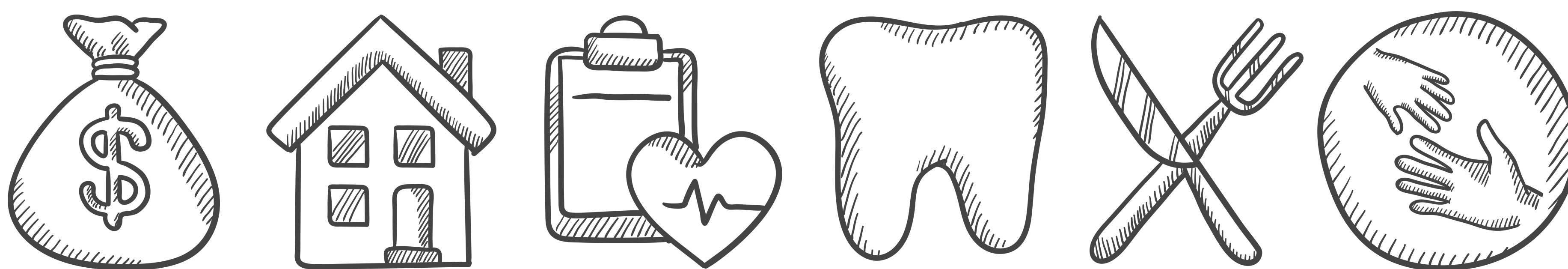


Perth-Wellington Candidate Q & A

Federal Election 2019





QUESTION:

Will you and your party commit to the elimination of poverty in Canada? If yes, what actions will your party take to strengthen Canada’s poverty reduction strategy?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

Absolutely the NDP commits to working towards eliminating poverty. We need the courage - and meaningful action - to build a Canada without poverty, where all Canadians can count on quality public services and community supports to help them lead dignified lives. A core component of our approach is our commitment to build affordable housing and investing in a national pharmacare and dental care program.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

CHP Canada would strengthen families with a focus toward a family requiring one home rather than a home for each parent with the children rotating between them. This would decrease living costs considerably. We would also require educational curriculum include teaching abstinence as young women with children are often well below the poverty line.



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Yes. In 2018 Liberals released Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy which targets a 20% reduction in poverty by 2020 and a 50% reduction in poverty by 2030. The Canada Child Benefit helped lift 300,000 children from poverty.

We will:
Boost the CCB by 15% for children under age one;
Make maternity and parental benefits tax free;
Make paid leave fairer with a 15-week leave for adoptive parents -including LGBTQ2 families;
Increase Old Age Security benefit by 10% for seniors when they turn 75.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.



QUESTION:

What will you and your party do to ensure decent work for all, including living wages and fair working conditions?

Do you and your party support introducing a basic income guarantee?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

New Democrats believe that everyone deserves a living wage - and in government, we'll put in place a federal minimum wage of \$15 an hour that will cover over 900,000 workers. Not only will this help hundreds of thousands of workers, it will also set a national standard for a fair, living wage. New Democrats have always fought for better working conditions and standards that lift everyone up. We know that a good jobs that treat people fairly make a real difference to Canadian families.

Yes



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

CHP Canada recognizes that small businesses, operating on a tight budget, employs most Canadians. Mandating the increase of wages, which increases EI, and increases CPP and increases operating costs, is not creating an ideal working environment for Canadians. We must build opportunities for Canadian businesses to thrive. We must create an environment that prepares our own Canadian products for market rather than depending on countries with poor human rights records to provide jobs with wages below survival level to provide us with marketable goods.

No



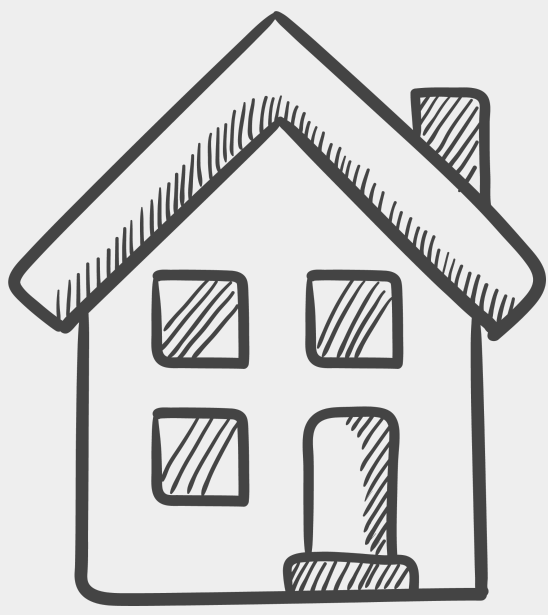
Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Investing in infrastructure creates good, middle class jobs. Liberals will continue to invest in our communities and deliver a better quality of life for people. To help give people the time and money needed to keep their skills relevant and in-demand, we will move forward with the Canada Training Benefit, which gives workers money to help pay for training, provides income support during training.

Yes

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

How will you and your party address the housing crisis, so that everyone has a place to call home?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

The NDP plan is to build 500,000 units of affordable housing, put rental subsidies in the pockets of families who need it, waive taxes on new affordable housing to kickstart construction and make home ownership a reality for young people by making it easier to buy a home as a group.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

CHP Canada would work together with such organizations as Habitat for Humanity to provide great opportunity for affordable housing. We would also restrict the purchase of Canadian land and homes by foreign entities.

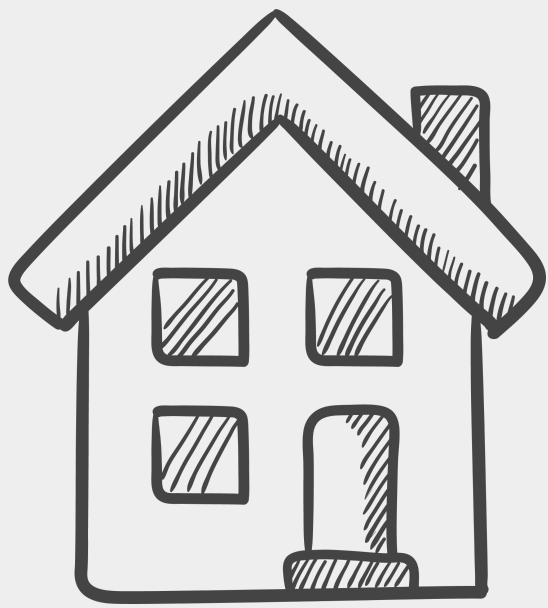


Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Liberals created Canada's first-ever National Housing Strategy. This \$55+ billion, 10-year plan will strengthen the middle class, cut chronic homelessness in half and fuel our economy. NHS brings together the public, private and non-profit sectors to re-engage in affordable housing. Using a mix of funding, grants and loans, the strategy will create affordable, stable and livable communities.

It is outlined in extensive detail on this website: <https://www.placetocallhome.ca/>

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.



QUESTION:

Will you and your party commit to the elimination of homelessness in Canada? If yes, what actions will your party take to support this commitment?

Will your party support increased and targeted capital investments in affordable and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

A core component of our approach is enshrining the right to housing in law, and starting work now with a goal of ending homelessness in Canada within a decade. In a country as wealthy as Canada, there is no excuse to leave any Canadian living in poverty or without a safe roof over their head. Our affordable housing strategy will include measures to support Canadians at risk of becoming homeless, taking the lead from communities about local needs and adopting a "housing first" approach.

Yes



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

There are many reasons why people are homeless, some can be addressed through government programs, some cannot. Our Infrastructure Improvement Loans at low to no interest rates will allow communities to build housing centres to help provide for the homeless.

Yes



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Liberals implemented the "Reaching Home" homelessness strategy. We will work with communities to keep decision making at local level, and will give communities greater flexibility to address local priorities, including homelessness prevention, and programming designed to meet the needs of vulnerable (e.g. youth, women, children, and veterans).

We will also move forward with an investment of \$15 million a year and build accessible and affordable housing units for veterans who need extra help.

Yes

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

What actions will you and your party take to respond to the escalating impacts of mental health and addictions in our community?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

Better access to mental health and addictions support will also form a key part of our approach to tackling poverty. We will work in partnership with all communities to improve access to mental health and addiction treatment services - including an evidence-based action plan to prevent suicide, backed by dedicated federal resources, fully implementing the New Democrat motion on suicide prevention passed by the House of Commons.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

Mental illness is an increasing problem and needs appropriate treatment. The unleashing of legally-available marijuana and the failed policies of government- supervised injection sites will undoubtedly increase the incidence of mental illness, drug addiction and suicide.

CHP Canada would restore laws prohibiting the use of marijuana and other drugs.



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

We will set clear national standards for access to mental health services so Canadians can get the support they need quickly, when they need it most.

To help more people access the addiction treatment services, we will make new investments that help expand community-based services, build more in-patient rehab beds, and scale up the most effective programs. We will also make drug treatment court the default option for first-time non-violent offenders charged exclusively with simple possession.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.



QUESTION:

In Canada, 3 million people do not fill their prescriptions for medication because they cannot afford it. How will your party ensure that everyone has access to prescription drug coverage, regardless of their income, age, or where they work or live?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

A national pharmacare program is another of the NDP's key commitments this election. The NDP knows that prescription drug coverage is a necessity not a luxury and we will implement a system that is universal and comprehensive so that no Canadian is without the medication they need because they can't afford it. This plan would save Canadians money and reduce emergency room visits & hospital re-entries.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

Our Personal Income Security Account (PISA) will build in access to medication for each individual participant. Incentives to remaining healthy is important to a civil society wherein members seek to benefit others, bear personal responsibility for their own health and not just take for themselves. The truly needy will be provided for under a CHP government.

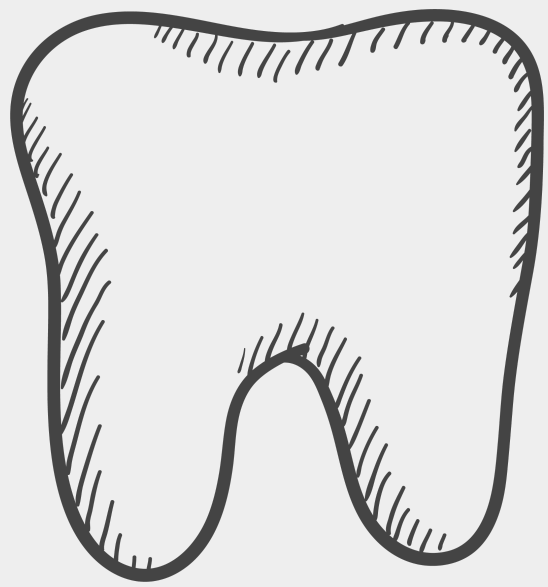


Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

The Liberal government appointed an advisory council headed by Dr. Eric Hoskins, former Ontario health minister that recommended the establishment of a universal, single-payer public pharmacare system. If re-elected, we will take the critical next steps to implementing pharmacare so that all Canadians have drug coverage they need at an affordable price. We will work with provinces and territories to make sure that sexual and reproductive health medications are covered under national pharmacare.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

An estimated 6 million Canadians do not see a dentist because they can't afford it. What actions will your party take to ensure dental care for all?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

A New Democrat government will work together with provincial partners, health professionals and dentists to develop a roadmap to including dental care in the Canada Health Act. A national dental care program is a key commitment in the NDP platform.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

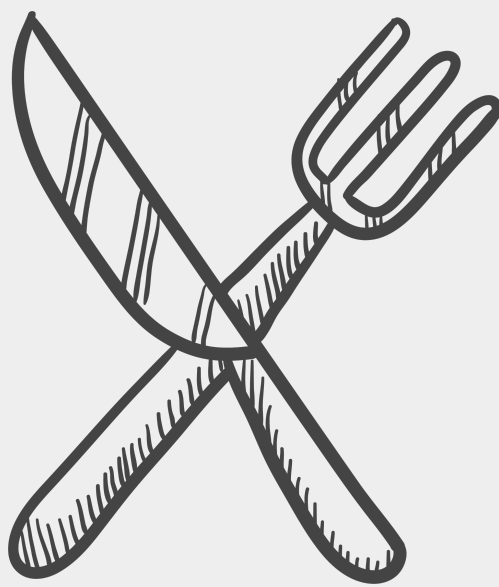
The cost to maintain adequate dental screening and treatment is beyond the ability of the government to cover. This has not been addressed as a party but, I would seek to change the opinion of some that dental care is not important, through information programs. When it is seen as a health risk then Canadians are more apt to invest in their own health.



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Poverty prevents many Canadians from accessing dental care. Liberals will continue to support Canadians so they have more money for necessities including dental care. This includes: boosting the Canada Child Benefit, increased OAS, and an increase to the basic personal amount so that Canadians won't pay federal taxes on the first \$15,000 they earn.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.



QUESTION:

Household food insecurity occurs when there is inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints. What actions will your party take to address food insecurity?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

The NDP believes that all Canadians should have access to nutritious, culturally- appropriate food. An NDP government would make this a reality by creating a National Food Policy that is developed in true collaboration with farmers and food producers so that it makes our food systems stronger across the country. Working together with northern communities, we're committed to reforming the Nutrition North program to improve food security for northern families.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

Divorce and single parenting is seen as a cause of poverty. By strengthening the married two parent family food insecurity will be mitigated.



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Food is affordable in Canada, but not everyone can afford food; the root problem is poverty. Liberals have a national poverty reduction strategy, to reduce poverty by 20% by 2020. This goal has already been achieved. The next goal is 50% poverty reduction by 2025. Canada child benefit has already raised many children out of poverty.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.



QUESTION:

What actions will your party take to ensure families have access to quality early learning and childcare regardless of their income?



Geoff Krauter, New Democratic Party

Every parent across Canada should be able to find the child care you need, when you need it, with a licensed provider who is making a fair wage. We'll work with other levels of government, Indigenous communities, families and child care workers to ensure that care is inclusive and responsive to the needs of all Canadian children. And we'll introduce legislation that enshrines Canada's commitment to high-quality, public child care in law. We plan to invest \$1 billion into child care in 2020.



Irma DeVries, The Christian Heritage Party of Canada

This is a provincial responsibility. Our party will help to keep families together. This will enable more childcare in the family home.



Pirie Mitchell, Liberal Party of Canada

Liberals will make before and after school child care more accessible and affordable for families. We've already created tens of thousands of new pre-school child care spaces, and will create up to 250,000 more before and after school spaces for kids under 10, with at least 10% of these new spaces set aside for care during extended hours. To help families with the high cost of care, we will also lower child care fees for before and after school programs by 10 % across the board.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.

