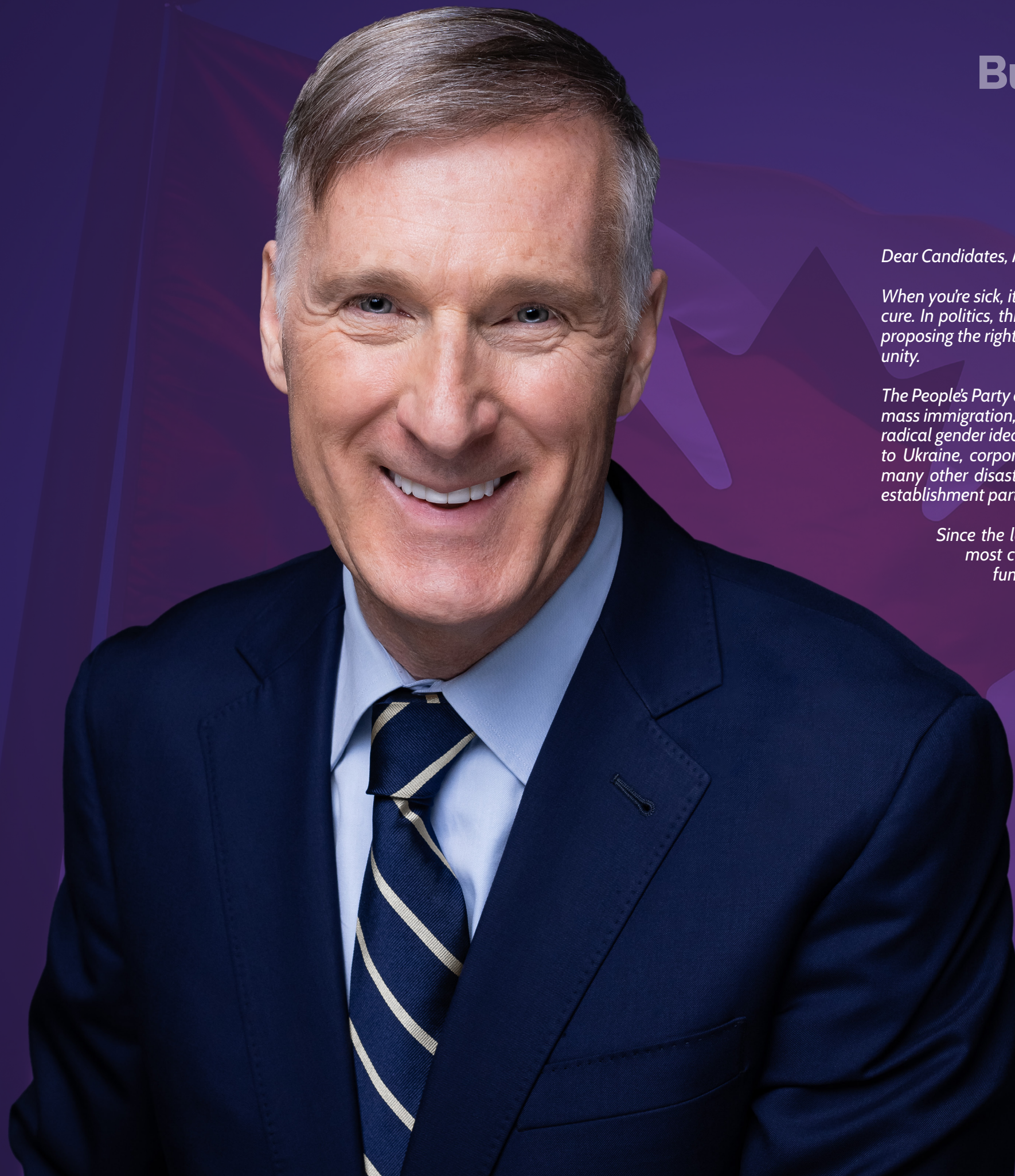


THE PURPLE BOOK 2024

Ideas That Put People First

Max Bernier



Building Canada's Best Political Platform

A Note From Our Leader

Dear Candidates, Members and Friends,

When you're sick, it's not possible to heal unless you make the right diagnosis and apply the right cure. In politics, this means correctly identifying the current disastrous government policies and proposing the right solutions to bring back our country to health, social harmony, prosperity, and unity.

The People's Party of Canada was the first — and in most cases is still the only party — to denounce mass immigration, extreme multiculturalism, authoritarian COVID mandates, climate alarmism, radical gender ideology, anti-white woke DEI programs, globalism, sending money and weapons to Ukraine, corporate welfare, unconstitutional federal intrusions into provincial powers, and many other disastrous policies imposed by the Trudeau Liberals and supported by the other establishment parties.

Since the launch of the PPC in 2018, we've had by far the boldest, most relevant, and most consistent political platform in the country. Our policies are all based on four fundamental principles: Freedom, Responsibility, Fairness, and Respect.

You'll notice that our opponents always attack us for silly reasons — they never dare directly attack our platform! They know we have the best policy proposals. Almost everyone who reads or hears about them can't help but agree. And that's why this platform should be better known by more Canadians if we want to heal what ails our country.

We've printed this booklet to help you convince more Canadians that only the PPC can save Canada. I hope you find it useful to spread our message of hope!

Sincerely,

Max Bernier

Party Leader



OUR PPC PLATFORM

Ideas that put people first

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Issue

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) is a far-left ideological fad imported from the U.S. which is being imposed on all sectors of Canadian society by the Liberal government. This hateful ideology holds that the dominant culture and the entire institutional structure of Western societies is irredeemably racist, colonialist, sexist, homophobic, and transphobic.

According to this doctrine, mere neutrality or equal treatment of individuals is insufficient, as it allows for “unconscious bias” to still have an influence and result in discrimination and disparate outcomes. This systemic disadvantage can only be overcome by prescribing special treatment, or reverse discrimination, for minorities.

The more a person can demonstrate that he or she belongs to various disadvantaged groups – for example, a black Muslim lesbian – the more he or she should be favoured by various programs. Conversely, it is acceptable – or even prescribed – to officially discriminate against white, Christian, heterosexual males who do not identify as another sex or gender.

Section 15(1) of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* states that every Canadian “is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination.” Section 15(2) qualifies this by allowing so-called “affirmative action,” that is, “any law, program or activity that has as its object the amelioration of conditions of disadvantaged individuals or groups.”

However, DEI goes much further than simply trying to ameliorate the conditions of disadvantaged people, remove unfair barriers, and provide equal opportunities. It creates legally favoured groups, and groups that can be legally discriminated against on the basis of ethnicity or religion, skin colour, sex, gender identification, and sexual orientation. Inso doing, it squarely contradicts section 15(1) of the Charter.

DEI is a fundamentally racist, sexist, and discriminatory ideology that divides Canadians into oppressors and oppressed, creates blatant injustices, and undermines social cohesion. Under the pretext of promoting nice-sounding goals, it does the exact opposite: it imposes a uniform far-left perspective, and unfairly gives more rights to some, while excluding others who don't fit in official categories of victims. This ideology will have catastrophic long-term impacts on Canadian society.

Facts

The Liberal government is imposing DEI programs and policies directly on the public service and all federal institutions, including the Armed Forces, as well as on federally regulated industries. As a condition to obtain subsidies, grants, loans, scholarships, services, or contracts, the government is also indirectly forcing all kinds of institutions, organisations, associations and businesses to adopt DEI policies.

Such policies do not only mandate discrimination in the hiring process and in the provision of various services. They also aim to police speech and behaviour, and impose conformity of thought at workplaces. You are either actively “anti-racist” and supportive of DEI policies, or you are a racist. According to far-left ideologues, refusing the tenets of DEI is itself proof that someone is intolerant, and should be grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal.

DEI “training” sessions (or more accurately, re-education camps) can have deadly consequences. In 2021, along-time employee of the Toronto District School Board, Richard Bilkszto, was publicly shamed in front of co-workers by an aggressive DEI trainer, Kike Ojo-Thompson, for questioning her claim that Canada was a more racist society than the U.S. The lack of support by the school board, and the intense mental distress the situation caused him, led him to commit suicide two years later.

Academic freedom, intellectual rigour, and scientific objectivity are threatened by DEI policies in universities, as only professors belonging to favoured groups and willing to bow to the far left DEI orthodoxy are being hired and can receive federal research grants.

DEI ideology also explains various absurd and costly programs such as the decision by the Trudeau government to force all federal and federally regulated workplaces to make free menstrual tampons available in bathrooms, including men's. Another such program is the Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus), a type of analysis now performed on all federal government legislation, policies, programs and other initiatives to ensure that they are “responsive, inclusive and reflective of diverse experiences and realities” that go “beyond gender and sex to include consideration of multiple identity factors such as age, disability, economic status, education, gender, sex and sexual orientation, geography, language, racialization and ethnicity, and religion and spirituality.”

DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION

Ending Reverse Discrimination and Restoring Equal Rights for All

Our Plan

Radical adherence to DEI principles undermines one of the key foundations of liberal Western civilization: meritocracy. In a free society where everyone is equal under the law, competence, need, and other objective criteria that are fair for everyone must be the sole ones used by the state and other institutions in their dealings with citizens. It is time to restore equal rights for all.

A People's Party government will:

✓ Abolish all federal DEI programs and policies

Abolish all federal DEI programs and policies in the public service and in federal institutions such as the Armed Forces, as well as those that apply to federally regulated industries.

✓ Prohibit DEI training sessions

Prohibit DEI training sessions in all federal institutions.

✓ Remove all DEI clauses

Remove all DEI clauses imposed on institutions, organisations, associations and businesses as a condition to obtain federal subsidies, grants, loans, scholarships, services, or contracts.

✓ Stop funding DEI groups

Stop funding groups that promote the DEI ideology.

✓ Narrowly interpret the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*

In all legal proceedings, narrowly interpret section 15(2) of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* in a manner that proscribes reverse discrimination.

✓ Support Canadian victims of DEI

Support Canadians who are being discriminated against, harassed, vilified, or harmed in any way by organisations that impose DEI programs and policies.



IMMIGRATION

Reducing Overall Levels and
Prioritizing Skilled Immigrants

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Reduce Immigration**
Substantially lower the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accepts every year from 500,000 planned by the Liberal government in 2025, to between 100,000 and 150,000 annually, or even less in crisis situations, depending on economic and other circumstances.
- ✓ **Reform Immigration Point System**
Reform the immigration point system and the related programs to accept a larger proportion of economic immigrants with the right skills.
- ✓ **Fewer Refugees**
Accept fewer refugees and give priority to refugees belonging to persecuted groups who have nowhere to go in neighbouring countries. For example: Christians, Yazidis, and members of other minority religions in majority Muslim countries; members of the Ahmadi community, and other Muslims in these countries who are persecuted because they reject political Islam and adhere to Western values; and members of sexual minorities.
- ✓ **Limit Temporary Foreign Workers**
Limit the number of temporary foreign workers and make sure that they fulfil temporary positions and do not compete unfairly with Canadian workers.
- ✓ **Outlaw Birth Tourism**
Change the law to make birth tourism illegal.
- ✓ **Canadian Values Test**
Ensure that every candidate for immigration undergoes a face-to-face interview and answers a series of specific questions to assess the extent to which they align with Canadian values and societal norms (see Canadian Identity policy).
- ✓ **Immigrant Background Checks**
Increase resources for CSIS, the RCMP, and Canadian Immigration and Citizenship to do interviews and thorough background checks on all classes of immigrants.
- ✓ **Family Reunification Reform**
Substantially lower the number of immigrants accepted under the family reunification program, including abolishing the program for parents and grand-parents.
- ✓ **Limit Foreign Students**
Substantially lower the number of visas for foreign students.
- ✓ **Promote Private Sponsorship**
Rely on private sponsorships instead of having the government pay for all the costs of resettling refugees in Canada.
- ✓ **No More Open Borders**
Take Canada out of the UN's Global Compact for Migration.

Issue

The primary aim of Canada's immigration policy should be to economically benefit Canadians and Canada as a whole. It should not be used to forcibly change the cultural character and social fabric of our country. And it should not put excessive financial burdens on the shoulders of Canadians in the pursuit of humanitarian goals.

Despite Canada already accepting more immigrants than almost any other country, both the Liberals and Conservatives support an unsustainable increase in the annual immigration intake, and are using mass immigration as a political tool to buy votes among immigrant communities.

The UN's Global Compact for Migration, which the Liberal government signed in 2018, aims to normalize this kind of situation, and to make it easier for millions of people to move to Canada and other Western democracies at will.

Our Plan

Our immigration policy can benefit Canadians only if we welcome the right kind and the right number of immigrants and non-permanent residents. It should prioritize Canada's economic interests and be calibrated in a way that does not jeopardize Canadian values and the maintenance of our national identity.

Facts

In 2022, in addition to 437,000 immigrants (or permanent residents), there was a net increase in the number of non-permanent residents (temporary foreign workers, foreign students, and refugees) in Canada estimated at 608,000. Both of these numbers represent the highest levels on record.

Commonly used arguments in support of higher immigration levels are flawed. High immigration in itself cannot solve the labour shortages that affect some sectors of the economy. Immigrants are not just workers but also consumers of goods and services, which creates demand for labour in other sectors and simply displaces the problem. This explains why we still have labour shortages even though Canada has had one of the highest levels of immigration in the world for several years.

Moreover, only about one quarter of all newcomers to Canada every year are directly chosen because they have the right qualifications and work experience to fulfill our economic needs. The rest are dependents (spouses and children) of economic immigrants, or come through the family reunification program or as refugees. They either do not work, or do not have the skills that are most in need even if they find work.

Mass immigration partly explains why wages and productivity have been stagnant in Canada, as cheaper immigrant labour is often favoured by employers over capital investment and automation. Although a large increase in the number of workers makes our economy larger, it also makes it less productive and impede GDP growth per capita. What's important is not to have a larger economy, but to be richer.

Mass immigration increases pressure on our infrastructures, health care system, and social programs. It also inflates housing prices. More than 41% of all immigrants to Canada settle in and around Toronto and Vancouver, which have some of the least affordable housing among big cities in the world (see policy on Housing).

Finally, newcomers are a bit younger on average than Canadians, but not enough to have a noticeable impact on the rate of aging. The Liberal government has made matters worse by increasing the number of parents and grand-parents accepted under the family reunification program.

Issue

With the active support of the woke far left and all establishment parties, radical trans activists are trying to transform society in a way that curtails everyone's freedoms. This radical agenda, which contradicts basic biological realities, is proving particularly harmful to women and children.

In recent years, cultural Marxists and radical activists in the media, government, and schools have made every effort to normalize toxic transgender ideology. They teach children that their gender is determined by stereotypes and if they do not fit into the traditional male or female gender roles, encourage them to think they may have been born in the wrong body. Children are never born in the wrong body. Children should be taught to accept themselves, not seek solutions through pharmaceuticals and medical procedures.

Bill C-16, adopted by the Liberal government in 2016 and famously opposed by Jordan Peterson, recognized gender self-identification and opened the door to compelled speech. Since then, businesses

and government agencies have banned the use of words like "woman" and "mother" in favour of "menstruating people" and "birthing people."

Women's rights and security are being trampled to accommodate men pretending to be the other sex. Women are encountering trans men in changing rooms and bathrooms. Violent criminals who are biological men but identify as women are being incarcerated in women's prisons. Women have to unfairly compete with biological men in sports.

Cultural fads like Drag Queen Story Hours are promoting this ideology among children and making it appear normal to identify as the other sex or as different invented genders. Bill C-4, which was unanimously adopted by all parties in the House of Commons in 2021, criminalizes parents and therapists who try to help minors with gender dysphoria accept who they are. In effect, the law bans "conversion therapy" in one direction, but allows it in the other. It is illegal to treat children for a mental disorder, but it is legal to encourage them to undergo "gender affirming therapy" and mutilate their body.

RADICAL GENDER IDEOLOGY

Protecting Women & Children from Harm



Facts

Most boys and girls suffering from gender dysphoria simply grow out of it. Many suffer from other mental issues such as autism, or are under the temporary influence of a phenomenon of social contagion. Taking puberty blockers at a young age will transform their body and sterilize them for life, when they are too young to evaluate the impact of such a momentous decision.

Sex change surgery involves reconstructing genital organs by using skin and muscles from other parts of the body. These invasive surgeries cause many complications and require lifelong treatments. More and more trans people who underwent such surgeries regret it later in life and want to "detransition", but it's tragically too late.

The transfer to women's prisons of male inmates who self-identify as women has been standard practice in Canada since it was introduced by the Trudeau government in 2018. It has resulted in criminals with histories of sexual abuse against women being housed alongside female inmates, with several cases of violent behaviour being reported in the media.

Our Plan

The normalization of transgender ideology, particularly amongst our youth, will have a catastrophic impact on a generation if we do not reverse course soon. While adults can make whatever choices they want regarding their sex and gender identification, Canadians who believe there are only two immutable sexes and genders must not be compelled to adapt their language and behaviour to accommodate gender ideology. In particular, women and children must be protected from the harmful consequences of this ideology.

A People's Party government will:

✓ Outlaw Puberty Blockers

Modify the Criminal Code to outlaw the use of puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and any form of bodily mutilation on minors with the goal of "transitioning" to another sex. Moreover, any person encouraging minors to "transition" could be held criminally responsible for attempting to cause harm.

✓ Repeal Bill C-4

Remove the ban imposed by Bill C-4, the so-called "conversion therapy bill", on helping minors who suffer from gender dysphoria accept their body.

✓ Defund Predatory Groups

Stop funding groups that promote radical gender ideology.

✓ Remove Porn from Libraries

Strictly enforce section 163.1(1)(b) of the Criminal Code in order to remove inappropriate pornographic content from schools and libraries.

✓ Protect Women's Spaces

Protect women's spaces – prisons, shelters, bathrooms, and changing rooms – from intrusion by biological men.

✓ Maintain Gender in Sports

Maintain separate competitions for women in which biological men cannot participate in sports regulated and funded by the federal government.

✓ Defund Sex Change Surgery

Abolish federal programs to fund sex change operations for civil servants and prisoners.

✓ Repeal Bill C-16

Repeal Bill C-16, the bill that added gender self-identification as ground for protection against discrimination.

Issue

A nation must be based on a sense of belonging, of participating in a common national project, and sharing the same values. It's only when these sentiments are widely shared that we can develop the trust and common understanding necessary for our society and institutions to function.

In the past, immigrants who came to Canada gradually integrated into our society. They did of course keep some aspects of the culture of their country of origin. They became Canadian, but with a distinct flavour. This is a type of multiculturalism that enriches our society.

However, over the past decades, the Government of Canada has pursued a policy of official multiculturalism that encourages immigrants to keep the values and culture they left behind instead of integrating into Canadian society and adopting Canadian values and culture.

With his cult of diversity, Justin Trudeau has pushed this ideology even further into a form of extreme multiculturalism. He described Canada as the first post-national state, with no core identity.

In a free society, immigrants have the right to cherish and maintain their cultural heritage. However, that doesn't mean we have any obligation to help them preserve it, with government programs and taxpayers' money. The vast majority of Canadians rightly expect them to learn about our history and culture, master one of our official languages, and adopt widely shared Canadian values.

Facts

Canada is and has always been a diverse country. We have First Nations and Inuit, two official languages, a multiethnic population, and very different regional cultures. The culture of Cape Breton is very different from that of the Eastern Townships in Quebec, or that of southern Alberta, or Nunavut. All these cultures are intrinsically Canadian. They developed in Canada. They don't exist anywhere else in the world. They deserve to be nurtured and to survive.

Our distinct values are those of a contemporary Western civilization. They include: democracy; individual rights and freedoms, including freedom of religious belief and freedom to criticize religion; equality between men and women; the equal treatment of all citizens regardless of ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation; the rule of law; separation of state and religion; tolerance and pluralism; and loyalty to the wider society instead of to one's clan or tribe.



CANADIAN IDENTITY

Ending Official Multiculturalism and Preserving Canadian Values and Culture

Our Plan

Official multiculturalism is based on the idea that there is no unified Canadian society and no distinct Canadian identity to integrate into, and that we are just a collection of ethnic and religious tribes living side by side. But if we want to keep our country united, and ensure social cohesion, we must focus on what unites us as Canadians, not what divides us.

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Repeal the Multiculturalism Act**
Repeal the Multiculturalism Act and eliminate all funding to promote multiculturalism. Emphasize instead the integration of immigrants into Canadian society.
- ✓ **Canadian Values Test**
Ensure that every candidate for immigration undergoes a face-to-face interview and answers a series of specific questions to assess the extent to which they align with Canadian values and societal norms (see Immigration Policy).
- ✓ **Reduce Immigration**
Substantially lower the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accepts every year from 500,000 planned by the Liberal government in 2025, to between 100,000 and 150,000 annually, or even lower in crisis situation, depending on economic and other circumstances.



FOREIGN POLICY

Focusing on the Security and Prosperity of Canadians

Facts

The United Nations is a dysfunctional organisation where non-democratic countries, because of their large numbers, have the most influence. This leads to ridiculous situations. For example, several of the member states on the UN Human Rights Council are among the worst human rights offenders in the world. As one country among almost 200, Canada has no interest in seeing the UN grow into a more powerful, quasi-world government.

There is no persuasive moral or economic efficiency argument for development aid. Countries that remain poor are those where governments are still crushing private initiative. Until they liberalize their economy and free their citizens, no amount of development aid will solve their problems. On the contrary, it creates a cycle of dependency and often helps these authoritarian governments stay in power.

Our Plan

Canada needs a common-sense foreign policy focused on the security and prosperity of Canadians, not an ideological approach that compromises our interests.

Issue

The exclusive priority of the Government of Canada on the international scene should be to manage our relations with other countries in order to protect and further the interests of Canadians. Unfortunately, that's not what's happening.

There is a growing trend to dilute national sovereignty, and to favour increased international policy coordination as well as the redistribution of wealth from rich to poor countries under the supervision of the United Nations. This globalist vision, made explicit in the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, has been heavily promoted in Canada under Justin Trudeau, who believes that we are a "post-national state" with "no core identity."

Over the past several years, Canada has signed many UN treaties, accords and compacts on issues ranging from global warming to migration and sustainable development, that tie us to this corrosive globalist agenda.

Meanwhile, as our national debt continues to mount, the Liberal government devotes more and more resources trying to solve social and economic problems in other countries. It spends billions of dollars every year to help countries in Africa and Asia build roads, educate children, and reduce their CO2 emissions. It spends \$1.4 billion every year to offer abortion and reproductive health services to women in developing countries.

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **No Foreign Wars**
Continue to work closely with our allies to maintain a peaceful international order, but will not get involved in foreign conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine, unless we have a compelling strategic interest in doing so.
- ✓ **Prioritize North American Security**
Prioritize relations with our main trading and defence partner, the United States of America, to ensure our prosperity and our security.
- ✓ **Withdraw UN Commitments**
Withdraw from all UN commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Compact on Migrations and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, that threaten our sovereignty, and reduce our presence in UN institutions to a minimum.
- ✓ **Trade Liberalization**
Liberalize trade with as many countries as possible, while ensuring our security and protecting our economy from the threat of potentially hostile foreign investors.
- ✓ **Support Canadians First**
Save billions of dollars by phasing out development aid, and focus Canadian international assistance exclusively on emergency humanitarian action in cases such as health crises, major conflicts and natural disasters.

Our Plan

Given the uncertainties over the scientific basis of global warming, and the certainties about the huge costs of measures designed to fight it, there is no compelling reason to jeopardize our prosperity with more government interventions.

Issue

The Liberal government is spending billions of dollars at home and abroad to fight global warming—or “climate change” as it is now called to account for every natural weather event and its opposite.

In order to lower greenhouse gas emissions, it has imposed taxes and countless regulations, it subsidizes inefficient and costly “green technology,” and it is blocking the development of oil resources crucial to our prosperity.

It is an undisputed fact that the world's climate has always changed and will continue to change. Until twelve thousand years ago, much of Canada was under ice, and it is thanks to natural climate change that we can live here today.

There is however no scientific consensus on the theory that CO2 produced by human activity is causing dangerous global warming today or will in the future, and that the world is facing environmental catastrophes unless these emissions are drastically reduced. Many renowned scientists continue to challenge this theory.

The policy debate about global warming is not grounded on science anymore. It has been hijacked by proponents of big government who are using crude propaganda techniques to impose their views. They publicly ridicule and harass anyone who expresses doubt. They make exaggerated claims to scare people. They even manipulate school children, getting them to pressure their parents and to demonstrate in the streets.

Facts

Climate change alarmism is based on flawed models that have consistently failed at correctly predicting the future. None of the cataclysmic predictions that have been made about the climate since the 1970s have come true. No new ice age. No steady warming in direct relation with increases in CO2 levels. No disappearance of polar ice caps. No exceptional rise in ocean levels. No abnormal increase in catastrophic weather events. No widespread crop failure and famine.

In fact, CO2 is beneficial for agriculture and there has recently been a measurable “greening” of the world in part thanks to higher levels. Despite what global warming propaganda claims, CO2 is not a pollutant. It is an essential ingredient for life on Earth and needed for plant growth.

It is illogical for the government to pretend to care about CO2 emissions and the environment while planning to bring in millions of immigrants, non-permanent residents and refugees to Canada over the coming years. These people from countries that are poorer than Canada will use more energy, consume more stuff, and need more space for houses built in sprawling cities on land previously used for agriculture or left in a natural state. A larger population inevitably has a larger impact on the environment.

GLOBAL WARMING & THE ENVIRONMENT

Rejecting Climate Alarmism and
Focusing on Concrete Improvements



A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Withdraw from the Paris Accord**
Withdraw from the Paris Accord and abandon unrealistic greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.
- ✓ **Prioritise Support for Canadians**
Stop sending billions of dollars to developing countries to help them reduce their emissions.
- ✓ **Abolish the Carbon Tax**
Abolish the Liberal government's carbon tax and leave it to provincial governments to adopt programs to reduce emissions if they want to.
- ✓ **Promote Private-Sector Solutions**
Abolish wasteful government subsidies for green technology and let private players develop profitable and efficient alternatives.
- ✓ **Invest in Adaptation**
Invest in adaptation strategies if problems arise as a result of any natural climate change.
- ✓ **Reduce Immigration**
End mass immigration policies (see policy on Immigration) so as to mitigate the impact on the environment of a growing population.
- ✓ **Promote Solutions for Canada**
Prioritize implementing practical solutions to make Canada's air, water and soil cleaner, including bringing clean drinking water to remote First Nations communities.

PUBLIC FINANCE



Balancing the Budget in a First Mandate Then Cutting Taxes

Our Plan

Deficits and debts are nothing more than deferred taxes on our children and grandchildren. Instead of buying votes with borrowed money, a responsible government should aggressively cut spending, balance the budget as quickly as possible, and then lower taxes in a prudent manner to put money back into Canadians' pockets.

A People's Party government will:

✓ Reverse Wasteful Liberal Programs

Reverse new spending programs announced by the Trudeau government.

✓ Eliminate the Deficit

Get rid of the deficit by the end of a first mandate through fiscal prudence and spending cuts, including corporate welfare, foreign development aid, CBC, equalization payments, and funding for programs which are provincial or municipal responsibilities.

✓ Stop Buying Votes

Stop using our tax system for political ends and make it simpler and fairer. In particular, it will eliminate targeted tax measures that are inefficient and serve no compelling public policy purpose.

✓ Reduce Taxes

Cut personal income taxes, corporate taxes, and the personal capital gains tax after the deficit has been eliminated, over the course of several budgets, as the fiscal room is found to allow it.

Facts

The Liberal government incurred massive deficits in the hundreds of billions of dollars during the pandemic years, and our national debt will total a record \$1.2 trillion (or \$1200 billion) by 2024. These deficits were funded by money printed by the Bank of Canada, which predictably fueled inflation and forced the Bank to hike interest rates. Instead of paying for these deficits directly with taxes, Canadians are paying them indirectly with higher prices on all goods and services, and higher interest payments on mortgages.

Pierre Poilievre voted for the Liberals' massive covid spending and has refused to condemn their new, unconstitutional programs that intrude on provincial jurisdictions. He has only said that he would cut one dollar somewhere for each dollar of new spending, which means a Poilievre Conservative government will keep overall spending at the same level and will not reduce the size of government. He offers nothing that substantially differs from the Liberals.

Even though the exceptional spending of the pandemic years is over, spending has not gone down to pre-covid levels. The Liberals have permanently increased the size of the federal government. The 2023 Budget is forecasting more deficits for the next five years. Even though Canada's aging population will continue to weigh on public finances, the Liberals are not putting a single dollar aside for rainy days, but instead continue to spend recklessly as if there is no tomorrow.

According to data published in 2021 by the Parliamentary Budget Officer, if current policies are not adjusted, the federal government will only balance its budget again in the year 2070. A baby born in 2021 already owes more than \$26,000 in federal government debt. By the time the budget is balanced a half-century from now, newborns will be on the hook for about \$67,000.

Issue

Canada's public finances are in a disastrous state. Under the Trudeau Liberals, spending, deficits, and the national debt are exploding. Justin Trudeau exploited the COVID crisis to create a whole series of expensive new programs in areas of provincial jurisdictions such as daycare and dental care. The Conservatives, NDP, Bloc and Greens all supported the Liberals' massive COVID spending and none of them is committed to reducing the size of government.

This is utterly irresponsible. Because of this fiscal profligacy, inflation and interest rates are at their highest level in decades. When another recession hits, the federal government will be in a precarious fiscal situation and could lose control of its finances. Moreover, no broad-based reduction in the tax burden will ever be possible with a government that keeps growing and paying for new programs with borrowed money.

Issue

Housing has become out of reach for many Canadians, in particular for young families living in big cities. Vancouver and Toronto have become two of the most unaffordable large cities in the world.

Over the past decades, the federal government has spent billions of dollars and created various bureaucratic programs to presumably make housing more affordable, with no results. Among other things, it has manipulated the financial criteria to qualify for mortgages and mortgage insurance, provided tax breaks to first buyers, and funded social housing.

The fundamental problem however is the mismatch between supply of and demand for housing, that Ottawa, the provinces and municipalities are making worse with other policies, in particular mass immigration and zoning restrictions.

Facts

About 40% of immigrants to Canada end up settling in only two cities, Toronto and Vancouver, where the housing shortage is most acute. The Trudeau government has increased immigration targets from 250,000 per year under the Harper government, to 500,000 in 2025. In addition to regular immigration, Canada has also been welcoming in recent years more temporary foreign workers and foreign students, large numbers of illegal immigrants, and plans to accept hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees under a special program. This skyrocketing number of newcomers is one of the main reasons for the constantly high level of demand for housing and the exorbitant prices in Canadian cities. Even if a lot more houses were to be built, supply cannot keep up with this level of demand.

Overall inflation has become a major problem in every sector of the economy and is a consequence of inflationary monetary policy – that is, the Bank of Canada having printed too much money in order to fund the Trudeau government's gigantic deficits. This inflationary policy adds to the already overheated conditions in the housing market.

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Reduce BOC Target Inflation**
Modify the Bank of Canada's inflation target, from 2% to 0%. This will cool down inflation in all sectors, including housing.
- ✓ **Respect Local Planning**
Respect local governments' responsibilities in housing. They must be accountable to their populations, and not be subjected to federal pressure to "densify" neighbourhoods with detached houses in order to accommodate mass immigration policies.
- ✓ **Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)**
Privatize or dismantle the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), a mammoth government agency that fuels the housing crisis instead of helping to cool it down. All it has ever done is encourage Canadians to buy houses they can't afford, and accumulate massive amounts of debt that the federal government, and ultimately Canadian taxpayers, will be responsible for.
- ✓ **Restrict Foreign Home Buyers**
Work with provinces to curb speculation and money laundering by foreign non-resident buyers in Canada's land and housing markets.
- ✓ **Reduce Immigration**
Substantially lower the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accept every year, from 500,000 planned by the Liberal government in 2025, to between 100,000 and 150,000 in normal circumstances, or even lower in crisis situations, depending on economic and other circumstances.

 **HOUSING**
Cooling Down an Overheated Market

Our Plan

Housing is primarily a provincial or local responsibility. Ottawa's involvement over the years has only resulted in distorting the housing market. There is nothing the federal government can do to change provincial or municipal zoning laws, but it can stop contributing to the overheating of the housing market in different ways.

SELF-DEFENCE

Allowing Victims of Violent Crime to Defend Themselves

A People's Party government will:

✓ Fortify the Right to Self-Defence

Amend section 34 of the Criminal Code to clarify and fortify the right to self-defence, and increase the burden of proof necessary to charge and convict victims who used force to defend themselves against a violent attacker.

✓ Implement "Castle Doctrine"

Amend section 35 of the Criminal Code to include the concept of the inviolability of one's home, known as "Castle Doctrine," that allows victims to use force (up to and including deadly force) to defend themselves against a violent intruder, free from legal prosecution.

✓ Allow Pepper Spray for Self-Defence

Amend the Criminal Code to remove pepper spray from the list of prohibited weapons and make it legal to possess and carry it for self-defence.

Our Plan

Canadians should be able to defend themselves in circumstances where they are violently attacked or are victims of robbery in their own homes, without fear of criminal charges. Everybody, and women in particular, should be allowed to carry effective means of self-defence against aggressors and rapists.

Issue

After eight years of Trudeau government, Canada has become a dramatically more dangerous place. After declining for decades, crime is again on the rise and Canadians don't feel safe anymore walking down the street at night in many cities, or even in their own homes.

One obvious way to deter crime is to make it clear to criminals that there are laws and enforcement means in place that make it likely that they will be caught and severely punished. Another is the fear that their victims are going to defend themselves.

Any justice system grounded in morality and reason allows self-defence. In Canada, this right is, however, inconsistently applied due to the law's complexity and imprecision.

There have been many cases over the past years when honest citizens who defended themselves against violent assailants were themselves charged and went on trial because they used force that was not deemed "reasonable in the circumstances" and "proportionate to the perceived threat."

Moreover, the Criminal Code specifically makes it illegal to carry and use even non-lethal devices such as pepper spray as modes of defence against potential attackers. This makes women in particular even more defenceless and prone to fall victim to aggression and sexual violence.

Facts

Sections 34 of the Criminal Code states in what circumstances individuals can use force to defend themselves or others if force is being used or threatened against them or others. Section 35 recognizes certain circumstances where an individual is justified in using physical force against another person to protect his or her property from being entered, taken, damaged or destroyed.

According to Ontario lawyer Edward Burlew, who has been involved in self-defence cases involving the use of firearms, although the Criminal Code was amended in 2013 to clarify these self-defence sections, the law remains "imprecise." "It has been dealt with on a very uneven basis. It has been primarily driven by the individual opinions and emotions of police and prosecutors."

A recent case is that of a Manitoba man, Dakota Pratt, who was sentenced to five years in prison in 2019 after being convicted of manslaughter in the death of a person who entered his house in the middle of the night and attacked him with a knife. The resident took the assailant's weapon and stabbed him 13 times. The judge said he had a right to protect himself but went beyond what was necessary for self-defence.

Condemning a person to years in prison for having made the wrong assessment of a "perceived threat," or having used too much force to defend themselves while in a state of panic after being violently attacked, is clearly a breach of the universal human right to self-defence. Such legal proceedings can destroy a person's mental health, family life, and livelihood, even when they are not found guilty of an offence.

Victims of robbery are typically advised to call the police and avoid any confrontation with assailants while waiting for the police to arrive. In rural areas however, police stations are often far away and it can take a long time for the police to arrive at the scene of a crime. The threat that a victim may retaliate with force is a crucial way to deter crime.

Criminal Code regulations list pepper spray as a prohibited weapon. Section 92 of the *Criminal Code* makes it illegal to possess and carry pepper spray for self-defence and punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years.

Issue

Canada's public health care system has the dubious distinction of having the worst wait times of any developed country. Health care costs have been increasing at an unsustainable rate, putting more and more financial pressures on the budgets of provincial governments. The situation is likely to get worse with Canada's aging population. And as we saw during the COVID pandemic, our health care system is too rigid and bureaucratized to quickly adapt to a crisis situation.

Health care is an exclusive provincial jurisdiction. However, for years the federal government has insisted that the provinces satisfy a series of conditions set in the *Canada Health Act* in exchange for transfer payments. These conditions discourage innovation. Also, the money does not directly fund health care services. It is simply added to the provinces' budgets and they decide where and how they spend it.

All this confusion and undue interference leads to bickering between Ottawa and the provinces over who is responsible for the failings of our health care system, and how much money Ottawa should contribute. It prevents the implementation of sound reforms.

Facts

Canada is among the OECD countries that spend the most on health care. Ottawa's health care transfers to the provinces have more than doubled since 2006, from \$20 billion to \$49 billion in 2023-24, with nothing to show for it.

The fundamental problem is that we are the only developed country where the government has a monopoly on medically required care. All other OECD countries (with the exception of the United States) have universal mixed private-public systems that guarantee citizens equal access.

Patients in these countries have a lot more choice than Canadians. They can be treated in public or private hospitals, with the government or their private insurance paying for the treatment. Wait times are non-existent or very short, and nobody is denied care because of low income.

HEALTH CARE

Giving Provinces the Incentives to Deal with Wait Times and Rising Costs

Our Plan

It's time for Canada to implement reforms in line with the more efficient and less costly mixed universal systems of other developed countries. Throwing more federal money at the problem, as all the other parties are proposing, is not the right approach. On the contrary, it is part of the problem. Provincial governments will never make the tough decisions if they can always blame Ottawa for not sending enough money. We must end the current confusion over who does what and who is responsible for the problem.

A People's Party government will:

✓ Reform Canada Health Transfers

Replace the Canada Health Transfer cash payments with a permanent transfer of tax points of equivalent value to the provinces and territories, to give them a stable source of revenue. In practice, Ottawa will give up its Goods and Services Tax (GST), and let provincial and territorial governments occupy this fiscal room. In 2023-24, the GST is expected to bring in about \$51 billion in revenues, almost the same amount currently transferred by Ottawa.

✓ Public & Private Service Delivery

Repeal the *Canada Health Act*, and create the conditions for provincial and territorial governments to set up mixed private-public universal systems like other developed countries. They will be fully responsible for health care funding and management, and fully accountable to their citizens for the results, while Ottawa will respect the Constitution and stop meddling.

✓ Equal Service for All

Establish a temporary program to compensate poorer provinces whose revenues from the tax will be lower than the transfer payments they used to receive.



ECONOMY

Encouraging Investment and Productivity Growth

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Eliminate Corporate Welfare**
Eliminate all corporate subsidies and other inefficient government interventions (bailouts of failing companies, regional development grants, conditional loans and loan guarantees with an implicit subsidy, tax credits, etc.) that unfairly support some companies or business sectors. This will generate savings of tens of billions of dollars every year.
- ✓ **Lower Corporate Taxes**
Gradually reduce over the course of one mandate the corporate income tax rate from its current 15% down to 10%. When completed, this measure will make about \$16 billion available to businesses, allowing them to increase salaries or invest in productivity improvements. (According to the Parliamentary Budget Officer's Ready Reckoner website, July 2023.)
- ✓ **Abolish Capital Gains Tax**
Over the course of one mandate, gradually abolish the personal capital gains tax by decreasing the inclusion rate from the current 50% down to 0%.
- ✓ **Promote Canadian Employment**
End the Trudeau government's policy of mass immigration as a solution to manpower shortages (see policy on immigration), and focus instead on encouraging businesses to invest and improve their productivity.

Our Plan

Ottawa should stop taking billions of dollars from the private sector and redistributing them through subsidies. It should instead lower taxes for all businesses and encourage saving and investment to make our economy more productive.

Issue

There are only two ways to create more wealth and prosperity: we can either work more or work more efficiently through increased productivity. Investments in R&D, innovation, more efficient production processes, machinery and equipment are critical to improvements in productivity and living standards.

Improved productivity leads to better, higher-paying jobs, and therefore a higher standard of living. And in a context where there are manpower shortages in many sectors, investment is a way to increase production without necessarily having to employ more workers.

Unfortunately, in the last decade, Canada's business climate has become less and less welcoming to both domestic and foreign investors, business investment has gone down, and our productivity is lagging that of most other industrialized countries. This slowdown of productivity, coupled with the Trudeau government's mass immigration policies, means that we have more and more people to support with a stagnating economy. Instead of growing, GDP per capita and our standard of living are declining.

More government intervention in the economy is not the answer to our economic challenges. Every time the government takes an additional dollar in taxes, or borrows it, this is a dollar that individuals or business-people will not be able to spend or invest.

Facts

A 2018 study by the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary found \$14 billion worth of direct and indirect federal business subsidies every year. This number is certainly much higher today, the Trudeau government having announced in 2023 \$32 billion in subsidies to only two companies producing batteries for electric vehicles, and planning to spend hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies in the coming years to fight so-called climate change. Subsidies do not spur more economic activity. On the contrary, they create inefficiencies and market distortions by unfairly favouring some companies or sectors at the expense of others.

According to the latest OECD figures, Canada's combined federal-provincial corporate income tax rate is the 12th highest amongst the 38 OECD countries. A more competitive tax rate would ensure that Canadian businesses become more profitable, pay higher salaries and invest more.

By reducing the return on investment, a capital gains tax not only lowers overall investment, it also hinders the allocation of capital to its most efficient uses and discourages riskier ventures that are likely to bring more innovation. Many of our trading partners do not tax capital gains. There was no capital gains tax in Canada until 1972. Abolishing it would encourage every Canadian to save and invest more and would give our entrepreneurs access to a larger pool of capital. The benefits to our economy would vastly exceed the loss of government revenues.

Our Plan

The Government of Canada has an obligation to honour the nation's sacred commitment to our military men and women, and ensure veterans and their families receive adequate recognition and benefits for the sacrifices they make, including care, treatment and fair compensation for injury or death and return to civilian life.

Issue

The Canadian Armed Forces has a proud history and is one of the most capable and respected military forces in the world.

Unfortunately, successive Liberal and Conservative governments have largely chosen to forget this proud history. They have starved our military forces of funds, equipment and support, and broken their trust with those who made an exceptional personal commitment to put life and limb at risk in the interests of the nation.

The backbone of any military is the character of the men and women who serve. The fastest way to demoralize and undermine a country's military is to fail to look after injured soldiers when they return home or to provide for the families of those who did not make it back.

Facts

Until 2006, veterans injured or disabled during military service received a tax-free lifetime disability pension under the *Pension Act*, as determined by a veteran's disability assessment, including support and survivor benefits for spouses and dependent children.

On April 1, 2006, the *New Veterans Charter* replaced those pensions with a one-time lump sum disability payout that is wholly inadequate, leaving many injured and disabled veterans in dire financial straits. It created two classes of veterans.

The Trudeau government campaigned on the re-establishment of a lifelong disability pension, a "Pension For Life", which actually amounts to a hodgepodge of existing benefits recycled and repackaged as something new. The Parliamentary Budget Officer has calculated that the Pension for Life provides the average veteran lifetime payments less than one third of what would have been provided under the *Pension Act*. Moreover, it has become increasingly difficult for veterans to navigate all the programs and obtain the benefits they are entitled to.

When a veteran who had lost a leg asked Justin Trudeau at a Town Hall why his government was still fighting veterans groups attempting to get the support they were promised, Trudeau said: "Because they're asking for more than we are able to give right now."

VETERANS



Standing Behind the Men and Women Who Sacrificed for Our Country

A People's Party government will:

✓ Respect Veterans

Recognize and respect the unique sacrifices of those who serve and have served in Canada's Armed Forces.

✓ Protect Those Who Serve

Enshrine in legislation the country's obligations to our veterans in a Military Covenant between the government and those who serve in the Armed Forces.

✓ Disability Reform

Reinstate the fair disability pension as previously provided for by the *Pension Act*. The pension will apply retroactively to 2006 and lump sum payments received since then will be treated as advance payments.

✓ Simplify Program Access

Instigate a line-by-line review of the *New Veterans Charter* (including the *Enhanced New Veterans Charter Act of 2011*), to determine which policies and programs should be retained, simplify the system and make it easier to navigate.

✓ Believe Veterans at Their Word

Reemphasize the legislative guarantee of the "Benefit of doubt" standard under the *Pension Act*.



PIPELINES

Allowing our Oil and Gas Industry to Grow

A People's Party government will:

✓ **No Environmental Propaganda**
Counter anti-oil and anti-pipeline propaganda from radical environmentalists and foreign foundations.

✓ **Repeal Bill C-48**

✓ **Repeal Bill C-69**

✓ **Streamline Approvals**
Approve pipelines projects using a streamlined process.

✓ **Sell Trans Mountain**

Find a private buyer for the Trans Mountain pipeline project & put it into operation.

✓ **Assert Federal Jurisdiction Over Pipelines**

Reassert federal jurisdiction over pipelines construction by invoking section 92(10) of our Constitution if necessary, whereby Parliament can declare any project to be for the general advantage of Canada.

✓ **Keep Line 5 in Operation**

Work with industry and with our American partners to revive cancelled projects and keep Line 5 in operation.

Issue

Under the influence of radical environmental activists and American left-wing foundations, the Trudeau government has done everything it can to stifle the growth of Canada's oil industry by preventing it from transporting and selling its products.

With Bill C-48, the Liberals imposed a ban on oil tanker traffic on the north coast of British Columbia, which brought the cancellation of the Northern Gateway and Eagle Spirit pipeline projects. After years of legal uncertainty, investors pulled out of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project and sold it to the federal government for \$4.5 billion.

Unrealistic environmental requirements from the National Energy Board also killed the Energy East pipeline. Bill C-69 makes the process of building pipelines and other major energy projects so complex and difficult that it could prevent any new investment. Among other things, that bill requires projects to be analyzed based on "the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors." Almost all natural gas transportation and export projects proposed in recent years have been abandoned.

Finally, the Biden administration cancelled the Keystone XL pipeline project and the Michigan Governor has been trying to shut down the crucially important Line 5 that carries oil and natural gas liquids from Western Canada to Ontario and Quebec.

Because of these constraints, capital investments in the oil and gas industry collapsed. Our overdependence on the American market for exports also costs the Canadians economy billions of dollars in foregone revenues every year. Alberta's economy suffered a major setback for several years, with tens of thousands of jobs disappearing in the oil patch and many more in local communities that depend on this industry.

Facts

Researcher Vivian Krause has spent years documenting a well-organized campaign to landlock Canada's oil, funded by American foundations such as the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the Tides Foundation. Almost all the groups involved in various types of campaigns and court cases against pipeline construction received money from them.

Despite the emergence of alternative sources of energy, global demand for oil is expected to keep rising for several decades. Canada has the third-largest oil reserves in the world and is well placed to answer this demand.

If this oil doesn't come from Alberta and Saskatchewan, it will come from elsewhere, mostly countries with poor environmental or human rights standards such as Russia, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. And if it is not transported by pipelines, it will be transported by rail, a much more dangerous method for both the environment and humans, as we saw with the Lac-Mégantic tragedy.

Our Plan

The oil and gas industry has been for decades a major source of employment, government revenues, and economic well-being for all of Canada. It should be allowed to grow, export its products, and bring prosperity to our country.

Facts

In 1995, Bill C-68 created the *Firearms Act*, the strictest gun-control legislation in Canadian history. Its most controversial feature, the creation of a long-gun registry, was repealed in 2012.

The *Act* continues to classify firearms into different categories for reasons which frequently have nothing to do with their function. Firearms can also be assigned new classifications at the whim of a bureaucrat. What is legal one day can become illegal the next.

Under the licensing system of the *Act*, the ownership of firearms has become a privilege that can be revoked or altered at any moment. Legitimate gun owners can lose their property and even have their life ruined by being criminally charged through their inaction (by not keeping their paperwork up to date for example) or due to the moving goalposts of Canadian firearms law.

Issue

The use of firearms has always been part of Canadian tradition and culture. Today, there are over 2 million hunters, ranchers, trappers, farmers, target shooters, recreational shooters and collectors who possess firearms in our country.

However, despite this group being exceptionally law abiding and the most highly vetted segment in the Canadian population, the existing firearms legislation unfairly targets them, does not respect their property rights, and is highly arbitrary. Since 2019, the Trudeau Liberal government has pursued a course of highly aggressive restrictions that criminalize most responsible and peaceful firearm owners. Firearm owners are currently subject to the most hostile assault on their rights in over a generation.

Our Plan

Canada's firearms legislation must protect society from the criminal misuse of firearms and prioritize the deterrence and punishment of criminals.

Peaceful and responsible firearms owners deserve a legal framework that protects their property rights and treats them with fairness and respect. We need a common-sense approach to gun control that promotes safety while removing the threat of arbitrary criminal prosecution.

FIREARMS

Respecting Legitimate Firearms Owners and Targeting Criminals

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Replace the *Firearms Act***
Replace the *Firearms Act* and supporting legislation with new legislation that will prioritize effective measures to improve public safety and fight crime in Canada.
- ✓ **Firearm Licensing Reform**
Replace the costly and burdensome licensing system with an efficient lifetime certification system for firearms owners following mandatory vetting, safety training and testing. To avoid criminalizing peaceful and responsible gun owners and guarantee their property rights, this system will legalize simple possession of firearms for certified Canadians as long as they use their firearms lawfully and don't commit some other crime that would disqualify them from firearms ownership.
- ✓ **Simplified Classification System**
Require that all firearms categories be based on function, not on looks or arbitrary political whims, and reclassify all firearms based on the Simplified Classification System as proposed by the Canadian Shooting Sports Association. This will remove ineffective restrictions which unfairly target sport shooters, but have no deterrent effect on criminals.
- ✓ **Repeal Banned Firearms**
Repeal Trudeau's 2020 cabinet decision to ban 1500 types of firearms.
- ✓ **Repeal Bill C-71**
Repeal Trudeau's Bill C-71, which imposes a set of new restrictions on licensed gun owners and businesses that sell firearms, and Bill C-21 (if the latter becomes law), which freezes the sale and transfer of handguns and arbitrarily adds certain types of rifles and shotguns to the list of banned firearms.
- ✓ **Parliamentary Supremacy**
Mandate that all future changes to firearms regulation be completed through Parliament only. This means that neither the RCMP nor cabinet will be able to move the legal goalposts for firearms owners without the approval of Parliament.

EQUALIZATION

Fairness for All Provinces



Our Plan

Provinces should not be receiving equalization payments for decades, just like individuals should not be receiving welfare cheques all their lives. It's time to stop rewarding provincial governments for not adopting better economic policies.

The Constitution does not commit the federal government to spend tens of billions of dollars every year on equalization; does not prescribe any specific formula; and does not define what "reasonably comparable" means.

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Reduce Equalization Payments**
Reduce the total amount of equalization payments to provinces, and make sure that only the provinces with the greatest needs benefit from it.
- ✓ **Equalization Formula Review**
Establish a parliamentary committee to review and make recommendations on a new formula that will avoid the welfare trap and provide poorer provinces with the right incentives to adopt pro-growth economic policies and reduce their dependence on federal money.
- ✓ **Fairness for Every Province**
Ensure that the new formula respects our Constitution, makes provincial governments more responsible for their policy decisions, and is fair for citizens of all provinces.

Issue

When it was started in 1957, the equalization program had a noble intention: to ensure that all Canadians have access to a similar level of services from their provincial government, regardless of whether they live in richer or poorer provinces. Equalization was seen as a way to unite the country.

Unfortunately, that is not how it turned out. The program is unfair and inefficient, both for citizens of richer provinces that do not receive equalization payments like Alberta and Saskatchewan—whose economies are hurting because of the downturn in the oil sector—and for citizens of provinces that have been on the receiving end for decades (Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and PEI), because it keeps these provinces in a state of dependency and underdevelopment.

Equalization payments encourage recipient provinces to maintain large public sectors, keep taxes high, and intervene more in their economies, which drives out investment and lowers employment and productivity. They don't have the correct incentives to make their economies more competitive and develop their natural resources, because more private sector growth will lead to smaller equalization payments. It's a poverty trap.

Facts

Equalization payments were first introduced in 1957. The 1982 *Constitution Act* includes a vaguely worded commitment to "the principle" of equalization, the goal being to ensure that provinces "have sufficient revenues to provide reasonably comparable levels of public services at reasonably comparable levels of taxation."

In 2023-24, the equalization program will transfer nearly \$24 billion. Quebec will receive \$14 billion, Manitoba \$3.5 billion, Nova Scotia \$2.8 billion, New Brunswick \$2.6 billion, Prince Edward Island \$561 million, and Ontario \$421 million. The governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador will not receive any payments. Under the current formula, the total amount of equalization payments increases steadily, in accordance with nominal GDP, even when there is a reduction in wealth disparities among the provinces.

Issue

The rights of Canadians to freely hold and express beliefs are being eroded at an alarming speed under the Trudeau government. Some of its decisions even require that Canadians renounce their most deeply held moral convictions and express opinions they disagree with.

In 2018, the Liberal government denied summer job funding to organizations, including charities, that would not sign an attestation supporting abortion. It also passed bill C-16 as part of a trend to force Canadians to express support for the existence of various gender identities beyond the biological categories of male and female, and to use pronouns demanded by those who identify with these other genders.

In addition to these assaults on conscience, the government launched a series of regulatory attacks on free speech on the internet and is pressuring social media companies, which are already censoring speech that isn't politically correct, to crack down even more. It is also considering bringing back Section 13 of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*. This hate speech provision was repealed by the Conservative government in 2013 because it was being used arbitrarily to censor statements that offended some people on the internet.

In what appears to be a first step towards restricting our right to criticize some religions, it adopted M-103, a motion that condemns religious discrimination but only specifically mentions one religion, Islam, and without defining the term "islamophobia."

Finally, on university campuses, a growing number of faculty and administrators—those who should be fighting for open debate of controversial ideas—have become aggressive advocates for censorship.

Facts

History and social scientific research show that freedom of conscience and freedom of expression, when maximally protected, advance the intellectual life of a nation, foster greater ideological diversity and societal understanding, and nurture other freedoms necessary for a successful democracy.

This is why Section 2 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees citizens freedom of conscience and religion, as well as freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication.

A People's Party government will:

- ✓ **Stop Criminalizing Speech**
Restrict the definition of hate speech in the *Criminal Code* to expression which explicitly advocates the use of force against identifiable groups or persons based on protected criteria such as religion, race, ethnicity, sex, or sexual orientation.
- ✓ **Repeal Bad Legislation**
Repeal any existing legislation or regulation curtailing free speech on the internet and prevent the reinstatement of section 13 of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*.
- ✓ **Repeal Bill C-16 and Motion M-103**
- ✓ **Abolish Media Welfare**
Abolish all public funding to Canadian media and insure that they are completely independent and free from government influence.
- ✓ **Protect Freedom of Conscience**
Ensure that Canadians can exercise their freedom of conscience to its fullest extent as it is intended under the Charter and are not discriminated against because of their moral convictions.
- ✓ **Stop Censorship on Campus**
Withhold federal funding from any post-secondary institution shown to be violating the freedom of expression of its students or faculty.



**FREEDOM of
EXPRESSION**
Protecting Canadians from
Censorship and Discrimination

Our Plan

What some people find politically incorrect, offensive or even hateful cannot serve as the legal basis for discrimination and censorship. Canadians should be able to enjoy maximum freedom of conscience and expression as guaranteed in Section 2 of the Charter.



INDIGENOUS ISSUES

A New Relationship Based on Mutual Respect

A People's Party government will:

✓ Replace the Indian Act

Replace the paternalistic Indian Act, which keeps indigenous peoples in a state of dependency and allows the federal government to control most aspects of their lives, with a new legal framework that guarantees equal rights and responsibilities to indigenous people as Canadians, and promotes the self-reliance of communities.

✓ Respect the Constitution and Treaties

Reaffirm the federal government's power to approve natural resources and infrastructure projects, after adequate consultations with affected indigenous groups, and in partnership with them to ensure they can benefit from these economic opportunities.

✓ Explore On-Reserve Property Rights

Explore further avenues to promote the establishment of individual property rights on reserves so as to empower its residents, and give them increased control over their lives.

✓ Promote Service Ownership

Ensure that indigenous communities take more ownership of the services they receive in partnership with Ottawa and other levels of government.

✓ Review Federal Spending

Review federal spending to ensure that programs are better targeted to benefit the indigenous population, in particular the communities that have the greatest needs.

Our Plan

Though it is not possible to address more than a few of these issues in the context of this platform, a People's Party government would prioritize reform for Indigenous communities based upon our founding principals of Freedom, Fairness, Responsibility, and Responsibility.

Issue

The indigenous population of Canada is extremely diversified. It accounts for about 5% of Canada's population and comprises First Nations, Inuit and Métis. There are more than 600 First Nations communities dispersed across the country. More than half of First Nations Canadians don't live on reserves.

Indigenous issues are also very complex. Some communities are prosperous, others much poorer than the Canadian average. Many suffer from critical social issues, including homelessness, crime, domestic violence, substance abuse and suicide. Many don't have the basic services that we take for granted such as access to clean water. There are other major issues to address regarding treaty negotiations, housing, property rights on reserves, residential schools, etc.

It is not possible to address more than a few of these issues in the context of this platform. Here is what a People's Party government would prioritize on the basis of its four key principles.

Facts

Many injustices were committed in the past by the Canadian government towards indigenous peoples, some of which are still ongoing. We cannot rewrite the past, but only seek the best way to live together harmoniously in the future. This relationship must be based on mutual respect and a balanced approach taking into account the needs of the indigenous population and the interests of the Canadian population as a whole.

The lack of real private property on reserves is in part responsible for the poor state of housing and the social ills that derive from it, and is one of the greatest impediments to economic development.

Fairness demands that all Canadians benefit from roughly equivalent services wherever they live. It's unacceptable that some indigenous communities live in conditions that resemble those of third world countries. But the current model to solve these problems is based on top-down bureaucratic solutions imposed by Ottawa on dependent communities with no voice in the process.

Although federal spending on Indigenous programs has gone up from \$11.4 billion when the Liberals were elected in 2015 to about \$27 billion in 2022-23, there is little evidence that living conditions have been improving in indigenous communities. The federal government and indigenous administrations have a responsibility to ensure that taxpayers' money is well spent.

Issue

Supply management is a government-imposed cartel that keeps the prices of dairy, poultry, and eggs artificially high through the control of production, the banning of imports, price fixing, and the prevention of competition in the market.

The system forces producers to buy quotas which grant permission to produce a set amount. For example, it costs between \$20,000 and \$40,000 to get the right to milk one cow. It keeps out imports by imposing exorbitant tariffs that range from 150% for eggs to 300% for butter. Because our market is closed to most imports, our farmers are not allowed to export their products.

Supply management negatively impacts other sectors of our economy. Businesses in the food processing and food preparation sectors like restaurants are forced to pay more for basic products and are therefore less competitive.

Although they account for only about 10% of all Canadian farms, farmers under supply management constitute one of the most influential lobbies in Ottawa. When Canada negotiates free trade agreements with other countries, protecting the system always ends up as the focus of talks. Canada could have obtained a better deal during negotiations with the U.S. and Mexico to renew NAFTA if we had put supply management on the table, as demanded by the U.S. government.

In order to satisfy one small but powerful lobby, we restrict the development of other businesses and prevent the creation of thousands of jobs in these other sectors.

Facts

According to the OECD, Canadian consumers had to pay \$3.6 billion more every year between 2011 and 2015 for all products under supply management.

A 2015 study done by University of Manitoba economists showed that the system imposes a financial burden of \$339 annually on the poorest 20% of Canadian households, which is the equivalent of a 2.3% tax on their incomes.

The “market” value of quotas was estimated at \$35 billion in 2016. But that’s not what it would cost the government to buy them back if it decided to abolish the system. The accounting value of quotas after depreciation would form the basis for compensation. Farmers who bought them recently would be reimbursed close to the market value, while those who bought them at lower prices years ago would get less, and those who got them for free would get nothing. The Conference Board of Canada estimated such a buy-out would cost between \$3.6 billion and \$4.7 billion in total.



SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

Making Dairy, Poultry, and Eggs
More Affordable

A People's Party government will:

✓ Eliminate Protectionism

Create a free, open, and fair system that will save Canadians billions of dollars annually thanks to the lower prices they will pay for these products.

✓ Phase Out Quotas

Phase out the supply management system over a number of years to allow farmers to adapt, and compensate them for the lost value of their quotas.

✓ Promote International Sales

Allow Canada's dairy, egg and poultry farmers to thrive and sell their products internationally.

Our Plan

The supply management system is inefficient and fundamentally unfair to consumers, farmers, and other sectors of our economy.

INTERNAL TRADE

Getting Rid of
Interprovincial Trade Barriers



A People's Party government will:

✓ **Reassert Federal Authority**
Reassert the authority and leadership of the federal government on internal trade.

✓ **Harmonize Standards**
Use section 91(2) of the Constitution, which gives Ottawa exclusive power to regulate matters of international and interprovincial trade, to force provinces to apply the principle of mutual recognition where applicable. This principle means that if a worker, product or service meets regulatory standards in one province, then other provinces will trust that they meet their own standards.

✓ **Appoint Internal Trade Minister**
Appoint a Minister of Internal Trade whose sole responsibility will be to conduct studies, raise public awareness, counteract the influence of special interests that benefit from interprovincial barriers, and put pressure on provincial governments to get rid of them.

Our Plan

Freeing our economy from these interprovincial trade barriers would help families and businesses. It would also increase competition, raise productivity, and unite our country.

Issue

More than a century and a half after Canada's founding, Canadians still cannot buy, sell, or work freely within their own country. In order to protect local special interests, provincial governments have adopted all kinds of measures that erect barriers to trade and labour mobility.

Goods such as alcohol and agricultural products cannot be sold freely across provincial borders because of government monopolies or regulations. Nurses, accountants, or engineers have problems finding work in another province because their skills are not automatically recognized. Safety rules vary from one province to another.

In some cases, it is easier for a Canadian company to sell its product in another country than in another province or territory. This hinders competition and impedes the growth of firms. Canadian consumers are therefore forced to pay more for goods and services.

This is not what the Fathers of Confederation had intended. Section 121 of the Constitution states that goods must be "admitted free into each of the other provinces." However, in the 2018 landmark Comeau case, the Supreme Court ruled that measures which have the effect of limiting trade are unconstitutional only if it can be demonstrated that this is their "primary purpose." This level of proof would be extremely difficult to establish in most cases.

Facts

The 1994 Agreement on Internal Trade negotiated between Ottawa, the provinces, and the territories, failed to eliminate barriers. Its successor, the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, came into force in 2017, but almost half of its 345 pages contain exceptions and opt-out measures, rendering it ineffective.

From an economic point of view, interprovincial barriers have the same effect as customs tariffs imposed on imports from other countries. According to a Statistics Canada study, the level of trade within Canada corresponds to what would be expected if each province imposed a 7% tariff on "imports" of goods and services from other provinces.

A 2016 study published in the *Canadian Journal of Economics* concluded that interprovincial trade barriers cost Canadians roughly \$100 billion in lost economic opportunities annually. This is equivalent to a staggering \$7,500 per household every year.

COVID POLICY

A Rational Approach that Respects our Rights and Freedoms

A People's Party government will:

✓ **Promote Evidence-Based Policies**

Promote a rational and scientifically based approach to the pandemic that focuses on the protection of the most vulnerable, guarantees the freedom of Canadians to make decisions based on informed consent, and rejects coercion and discrimination.

✓ **Stop Taking Direction from the WHO**

Fire the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada Theresa Tam and replace her with someone who will work with provincial agencies to implement a rational approach to the pandemic, instead of following the recommendations of the World Health Organization.

✓ **Repeal Vaccine Mandates**

Repeal vaccine mandates and regular testing for federal civil servants and workers in federally regulated industries.

✓ **Repeal Vaccine Passports**

Repeal vaccine passports for travellers.

✓ **Oppose Authoritarian Measures**

Oppose vaccine mandates, vaccine passports, and other authoritarian measures imposed by provincial governments, and support individuals and groups that challenge such measures in court.

✓ **End Support for Lockdowns**

Support emergency provincial measures to protect the most vulnerable, but stop bailing out provinces that impose economically destructive lockdowns.

✓ **Support Alternative COVID Therapies**

Support medical research and development of therapies to treat COVID-19 and other viral diseases.

Issue

The unprecedented government response to the COVID-19 pandemic has had massively negative repercussions on Canadians' physical and mental health, economic well-being, as well as their rights and freedoms.

The standard approach to pandemic management had always been to protect the vulnerable and allow the rest of the healthy population to go about their regular lives while building herd immunity. Lockdowns of entire populations were never part of any pre-covid pandemic planning.

This experiment was largely ineffective in reducing the spread of the virus, but caused significant collateral damage. The vast majority of COVID victims were elderly patients with comorbidities in nursing homes that governments failed to protect. Lockdown measures will cause even more deaths in the longer term due to stress-related illnesses, depression, postponement of surgeries, drug overdose, suicide, domestic violence, etc.

Governments don't want to admit that they were wrong and are imposing increasingly authoritarian measures on the population, including vaccine passports. Both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated will suffer under a regime of segregation, constant control, and surveillance. It is illusory to believe that the virus can be eradicated. We have to learn to live with it, without destroying our way of life in the process.

Our Plan

Although most of the measures in response to the COVID pandemic have been implemented by provincial governments, Ottawa has an important coordinating role to play at the national level and can influence provincial policies. The federal public health agency coordinates policies with provincial agencies. Ottawa also encouraged and supported lockdown policies through the transfer of tens of billions of dollars in financial aid to provinces and territories.

Facts

Lockdowns, mask mandates, school closures, and other authoritarian sanitary measures have not had any noticeable effect on the course of the pandemic. Regions or countries that implemented strict measures have been as impacted as those that did not.

Both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated can get infected and transmit the virus, which negates the rationale for segregation and vaccine passports.

Section 1 of Canada's *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* states that reasonable limits to our rights and freedoms can only be imposed if it has been demonstrated that they are justified in a free and democratic society. Such a demonstration has not been made for covid restrictions, most of which are arguably unconstitutional.

(Although the COVID-19 pandemic is essentially over, we keep this important policy proposal in our Platform to show how the PPC's approach was completely different from that of other establishment parties.)

NEW GEN

PEOPLE'S PARTY OF CANADA

LEADING THE WAY TO A
BRIGHTER FUTURE.



WHO WE ARE

New Generation is the youth wing of the People's Party of Canada.

We represent PPC supporters aged **14 – 25**
from coast to coast to coast.

We fight for **truth, freedom, and a better, brighter future** for young Canadians.

DO YOU KNOW YOUNG FREEDOM FIGHTERS?

Send them our way:

 newgenerationppc.ca  linktr.ee/newgenppc

OUR TEAM



Looking for ideas on how to start your campaign?
Do you have questions about an Elections Canada issue?

Our team of **Regional Coordinators** is here to help!

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