# **ENVIRONMENTAL PLATFORM ASKS**

#### 2019 Canadian Federal Election

These platform recommendations represent the collective priorities of all of the organizations listed below and will form the basis of joint-venture communication concerning each political parties' commitments in the lead-up to the 2019 Federal election.

## **Climate Change**

- In light of the recent IPCC report, the importance of stabilizing global temperature 1 rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and to meet Canada's obligations under the Paris Climate Agreement, will you commit to:
  - A increasing your climate emission reduction targets so they are in line with 1.5 degrees?
  - **B** legislating your climate targets?
  - c legislatively establishing an expert body with oversight and accountability for Canada's climate target and climate plan?
- 2 For the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMX), will you commit to: a transparent, independent review of the economic case, including total cost (purchase, construction) and updated demand scenarios reflecting successful implementation of the Paris agreement; and demonstrating how the project aligns with Canada's Paris target?
- 3 Given the particularly fragile ecosystem of the Gulf of St-Lawrence and its importance to fishing, tourism, and indigenous communities, will you commit to putting in place a moratorium on oil and gas exploration and development in this area?
- 4 The federal government is implementing carbon pricing in jurisdictions where there is no price on carbon pollution. The price of carbon pollution is set to increase over time. Will you maintain federal carbon pricing in provinces and territories where there is no price on carbon pollution and, if so, will you increase the carbon price after 2022 by at least \$10 per year?
- 5 Transportation is the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Canada, with vehicles making up the bulk of those emissions. Will you introduce regulations that require vehicle manufacturers sell an increasing percentage of their fleet as Zero Emission Vehicles in Canada starting with a requirement of 10% ZEV sales by 2025, 30% by 2030, and 100% by 2040, while taking additional steps to make ZEVs more affordable in Canada?
- Buildings consume a lot of energy for heating and cooling and are important sources 6 of greenhouse gas emissions. Will you ensure that Canadians live in more energy efficient buildings by implementing a pan-Canadian Renovation and Retrofit Strategy for deep energy retrofits in existing buildings stock while working with provinces and territories to ensure all new constructions are Net Zero Energy Ready by 2030?

7 Green transition: It's very important to support workers and their families as we begin to transition to a greener economy. Will you commit to extending the mandate of the Task Force on Just Transition to go beyond the phase-out of coal-fired electricity and support workers and communities through the phase-out of other fossil fueldependent industries, and will you provide funding for training and income support for workers to transition out of fossil fuel industries?

## **Biodiversity and Nature**

Biodiversity is in steep decline in Canada and around the world, putting human well-being at risk. Scaled up conservation action in partnership with all levels of government, Indigenous communities and civil society is urgently needed to tackle both climate change and biodiversity loss.

Evidence shows we need to conserve between 30 and 70 percent of land, freshwater, and ocean, with particular attention to the quality of protection, in order to successfully conserve biodiversity and maintain forest carbon sinks. With wild nature at the heart of Canadian identity, our country should step forward as a global conservation leader for the next decade.

- Will you champion a global target of protecting at least 30 percent of land, freshwater 8 and ocean by 2030, and long-term evidence-based targets, and adopt these in Canada?
- 9 Will you commit to new trilateral co-management and governance arrangements (federal, provincial/territorial and Indigenous) to achieve reconciliation, conservation and sustainable resource management?
- 10 Will you ensure Canada's suite of federal protected and conserved areas on land, freshwater and in the oceans, are designed and managed for ecological integrity, according to international conservation standards (IUCN), and prohibit industrial uses?
- 11 Will you advance meaningful protection and recovery of Canada's species at risk by ensuring that:
  - A the protection actions identified in recovery strategies completed by 2019 are implemented by 2023 and demonstrate measurable reductions in threats to the species;
  - **B** the majority of new SAR funding is used to implement legally enforceable protections to stop habitat destruction, the #1 threat to species recovery; and
  - c you will promote using all tools available under SARA to protect species facing imminent threats?
- 12 Will you implement our international pledges to review and phase out fossil fuels subsidies as well as those that support the degradation of biodiversity?
- 13 Will you commit to ecosystem-based rebuilding regulations under the Fisheries Act 2018 for all marine fish populations classified by Fisheries and Oceans Canada as critical, and up to date and publicly available Integrated Fisheries Management Plans for all other commercially fished populations by 2020?

<sup>\*</sup> These recommendations were developed in consultation with Climate Action Network Canada.

Will you commit to sustained and adequate financing to effectively implement these 14 conservation goals?

## **Healthy Communities**

Canada is not keeping up with the growing body of scientific evidence on the effects of toxic substances, pollution and pesticides on human health and the environment, as well as the ecological risks of genetically modified organisms.

- 15 Canada's Environmental Protection Act (CEPA) needs to be strengthened to protect Canadians and our environment. Will you introduce legislation to modernize CEPA that will:
  - A ban toxic substances of very high concern such as BPA?
  - **B** require industry to substitute toxic substances with safer alternatives?
  - c protect vulnerable and marginalized groups from toxic substances and pollution and recognize that all people in Canada have a right to a healthy environment?
  - **D** establish, in partnership with the provinces, enforceable health and environment -based national air quality standards?
  - **E** require action to reduce risks from toxic substances in a shorter time frame?
  - F improve consumer product labelling to require the disclosure of all chemical ingredients, especially toxics, for personal care products, cleaning products and furniture?
  - **G** modernize the assessment requirements of new substances and organisms, including GMOs, to ensure transparency and public consultation?
- 16 In the context of the statutory review of the Pest Control Products Act scheduled for 2020, will you commit to a comprehensive reform of the Act to better protect health and the environment?
- 17 Will you implement an immediate ban on all neonicotinoid pesticides and support farmers to transition to safer alternatives? Will you improve environmental monitoring of pesticides?
- 18 Given the current plastic pollution and waste crisis, will you commit to work with provinces, territories, municipalities and Indigenous governments to create binding legislation that reduces plastic production, waste and pollution, by:
  - A banning problematic and unnecessary single-use plastics that are regularly found in the environment, contain harmful chemicals, have existing alternatives and are non - or poorly -recyclable plastic, including but not limited to, straws, bags, cups, bottles, cutlery, stirrers, cotton buds, take-out containers, polystyrene, expanded polystyrene, multilayered plastic packaging, black and colored plastic and PVC?
  - **B** following the example of microbeads, take priority steps to declare microfibers and single-use plastics as toxic under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)?
  - c harmonizing provincial recycling targets to ensure 100 per cent of single-use plastics currently in circulation are captured and recycled by 2025?

- p require enforceable Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation that makes companies financially and operationally responsible for the entire lifecycle their products and packaging by ensuring that environmental impacts and social impacts are considered including product-related pollution and costs to communities for clean-up?
- E introduce regulation that incentivizes more sustainable product delivery solutions?
- 19 Almost all Canadians believe that Canada should recognize the legal right to a healthy environment, as is the case in more than 150 countries worldwide. The right to a healthy environment results in stronger environmental laws, better enforcement of those laws and a greater public role in environmental decision-making. All three of these general consequences will be helpful in the context of climate change, biodiversity, and ensuring healthy communities.

Will you introduce legislation to create a Federal Environmental Bill of Rights?

## **Indigenous Rights**

20 Do you commit to undertaking the above in a manner consistent with Canada's commitment to implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples & the protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights under section 35 of the Canadian Constitution?

## LIST OF GROUPS:



























