

City of London Federal Election Candidate Questionnaire

Background information and links will be available on the Federal Candidate Questionnaire page of the City of London website at www.london.ca.

1. How will you and your Party involve municipal governments as partners in federal and provincial policy, program and budget deliberations on issues that have a direct impact on local governments and their citizens?

the Progressive Canadian Party will set up regular meetings to get an understanding of current problems and proposed solutions. the Progressive Canadian Party will seek out preventative measures to keep the cost of emergency repairs to a minimum.

2. Will you and your Party support maintaining funding for existing municipal infrastructure programs? Will you and your Party commit to develop and fund - in collaboration with provincial and municipal governments - a long-term collaborative plan to create financial sustainability and find revenues that grow with the economy, equivalent to One Cent of the GST, to eliminate the 123 Billion dollar municipal infrastructure deficit within 20 years, and to plan for the 115 Billion dollars required to fund unmet infrastructure needs?

Yes, the Progressive Canadian Party will maintain existing funding and enhance it.

Yes, the Progressive Canadian Party will look to increase amounts to the cities based on federal surplus amounts.

3. Will you and your Party develop and implement a National Transit Strategy in order to provide adequate resources for capital expenses, to appropriately integrate land use and transportation planning to ensure that development supports transit, to develop tax incentives to create demand and to engage in innovative research to increase ridership?

Yes, the future of city growth is dependent on a good mass transit system. Toronto created a subway system with only 300,000 people. Action needs to be taken now.

4. Will you and your Party work with the Ontario government to continue to support social housing providers beyond the scheduled expiry of all federal housing and homelessness funding programs in March 2009? Will you and your Party commit to developing a long-term National Action Plan for Housing to eliminate homelessness,

expand the stock of affordable non-market housing, reduce the backlog in core housing needs, preserve and modernize Canada's existing social housing stock, and extend and revise the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program?

Yes, the Progressive Canadian Party believes that we would develop a national housing policy that acknowledges the fed. gov. to be an active partner in funding and providing leadership in the area of social housing. The policy will produce a plan to eliminate homelessness, expand the stock affordable, non market housing, reduce the backlog, modernize the existing housing and revise the residential rehabilitation association program. We in the PC Party would also present an annual report card on homelessness to Canadians to be tabled in parliament detailing federal measures undertaken to address homelessness and to set specific objectives for the following year.

5. How will you and your Party involve municipal governments in meeting national climate change and clean air objectives?

The Progressive Canadian Party supports meeting the Kyoto convention targets and realizes this is only the first step. Our national energy efficiency programme provides incentives for all Canadians to borrow from their home equity to retrofit their homes for energy saving improvements and alternative energy sources among other energy saving incentives.

6. Will you and your Party commit to clarifying federal/provincial and municipal responsibilities on Community Safety and Policing programs and in ensuring that appropriate resources exist for municipalities?

Yes, the Progressive Canadian Party believes proper communications at all levels and a clearly organized policing and safety system would help save lives and prevent undue stress on the judicial system.

7. What support and resources will you and your Party provide to Canada's Cities and Communities to enable them to continue to deliver essential services related to the attraction, retention and integration of immigrants/newcomers?

The Progressive Canadian Party would make sure increased funding would be available in order to speed up the system to deal with refugee claimants. Our annual report card on homelessness would also target areas where improvement is needed on a yearly basis.

8. Affordable, accessible early learning and child care is a sound economic investment in the future of that child, the community and the country. What will you and your Party do to enhance early learning and child care?

We believe that the Canadian child tax benefit and the national child benefit supplement should be fully indexed to inflation and any future increases in the child tax benefit should not be subject to provincial clawbacks. We also believe that the income thresholds above which the Canadian child tax credit begins to be phased out be raised to where modest and middle income families will continue to benefit. We will remove the GST from reading materials.

9. What will you and your Party do to tackle the issue of poverty? A number of Provinces are currently working on anti-poverty strategies. Will you and your Party work with them to ensure that we have a holistic approach?

The Progressive Canadian Party believe the federal government has a moral responsibility to aid in the reduction of poverty. Our assistance in funding for affordable social housing and our yearly social audit will assist the provincial initiatives.

10. What will you and your Party do to restore or replace the federal programs that support our arts and cultural industries?

The Progressive Canadian Party supports stable funding for the CBC, will continue to support cultural exemptions in trade agreements. We understand that the arts is not a financial drain but an industry that contributes to the financial and cultural well being of this country.

11. What steps will you and your Party take to preserve and enhance our parks, trails and open spaces? What measures will you and your Party take to ensure that everyone has access to affordable recreation, sport and parks facilities and programs? What will you and your Party do to support youth engagement? How will you and your Party use recreation and sport to promote community safety?

The Progressive Canadian Party will continue to fund and increase the national parks system. We will continue to provide our fair share, through provincial transfers, funding for provincial parks. We would revamp the Participation program.

12. What will you and your Party do to address the obesity epidemic and support active living?

We believe the revamping and enhancement of the Participation programme would aid in the support of active living.

13. What will you and your Party do to amend the Canada Health Act to include specific funding formulas for Long Term and Specialized Care and Mental Health Rehabilitation?

The Progressive Canadian Party are in the process of modernizing our proposals for funding formulas for both long term care and mental health care in Canada. We recognize that comprehensive national plans that provide stable funding to the provinces is vital.

14. How specifically will you and your Party work with the Ontario government to address Ontario's Fairness Campaign and to strengthen Ontario's capacity to fund programs that build stronger healthier communities?

The Progressive Canadian Party is built on the principle of one Canada. This means all provinces working on the same page and contributing to the country as a whole and all contributing their fair share. We recognize that there is an economic imbalance in the case of Ontario. We would strive to correct that imbalance as much as possible, recognizing the myriad of issues involved to achieve that goal.

15. How will you and your Party commit to strengthening the regional economy of Southwest Ontario?

The Progressive Canadian Party would continue to provide stable funding for research and development to universities, colleges and the national research council. Increased revenues provided to municipalities from the fuel tax will also assist in strengthening S.W. Ontario. We would also be willing to look at any specific proposals that would come to us.

16. Will you and your Party commit to supporting enhanced rail infrastructure, including high speed passenger rail for Southwest Ontario and the Quebec City-Windsor Corridor?

The Progressive Canadian Party would actively support high speed rail transport that would fit into our national transport policy.

17. What other actions will you and your Party take to strengthen the competitiveness, prosperity, and quality of life of Canada's cities and local municipal governments?

The Progressive Canadian Party not only supports the gas tax infrastructure program but realizes more resources are needed to sustain out infrastructure in Canadian cities. We also strive to reduce duplication and waste in the allocation of responsibilities between the levels of government.