

GUELPH CANDIDATE Q&A

Conservative Party Gloria Kovach 	New Democratic Party Andrew Seagram 	Liberal Party Lloyd Longfield 	Marijuana Party Kornelis Klevering 	Libertarian Party Alexander Lehkri 	Communist Party Tristan Dineen 	Green Party Gord Miller 
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1. Does your party plan to introduce a national anti-poverty strategy? If so, what specific targets would it include and what issues would it prioritize? (response limited to 1500 characters - approx. 250 words)

Our plan has removed 400,00 seniors from tax rules resulting in 3 Billion dollars in annual tax relief since 2006. The Conservative initiated pension income splitting plan, Single Seniors Tax Credit, Tax Free Savings Accounts, and Home Accessibility Tax Credit all ensure that one of our most vulnerable populations, seniors, are properly taken care of.	The NDP's platform is an anti-poverty platform. The NDP will raise the federal minimum wage to \$15.00/hr., by doing so we show leadership to the provinces to raise their minimum wages to at least \$15/hr. We will reinvest in affordable housing, by immediately building 10,000 new affordable units. We will invest \$2 billion dollars in coop and rent geared to income housing. We would make housing a	Three key parts of the realchange.ca agenda are the economy, affordable housing and benefits for the middle class and those struggling to get into it. Our economy has stalled since the first recession, which lasted a year and was six years ago. The first line of defense against poverty is decent employment through job creation and training programs. The unprecedented investment of \$125 billion over the next 10	Yes: New water-based infrastructure requiring technicians, workers, planners. Introduce \$25,000 guaranteed annual income. No taxes for those getting less then this amount. End to HST.	The Libertarian party believes that the best welfare system is a job. The traditional approach to solving poverty isn't working. We need to stop blindly throwing money at the poverty issues and actually work to boost our economy, so the poor can get a real job. Also, we need to reform the tax code to let these people keep more of their hard earn money to save for their future. To do this, the Libertarian party has a five points plan that will	The Communist Party of Canada has a comprehensive strategy for eliminating poverty in this country. This involves a job creation program focused on building public infrastructure and expanding social programs, including the construction of one million units of affordable housing. It involves raising the minimum wage of \$20.00 per hour, a living wage. It involves raising employment insurance benefits to	Yes. In our fully costed platform the Green Party is proposing an ambitious plan to reduce poverty and income inequality across Canada. We believe that the federal government must aim to completely eradicate extreme poverty in Canada, as anything less will bely efforts to protect our most at-risk citizens. Through the creation of a Council of Canadian Governments, Greens propose working with
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	legal right for all Canadians. We will bring in a national daycare program of 1 million space, while charging no more than \$15/day. This program would make it easier for families to afford living expenses and make it affordable to re-enter the workforce. The NDP will bring in a pharmacare program that would begin with facilitating Canada wide bulk purchases of medication, thereby reducing costs by 30%. We would move forward on our food security strategy, ensuring everyone has access to healthy food. We will broaden the Nutrition North program to 60 more communities and make sure the money flows to the people not the grocery chains.	years, starting immediately, that Justin Trudeau has planned is intended to provide good jobs for people and stimulate growth in the economy. The Harper plans have failed to get the economy off the ground. Part of this investment in Canada is social infrastructure, which includes affordable housing. This is a win/win as you create jobs to provide much needed relief to those looking for a place to live. We are also increasing investment in training and jobs programs. The Canada Child Benefit will be a larger and tax free cheque to help with the cost of raising kids. Attacking poverty is a multi-pronged approach. These are a few of the main tools we will use. We are also committing to a 10 year investment in transit that is 4 times the current amount to provide affordable and accessible public transportation, working		boost the Canadian economy. 1. Simplify the tax code and introduce a 15% flat tax with four 4000\$ tax exemptions. (Senior, student, Child, Disability) 2. Unilaterally eliminate all tariffs and import duties 3. Reduce the corporate tax rate 4. Cut red tape and regulations for small businesses 5. Eliminate supply management monopolies This five points system will allow the poor to get a job and actually save money for a down payment or even an education. More government isn't the solution to poverty, the free market is.	90% of previous earnings for all workers. It involves expanding universal Medicare to include pharmacare, dental and eye care, and long-term care. It involves abolishing tuition fees for post-secondary education. It involves the removal of regressive sales taxes, such as the GST and HST, that place unfair burdens on low-income Canadians and the institution of progressive tax reform based on the ability to pay. It involves protecting women's right to E1 maternity coverage and expanding parental benefits to 52 weeks. It involves the expansion of urban mass transit systems through direct government investment and the elimination of bus and transit fares. It involves reversing Stephen Harper's attacks on women's pay and employment equity programs. It involves guaranteeing the right of workers to	all levels of government and First Nations to ensure that Canada moves toward eliminating poverty. Decision-makers from the federal, provincial, and local levels of government must convene to set national priorities and determine the best policy tools available to address the realities of poverty in 21st century Canada. Our party champions the creation of a Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI) program so that no one falls through the cracks. To establish a GLI that ensures all recipients can live at or above the poverty line, the income guarantee could be set at the Stats Can LICO (low-income cut-off) measurement. We also support the development of a National Affordable Housing Strategy, a National Seniors Strategy focused on improving the quality of life for Canada's growing cohort of
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		closely with municipalities and the province to prioritize local needs.			form unions and to fight for their rights in the workplace. And, perhaps most crucially, it involves guaranteeing self-determination to all of the indigenous peoples of this land.	seniors, and a set of policies aimed at improving Canada’s food security and the accessibility of safe, healthy food. Greens believe in a holistic approach to alleviating poverty, including policies which go beyond band-aid fixes and instead offer sustainable, robust solutions to the root-causes of poverty in our communities.
2. Do you support the following proposal: Develop and implement a National Housing Strategy based in human rights, with a focus on reducing homelessness and securing adequate, accessible and affordable housing for Canadians?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
3. Do you support the following proposal: Preserve and renew federal investments to sustain and create new affordable housing?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
4. Do you support the following proposal: Increase the supply of affordable rental housing?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5. How will you and your party address the affordable housing issue? (response limited to 1000 characters - approximately 200 characters)						
As a past president of the Federation of Canadian	The Federal Government needs to accept its responsibility	The Liberal Party will create a national infrastructure program	Require local property and housing developers to pay 10%	Government is not the solution to solving Canada’s affordable	A central part of the Communist Party of Canada's job creation	We will implement a National Housing Strategy based on

Municipalities, I know that this issue requires collaboration from all levels of government. Investing in a home is a major financial decision. Our Government has established the First Time Home Buyers Tax Credit, established and expanded the Tax Free Savings Account, and provided additional funding for the Eco-Energy Home Retrofit Program.	and lead the nation with a re-commitment to affordable housing. We will reinvest in affordable housing, by immediately building 10,000 new affordable units. We will invest \$2 billion dollars in coop and rent geared to income housing. We would make housing a legal right for all Canadians. We will maintain federal agreements with Canada's housing coops and make sure that they have financial and governmental support to ensure their continued existence.	immediately, investing \$6 billion per year for the next 4 years, some of which will go to affordable housing creation and improvements. The Liberal Government will also restore transfer payments to the provinces that were reduced under the Harper government, providing additional resources for the creation of affordable housing. Investments will be made based on consultations with municipalities and the province for new housing, as well as much needed maintenance on existing housing stock that is currently in need of repair. There will be no “opt out” clause, as the NDP has proposed, so that money for social infrastructure cannot be diverted to other programs. There will also be a \$125 million incentive to go toward the construction of apartments, with the added incentive of waiving 100% of the	levy on all housing starts in the Guelph riding. Levy is to pay for affordable housing projects.	housing issues. Government is an inefficient mechanism for charity. Private organisation and individual are countless time more efficient at helping the poor than the government. To encourage affordable housing from the private sector, the Libertarian party will remove red tape surrounding the construction of social housing, to make affordable house more appealing to the private sector. Also, we will implement a 15% flat tax and raise the personal income tax exemption amount to \$17,300 from \$11,500. This will help the poor to save their hard earn money to be able to get a down payment to purchase their own home.	strategy involves the construction of one million units of affordable social housing within four years. This process will create millions of direct and spin-off jobs for Canadian workers while creating new social, cooperative and non-profit housing for sale or rent. The establishment of federal-provincial-municipal land banks will ensure that there will always be land set aside for affordable housing development. In addition we must ban evictions, mortgage foreclosures, and utility cut-offs due to unemployment and support long-standing public demands for meaningful rent controls.	Housing First principles. Housing First is a proven, recovery-oriented approach that centres on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent, permanent housing, and then providing additional supports and services as needed. This strategy will guarantee dignity and support for Canadians at the margins of our society, and will help address homelessness while at the same time reducing the burden on our emergency and health services. Our Housing Strategy will address the continuum of needs – from social housing for those in poverty or dealing with mental health and addiction problems, to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit housing crises, to the market failures depriving those with even a decent income of access to the affordable housing they
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		GST normally paid by developers on capital investment.				need. We can ensure that all housing needs are met – whether seniors, youth, or the stressed middle class. Overall, we believe that the federal government must work alongside provincial and local government decision-makers to determine housing priorities and to identify the best policy tools to achieve those priorities.
6. Do you support the following proposal: Develop and implement a National Food Strategy, as part of a broader anti-poverty plan?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
7. Do you support the following proposal: Introduce a Basic Income Guarantee to ensure all Canadians can afford sufficient, safe, healthy and culturally appropriate food?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
8. Do you support the following proposal: Increase investments in affordable housing, so that people don't need to decide between paying rent and feeding themselves and their families?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
9. How will you and your party address the food insecurity issue? (response limited to 1000 characters - approximately 200 characters)						
In 2006, to create separate and more	Food Security is something that is very	The Liberal Party comprehensive suite of	Yes. Ensure food security is based on	Again, we do not believe more	In addition to introducing a liveable	Canada needs an innovative forward-

effective farm income stabilization and disaster relief programs for farmers, our Government introduced: the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Inventory Transition Initiative, that separates disaster relief from income stabilization with a one-time federal government injection of \$900 million to support Canada's farmers, and the AgriRecovery Framework, a five-year, \$625 million program which has responded to many food security disasters across the country.	near and dear to my heart, so I am pleased that the NDP has a comprehensive plan to deal with the issue of food. We would move forward on our food security strategy, ensuring everyone has access to healthy food. We will broaden the Nutrition North program to 60 more communities and make sure the money flows to the people not the grocery chains. We will support new farmers in capital investment and provide insurance for stability of income to protect farmers from the unpredictable nature of farming (e.g. floods, crop failure, drought, etc.). We will provide funding for public agricultural research.	employment and benefit enhancements to ensure that all Canadians prosper include; • Increasing employment insurance (EI) benefits by reducing the wait time to one week, and providing additional supports for compassionate leave etc. • Creating an additional 40,000 jobs, through a \$1.3 billion investment over the next 3 years (13x NDP proposal) • Creating apprenticeship programs for youth and for those that would not have qualified previously (\$200 million investment); • Pharmacare program with bulk purchasing nationally, decreasing costs by 30%. • Retention of income splitting for seniors • Restoration of	national water resource strategy. Pressures generated by climate changes will impact on food supply. Food policy based on available arable land. Rising temperatures will lead to phasing out agricultural-farm meat production and usher in a plant-based infrastructure providing consumers with a more efficient and less costly protein diet.	government spending is the key to solving poverty. Our five point plan relies on the power of the free market instead of the coercion of the federal government. With our five point plan, the poor will be able to get a job, food will be less expensive, and they will be able to save more of their income.	guaranteed, annual income for all Canadians, the Communist Party will ensure Canada's food sovereignty through policies that benefit family farms and fishers, including income supports and price controls on farm inputs so farmers no longer face bankruptcy. We must also curb the power of agribusiness monopolies and increase food safety inspections, including the labelling of genetically modified foods. Farmland must be preserved against urban sprawl through effective and democratic rural planning and price controls must be set on staple foods for Northern communities suffering from out-of-control food costs. The minimum wage must be set at \$20.00 per hour and affordable housing must be available to all to ensure that no one faces food insecurity.	thinking food strategy – one that promotes food security, food safety, and healthy food. This means encouraging the localization and diversification needed to stabilize the food economy without expensive government subsidies. It means thinking local, building soil capacity, encouraging economic diversity, reducing farm debt and increasing the number of young farmers. It means stronger food safety regulations, and an end to pesticide contamination in our food and water. By creating incentives for a transition to locally produced foods we can create better access to healthy food for all Canadians. We propose amending the CFIA's mandate to remove promotion of agri-business so that CFIA can better focus on ensuring the quality and safety of food, while reducing export-oriented pressures
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		retirement age to 65 from the current 67. • creation of an agri-food research hub in Guelph create and implement best practices for all means of food production with a focus on local production and delivery, supporting young farmers and sustainable production practices, and ensuring greater access on a local level to locally grown foods. • Immediately address food insecurity with First Nations through nation-to-nation consultations.				placed on agricultural producers. In conjunction with other anti-poverty measures, the Green Party proposes the creation of a federally funded, community-guided school lunch program which would ensure that our children have daily access to healthy local food. This would provide opportunities for young Canadians to learn about sustainable food production and healthy eating.
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10. Do you support the following proposals: Introduce a Basic Income Guarantee?

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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11. Do you support the following proposal: Enhance the Canada Social Transfer to include an increase in funding to the provinces to support poverty reduction efforts?

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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12. Do you support the following proposal: Increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement by the amount required to lift the income of all

seniors out of poverty?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
13. Do you support the following proposal: Reform the Employment Insurance program by easing eligibility requirements, extending benefit?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
14. How will you and your party address the income insecurity issue? (response limited to 1000 characters - approximately 200 characters)						
Our plan for lower taxes, enhanced and expanded child care benefits, the creation of 1.3 million net new jobs with a pledge for 1.3 million more by 2020, and a continued focus on post secondary education support and training all help deliver increased financial security to Canadians. Ensuring government programs run efficiently, with reduced red tape, makes it easier for all those who rely on them.	I will be on the forefront of poverty elimination in Guelph and Canada. We are not a prosperous nation if we have people living in poverty. We must address income inequality to maintain a stable society and ensure that people have what they need to thrive in Canada. The NDP will raise the federal minimum wage to \$15.00/hr., by doing so we show leadership to the provinces to raise their minimum wages to at least \$15/hr. We will work with provinces to strengthen and broaden the CPP.	The Liberal Party will immediately implement the following income security measures; • Increase Employment Insurance (EI) benefits through a reduced wait time to one week, eliminate the 910 hour eligibility requirement and provide extended benefits for compassionate leave and maternity leave • Restoration of Harper government cuts to Provincial transfers. • Maintenance of income splitting for seniors (only). • Reduction of small and medium business taxes from 11% to 9% to support increase in	Place a 2% levy on daily Toronto stock market exchanges to help pay for a guarantee basic income of \$25, 000 per year per person nation wide.	Income insecurity is the result of big government. Excessive government regulation resulted in an economy with a lower chance of climbing the corporate ladder. To fix this, the Libertarian party will remove excessive regulation, which will make it easier for the average Canadian to start their own business and live the “Canadian dream”. Also, we will privatize EI alternatives to give choices to Canadians regarding their benefits.	The Communist Party of Canada supports a basic income guarantee for all Canadians and not only supports an increase in funding to the provinces to support poverty reduction but also giving constitutional status and wealth taxing powers to Canadian municipalities, giving them more power to fight poverty at the local level. We believe strongly that it is the federal government's role to enhance Canada-wide standards in health, education, social-housing, and welfare through an expansion of earmarked funding to the provinces. The	Our party champions the creation of a Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI) program to ensure that no person’s income falls below what is necessary for health, life and dignity. Through a Council of Canadian Governments we will work with the other levels of government whose inadequate poverty band-aid solutions (such as welfare, disability programs) can be rolled up in order to fund Guaranteed Livable Income. To establish a GLI that ensures all recipients can live at or above the poverty line, the income guarantee could be set

	We will lower the age back to 65 from 67 for the OAS, thereby ensuring seniors are receiving more funds as they retire. We will strengthen EI by freezing premiums and raising rates. We will make it an easier system by easing restrictions for accessing funds and ensure people can access the insurance funds that their dollars have paid into.	wages and employment in the small business sector. • Increase taxation of the 1% of the highest income earners to invest in all Canadians.			Communist Party is also committed to expanding the universal public pension system, including substantially higher CPP benefits and enacting an early voluntary retirement age of 60. We also pledge to establish a publicly financed and administered system of universal, quality, affordable childcare with Canada-wide standards.	at the Stats Can LICO (low-income cut-off) measurement. LICO currently varies depending on a person's location, family size etc., but is approximately \$23,000 for an adult Canadian in a medium-sized city. Using an aggressive and progressively increasing tax back rate of over 50% (over 50% of the additional money earned above the minimum GLI is taxed back until the GLI payment is phased out completely and relatively quickly) and assuming an income guarantee at the Stats Can LICO poverty line, the cost of the program could be roughly estimated to be approximately \$25 billion. As a first step towards the implementation of a national GLI program, we propose the development of a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend plan and a \$15/hour federal minimum wage. This
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						polluter-pays policy would involve putting an ambitious national price on carbon emitting substances and paying out revenues collected directly to Canadian citizens.
15. Do you support the following proposal: Set national wage standards to ensure that no fully employed individual lives below the poverty line?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
16. Do you support the following proposal: Develop a jobs creation and training strategy to ensure all jobs have all the advantages of secure employment, including equitable access to occupational benefits, labour standard protections & opportunities for post-secondary education & training?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
17. Do you support the following proposal: Reduce federal student debt and offer youth facing employment barriers job opportunities with inclusive work settings, supported employment and job retention, and targeted wage subsidies?						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
18. How will you and your party address the jobs and prosperity issue? (response limited to 1000 characters - approximately 200 characters)						
Again, since 2009, we've helped create 1.3 million net news jobs with a pledge to create another 1.3 million by 2020. We've invested in job training to help	I will work to ensure that a living wage is the bottom line for wages in Guelph and throughout Canada. The NDP will raise the federal minimum wage	The Liberal Party has created a comprehensive suite of job creation and employment enhancements to ensure all Canadians	Introduce a water-based resource economic infrastructure for Canada as its main source of future prosperity. Phase out fossil fuel, tar sands	The Libertarian party believes in small government and free enterprise. We will repeal the minimum wage because government setting an	The Communist Party of Canada is committed to creating full-time, well-paid, and permanent jobs. We will develop and implement a	Our platform proposes a plan to get young Canadians working through a Community and Environment Service Corps developed in

ensure that Canadians can find work easier. We invest \$13 Billion annually toward supporting post secondary education and skills training. We've also created the Canada Job Grant to ensure that Canadians connect to available jobs.	to \$15/hr. We will bring in the Post Secondary Education Act that would fund college and university programs to lower tuition for students. We will lower small business taxes from 11% to 9%, thereby stimulate hiring. We will spend 1 cent/litre of the gas tax to directly fund youth apprenticeships, co-ops, amounting to \$100 million/year. We will end unpaid internships and ensure that interns are covered by all labour standards.	prosper. These include; • An immediate investment of \$125 Billion in infrastructure-physical and social- to create community prosperity and jobs focused on social infrastructure, green infrastructure and transit • Investing \$750 million on jobs creation: \$500 million in core funding, \$200 million for funding of people that would not previously have qualified, and \$50 million for First Nations. • Investing \$1.3 billion per year for the next 3 years in a national youth employment strategy, in consultation with the provinces, territories, and First Nations, to create 40,000 jobs per year. • Investing \$100 over 4 years on building trades training equipment • Restore labour	extraction activity. Invest heavily in educational programs geared toward addressing climate change, water harvesting and building electric rail transportation networks, management skills to handle complex water shed environmental planning and design.Bank of Canada to establish local investment savings branches throughout the country to encourage community investment and funding for businesses employed to construct and administer water related activity.	artificial wages hurts the economy and removes the first steps of the job “ladder”. Also, we see education (university/college) as an investment, and we will treat it as one. Government should not subsidize mutual funds, same goes with education.	comprehensive “Jobs First” strategy based on massive public investments to increase value-added jobs in manufacturing and secondary industry, rebuild & upgrade Canada’s public and municipal infrastructure, to strengthen social programs and environmental protection, and to build affordable housing. We will expand employment in industry by nationalizing the steel and auto industries, building a Canadian car, and expanding rapid transit production. We will use tariff, currency exchange and other trade controls, plus plant closure legislation with teeth (including fines or public takeover), to protect jobs. The Communist Party of Canada believes in education that is public and accessible to all, and is committed to eliminating tuition fees and introducing a living	partnership with municipalities across the country. We would establish a funding model which provides \$1 billion annually to municipalities to create good-paying jobs for Canadians 18-25. We also advocate for debt amnesty for student loans over \$10 000, and a plan to abolish tuition fees by 2020. As we transition towards a GLI program, the Green Party is calling for the implementation of a \$15/hour federal minimum wage.
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		sponsored venture capital tax credit to provide incentives for businesses to invest in training programs to upskill employees			expense stipend for all students. Through building Canadian national industries, rebuilding public infrastructure, constructing affordable housing, and expanding public services we can eliminate unemployment in this country and create millions of well-paid, secure jobs that will employ all the talents and skills that graduates have to offer.	
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19. Do you support the following proposal: Develop and implement a National Drug Coverage Plan that is public, affordable, and safe, so that everyone in Canada can access the medicine they need?

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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20. Do you support the following proposal: Support and invest in programs that include oral health promotion and disease prevention strategies?

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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21. Do you support the following proposal: Implement the National Mental Health Strategy developed by the Mental Health Commissions of Canada?

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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22. How will you and your party address the health inequities issue? (response limited to 1000 characters - approximately 250 words)

As a health care professional with 30 years experience, I understand the importance of access to quality and affordable health care. As a past President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, I can attest to the importance of collaboration between all levels of government in dealing with an expanded and enhanced health care plan to ensure all citizens are effectively and affordably covered.	A conversation about healthcare has been conspicuously absent in this election, this is what the NDP will do: The NDP will bring in a pharmacare program that would begin with facilitating Canada wide bulk purchases of medication, thereby reducing costs by 30%. The plan would evolve into a full national pharmacare plan that would ensure drug coverage for all Canadians. The NDP understands that dental coverage is a gap in our health funding and that oral health and care costs are often a barrier for many people in need of dental treatment. The NDP will work with provinces to establish and strengthen oral health in Canada. The NDP will spend \$100 million to tackle the youth mental health crisis in Canada. There	As an immediate commitment, we will invest \$3 billion over the next four years to prioritize additional and improved home care services for all Canadians. The Liberals have developed a pharma plan that includes bulk purchasing of prescription drugs on a national level, in partnership with the provinces to save 30% overall on medication costs, working with the provinces and territorial governments. We will also investigate over prescription particularly with the elderly. The Liberals will restore the provincial transfer payments for health care that were cut under the Harper government. We will increase the availability of high-quality mental health services for Canadians. This includes implementing an	Entrench a made in Canada generic drug industry to supply cheaply produced pharmaceuticals. Encourage more walk in clinics run by professionals themselves.A national health care plan should cover dental and eye examination expenses. Immediate health coverage would provide 75% of costs of visiting privately administered clinics existing alongside our publicly run system.The current system is too burdensome, characterized by unnecessary transfers and unacceptable wait times for patients needing medical attention quickly.	The official position of the Libertarian Party of Canada is that the federal government should leave the entirety of health care decisions to provincial and territorial governments. The current system costs Canadians approximately \$6,000 a year, per citizen. For the average family, their healthcare tax burden will be approximately \$24,000 per year. Although Canadians spend a lot on the provision of healthcare, the system is painfully slow. The median wait time for an emergency room visit in Canada is 8.8 hours, which places Canada dead last among OECD countries for timeliness of care. Not only do Canadians spend much of their time waiting for care, the system consistently underperforms. Canada is ranked in the bottom third of OECD countries	The Communist Party of Canada is committed to reversing the privatization of healthcare in this country and to restoring and expanding the public healthcare system. This means expanding public Medicare to include universal pharmacare, dental and eye-care, long-term care, home-care, and continuing care. The pharmaceutical industry itself should be nationalized to ensure the availability of low-cost medications to all Canadians.	Skyrocketing Pharmacare costs have now eclipsed all other health care expenditures. Throwing more money to the provinces, as the federal government has been doing in the last two governments, is not achieving concrete results. Economies of scale can be achieved through creating centralized wait lists, moving from a paper system to electronic technology to share information, addressing the staffing shortage and in some cases, the facility and equipment shortages. These steps can help in reducing wait times, but the truth is that Canada does not have enough doctors, nurses, radiologists, and other health care providers. We will implement a National Pharmacare Plan that, through the advantage of bulk buying, will actually
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	needs to be more done to support mental health services and the NDP will continue to work to ensure that all people have mental health treatment and psychological services.	integrated approach to ensure access to acute services, tertiary care referrals, housing, primary care, and community and multidisciplinary team management. We will establish a pan-Canadian Expert Advisory Council on Mental Health, particularly to advice on the implementation of the Mental Health Commission of Canada's recommendations. We will create new centres of excellence that will specialize in mental health, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and related issues for both veterans and first responders. Pan-Canadian collaboration on health innovation is needed. We will work with provinces and territories to overcome obstacles to innovation in health care delivery and to disseminate and scale up successful new practices, such as ways to use genomics		for safe care, effective care, coordinated care and patient centered care. To overcome these issues, the Libertarian Party of Canada would: Repeal the Canada Health Act To ensure that healthcare is a provincial responsibility To allow private alternatives for care and insurance, which will alleviate public wait times and the growing fiscal burden of healthcare. Provinces will be free to choose the system that best fits their needs		save Canadians \$11 billion each year. It will especially benefit senior citizens, who spend the most on prescription medication, and it will allow physicians and doctors to better track if patients are at risk of dangerous over-medication. We will be far more rigorous in assessing new drug applications. We will apply the gold standard for pharmaceutical review to ensure we reject drugs shown to hurt more people than they heal. At the same time, our Pharmacare Plan will provide much needed coverage to the millions of Canadians who are forced to pay out-of-pocket for prescription medication every year.
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		in precision medicine. This includes supporting initiatives that help health care providers collaborate, across Canada, to ensure the most appropriate and effective treatments and practices for their patients. By using the best available evidence, governments can increasingly work together to support front-line health providers as they deliver high- quality and effective care to Canadians.				
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