biggest companies in the world are not able to escape the taxes they owe here in Canada.
- Eliminate flow through shares for oil, gas, and coal projects to help promote clean growth and Canada's transition to a net-zero economy.
- Implement a national anti-flipping tax and move forward with Canada's first ever national tax on non-resident, non-Canadians on vacant land and residential property.
- Move forward with a national tax on vaping products and require tobacco manufacturers to pay for the cost of federal public health investments in tobacco control.

## Achieving Results for Canadians

We have an aggressive and ambitious plan to ensure that Canada comes back from COVID-19 stronger, fairer, healthier, and more prosperous. As with any plan, it always comes down to implementation. Canadians need their federal government to make decisions based on high-quality data and based on the best interests of Canadians. This requires a strong public service that has the tools to meet the challenges of Canada in 2021, and onwards.

### A re-elected Liberal government will:

- Establish a permanent Council of Economic Advisors to provide independent advice to government on long-term growth. The Council will be gender-balanced and reflect Canada's diversity. Looking beyond the immediate horizon of government, the Council will draw on expertise inside and outside of government to provide input and policy options that help Canada achieve a higher standard of living, better quality of life, inclusive growth, and a more innovative and skillful economy.
- Undertake a comprehensive strategic policy review of government programs. Unlike past exercises that were driven by cost-savings or deficit reduction objectives, this continuous process will examine how effectively each major program and policy is doing in meeting the biggest challenges of our time, including: achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, improving fairness and equality, and promoting quality of life and growth for everyone.

- Adopt quality of life budgeting. Building on the work done over the last two years to develop Canada's first-ever quality of life framework, we will apply this framework to future federal budgets. This will ensure that spending begins from the perspective of how to achieve long-term outcomes that benefit people—such as reducing poverty or improving the environment—and rigorously reports on the progress achieved to date.
- Use the government's buying power to set standards and norms, requiring suppliers of goods and services to apply the highest ethical and sustainability standards across their supply chains. And we will further strengthen federal procurement policies to integrate human rights, environment, social and corporate governance (ESG) principles and supply chain transparency principles and ensure they apply to both core government agencies and Crown corporations. Putting human rights and ESG principles at the heart of our procurement processes aligns not only with our values, but also aligns with Canada's national interest.



## Fiscal and Costing Plan

Platform fiscal projection (\$M)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
PBO Fiscal Projection (August)	-138,200	-42,700	-35,600	-24,800	-24,600
New Revenues	436	4,241	5,654	6,966	8,178
New Investments	-13,050	-17,946	-16,185	-16,254	-14,597
Risk Adjustment for COVID Prudence	-6,000	-6,000	-3,000	0	0
Incremental Debt Charges	-82	-280	-515	-764	-1,032
Platform Fiscal Projection	-156,895	-62,684	-49,647	-34,852	-32,051
Platform Debt / GDP Ratio	48.5%	47.6%	47.6%	48.0%	46.5%
Budget 2021 Debt / GDP Ratio	51.2%	50.7%	50.6%	50.0%	49.2%

New Revenues (\$M)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
3% surtax on largest banks and insurers	296	1,196	1,236	1,276	1,318
Canada Recovery Dividend	0	1,300	1,300	1,400	1,500
Minimum tax rule for top earners	99	393	405	413	423
Additional revenue from CRA reducing tax gap (net cost)	0	1,168	2,462	3,620	4,675
Eliminating flow through shares for oil, gas and coal	0	2	8	8	8
Federal vaping tax	23	90	92	94	96
Tobacco manufacturers' recovery fee	17	66	66	66	66
El revenues for adoptive care leave and career insurance	0	18	77	81	83
Anti-flipping tax	2	8	8	9	9
<b>Total New Revenues</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>4,241</b>	<b>5,654</b>	<b>6,966</b>	<b>8,178</b>

New Investments (\$M)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination Fund	1,000	0	0	0	0
COVID-19 Research Fund	5	35	25	25	10
Eliminating backlog of surgeries and procedures	6,000	0	0	0	0
Expanding access to family doctors and primary care teams	0	250	550	1,000	1,400
Virtual care and expanding access to care in rural areas	156	574	132	137	143
Protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights	0	13	3	4	0
Canada Mental Health Transfer	250	625	625	1,000	2,000
National suicide prevention hotline	0	10	10	10	10
Addressing problematic substance use	255	255	5	5	5
Investing in safer long-term care	2	1,942	1,944	1,947	947
Less funds set-aside in Budget 2021	-2	-609	-608	-609	-607
Ensuring PSWs are paid \$25 / hr	325	333	342	350	359
Training 50,000 PSWs	0	250	250	0	0

<b>New Investments (\$M)</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Safer indoor air	604	506	0	0	0
Expanding the Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit	2	7	7	7	7
Establishing a national school nutritious meals program	0	200	200	200	200
Extending and expanding the Home Expense Deduction	265	133	0	0	0
Establishing a Rent-to-Own program	0	125	125	150	150
Tax-free First Home Savings Account	0	656	820	984	1,148
More flexible First Time Home Buyers' Incentive	0	30	30	30	0
Doubling the First Time Home Buyers Tax Credit	0	110	110	116	121
Reducing monthly mortgage costs	0	525	525	536	546
Help cities accelerate housing construction	0	750	1,625	1,625	0
Investing in affordable housing and office conversion	0	650	1,550	400	400
Multi-Generational Home Renovation Tax Credit	0	101	135	138	140
Supporting Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous housing	0	300	5	5	5
Canada Financial Crimes Agency	0	50	50	50	50
\$10 / Day Child Care for Families	3,065	4,906	6,208	7,237	8,383
Less funds set-aside in Budget 2021	-3,065	-4,906	-6,208	-7,237	-8,383
Expanding and enhancing the Canada Caregiver Credit	131	536	579	626	678
Letting parents pause their Canada student loans	-67	200	275	300	300
Increasing GIS by \$500 for singles and \$750 for couples	0	788	1,092	1,137	1,181
Doubling the Home Accessibility Tax Credit	1	5	5	5	5
1-800 number to help seniors access government services	0	5	5	5	5
Permanently eliminating interest on Canada student loans	0	0	538	551	565
Increasing Repayment Assistance Plan to \$50,000	0	75	110	110	110
Supporting student well being and mental health on campus	0	116	122	128	134
EI for self-employed Canadians	0	263	350	365	375
EI Career Insurance benefit	0	33	66	68	70
Doubling the Union Training and Innovation Program	0	25	25	25	25
Extending the Canada Recovery Hiring Program	405	0	0	0	0
Helping hard-hit businesses with wage and rent support	476	213	0	0	0
Expanding small business loans	0	5	15	30	30
Labour Mobility Tax Credit	29	115	117	120	122
Career Extension Credit for workers over 65	161	644	647	651	653
1000 new Research Chairs and support for moon-shot research	0	250	250	250	250
Helping colleges and universities mobilize their research	0	25	75	75	75
Establishing the Canada Advanced Research Projects Agency	0	2,000	0	0	0
Helping artists and cultural industries recover	300	0	0	0	0

<b>New Investments (\$M)</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Supporting Canadian music, film, and tv	0	63	113	223	223
Bringing Canadian culture to the world	0	20	20	20	20
Supporting Canadian authors	0	43	43	43	43
Official language minority community infrastructure	0	10	10	50	50
Permanently increase funding for official language minority PSE	0	40	40	40	80
Improving access to French immersion and FSL programs	0	30	30	30	30
Accelerating the national gender based violence action plan	0	100	100	100	0
Menstrual equity fund	0	25	0	0	0
Supporting Black researchers	0	6	6	6	6
Empowering racialized artists and journalists	0	20	20	20	20
Eliminating citizenship fees for permanent residents	0	100	100	100	100
Support the implementation of the LGBTQ2 action plan	0	10	10	10	10
Pathways to parenthood for everyone	0	53	54	55	100
Investment tax incentives for clean technology	0	65	250	250	250
Supporting net zero homes and buildings	0	5	55	55	55
Helping low-income Canadians get off home heating oil	0	250	0	0	0
Zero emission vehicle rebates and charging infrastructure	0	650	675	675	175
Double the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for green mining	0	35	40	40	45
Futures Fund and Clean Jobs Training Centre	0	205	205	205	205
Triple funding for cleantech on farms	0	250	80	0	0
Train 1,000 firefighters and acquire equipment to fight wildfires	500	0	0	0	0
Establish 10 new national parks and protected areas	0	28	113	188	188
Expanding the Natural Infrastructure Fund	0	50	50	50	50
B.C. Old Growth Nature Fund	0	10	10	10	10
Expanding coastal restoration and shoreline cleanup	0	75	75	75	75
Canada Water Agency	0	10	10	10	10
Freshwater Action Plan and protecting the Experimental Lakes	3	107	107	107	107
Investing in independent science on pesticides	0	15	15	15	15
Reducing plastic pollution at home and abroad	0	35	35	35	35
Tax credit for home appliance repairs	0	100	105	115	120
Support for Indigenous mental health and trauma support	100	325	325	325	325
National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation	0	60	5	5	5
Revitalization of Indigenous laws, legal systems, and traditions	0	0	25	25	25
Better housing for Indigenous peoples	1200	400	200	200	0
Bolster Indigenous health system navigators	0	5	12	12	12

<b>New Investments (\$M)</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Expand the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program	0	10	10	10	10
Toughening our laws on banned assault weapons	800	0	0	0	0
Supporting provinces and territories to ban handguns	0	1000	0	0	0
Supporting Canada's anti-racism strategy and multi-cultural communities	0	2	27	37	27
National Support Fund for Survivors of Hate-Motivated Crime	0	10	10	10	10
Expand access to mental health courts	0	20	30	30	30
Improving access to justice through court modernization	0	25	25	0	0
Double funding for the Court Challenges program	0	5	5	5	5
Modernizing the CBC / Radio-Canada	0	100	100	100	100
Fast and flexible support for emerging democracies	0	25	50	50	50
Quadruple the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives	0	75	75	75	75
Canadian Centre for Peace, Order and Good Government	0	25	50	50	50
Continue to increase international assistance every year	0	0	0	100	100
Double funding for grassroots women's rights organizations	0	60	60	60	60
Help businesses leverage CETA, CPTPP, and CUSMA	0	9	9	9	9
Expand survivor support through the Sexual Misconduct Resource Centre	0	5	10	15	15
Protecting Canadians from foreign interference and surveillance	0	50	50	50	50
Resettle an additional 20,000 Afghan refugees	150	200	0	0	0
Council of Economic Advisors	0	5	5	5	5
<b>Total New Investments</b>	<b>13,050</b>	<b>17,946</b>	<b>16,185</b>	<b>16,254</b>	<b>14,597</b>

# Disability Statement

Disability inclusion benefits everyone. When Canadians with disabilities have equal opportunities to contribute to their communities, to have the same quality of service from their government, to work, and to enjoy the same quality of life and choices as everyone else, we build a stronger economy—and a stronger country.

Over the past six years, we've made accessibility and disability inclusion a priority. We have moved to a human rights-based approach to disability inclusion and are moving away from the medical and charity models, to a social model of disability and a focus on poverty reduction. We have focused on removing barriers and addressing disability discrimination and exclusion in our systems and processes. And, in the spirit of "Nothing Without Us," we have a plan to move forward with historic investments and actions that will improve the social and economic inclusion of millions of Canadians.

In 2015, we appointed Canada's first ever Minister responsible for Canadians with Disabilities/Accessibility (now Disability Inclusion). In 2016, we increased access to alternate format material, including the ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty. From 2016 to 2019, we held landmark consultations and passed the *Accessible Canada Act*. In 2019 we, established Accessible Standards Canada.

We made investments in successive economic statements and budgets, in disability-specific programs, including the Opportunities Fund, the Enabling Accessibility Fund, Canada Student Loans and Canada Student Grants, and the expansion of the Disability Tax Credit. We applied a disability lens to our flagship policies and programs, such as the historic investment in inclusive and accessible \$10-a-day child care. We addressed the financial security of Canadians with disabilities through important changes to the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP). We adhered to our international human rights obligations: we signed the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and appointed the Canadian Human Rights Commission to monitor the UNCRPD. We announced a Canadian candidate for the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022 election.

Last fall, we committed to the creation of the Disability Inclusion Plan, to include a new Canada Disability Benefit modelled after the Guaranteed Income Supplement, improved processes for eligibility for federal disability programs and benefits, and a robust employment strategy for Canadians with disabilities. In June 2021, we tabled Bill C-35, setting out the framework for the creation of the Canada Disability Benefit, a direct monthly

payment to low-income Canadians with disabilities ages 18-64.

In recognition of the fact that Canadians with disabilities were disproportionately affected by the health, social, and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we took a disability-inclusive approach in our pandemic response. We appointed the COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group, provided targeted funding for seniors and students with disabilities, and issued a one-time payment to persons with disabilities to help mitigate the economic shock of the pandemic.

Moving forward, there is much more work to be done. A re-elected Liberal government will build on our previous investments through the implementation of the first-ever Disability Inclusion Action Plan, in consultation with the disability community.

**The objectives of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan are to:**

- Improve the social and economic inclusion of Canadians with disabilities.
- Reduce poverty among Canadians with disabilities.
- Contribute to the realization of a barrier-free Canada.
- Improve access to federal programs and services for persons with disabilities and ensure that disability inclusion is considered in all government programs, policies, and services.
- Foster a culture of inclusion and a shift away from attitudes of disablism and discrimination.

As part of our Disability Inclusion Action Plan, a re-elected Liberal government will re-introduce and implement the *Canada Disability Benefit Act*, which will create a direct monthly payment for low-income Canadians with disabilities ages 18-64. This will reduce poverty amongst persons with disabilities in the same way the Guaranteed Income Supplement and the Canada Child Benefit have reduced poverty among seniors and families with children.

A Liberal Government will also develop and implement an employment strategy focused on supports for workers and employers, creating inclusive and welcoming workplaces, and building business disability confidence.

This strategy will include an investment in the Opportunities Fund and the Ready Willing and Able inclusive hiring program to support employment for persons with disabilities.

We will also commit to making permanent funding to support services that ensure equitable access to reading and other published works for Canadians with print disabilities so that more Canadians are able to fully participate in these activities.

We will proceed with the timely and ambitious implementation of the *Accessible Canada Act* and the harmonization of accessibility standards across Canada. We will work across federal departments and agencies to

uniformly adopt the definition of “disability” in the *Accessible Canada Act*. We will adopt a consistent approach to disability inclusion across the federal government. We will put a disability lens on decision-making. This will specifically include our child care and infrastructure commitments. We will assume a more prominent role within the international disability inclusion community.

Only a re-elected Liberal government will build on the foundational work to date to support persons with disabilities in the post-pandemic recovery, by continuing to build back better, for everyone.