

Sustainability and resilience

Question: What is your strategy to address climate change and holistic health through Government of Canada buildings and projects? How would you harness the capacity of Canadian architects and others working in design, construction, and procurement of the built environment (public and private sectors) to address climate change?

Our Liberal Party committed to making homes and buildings more energy efficient, which will result in lower utility bills and less pollution. We also know that more and more homes and buildings are in danger of being destroyed from an ever-increasing number of floods and wildfires. We know it's expensive to adapt to a changing climate, and we are going to help.

To make life more affordable for Canadians, cut our emissions, and protect the environment, we will move forward with a plan to:

- help retrofit 1.5 million homes to help Canadians make their homes more energy efficient, and better protect them from climate-related risks;
- give interested homeowners and landlords a free energy audit;
- help homeowners and landlords pay for retrofits by giving them an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000;
- help people buy newly built homes that are certified zero-emissions by giving them a Net Zero Homes Grant of up to \$5,000; and
- invest \$100 million in skills training, to ensure there are enough qualified workers to keep up with energy audits, retrofits, and net-zero home construction.

And to help make large commercial buildings more energy efficient, we will move forward with a national competition to create four \$100-million long-term funds to help attract private capital that can be used for deep retrofits of large buildings, such as office towers.

National Architecture Policy

Question: Do you support a national architecture policy, and how would your party work with professionals and industry leaders to improve the quality of Canada's buildings, infrastructure, and cities?

Preserving Canada's heritage is essential to understanding the history of our communities, and to fostering a sense of connection between people, yet current legislation offers little direction on how Canada's heritage places are designated and protected, putting the preservation and care of these important places at risk. To provide clearer direction on how national heritage places should be designated and preserved, we will move forward with new comprehensive heritage legislation on federally owned heritage places.

First Nations

Question: What is your plan for improving living conditions for Indigenous people, and how would you give agency to Indigenous groups and indigenous architects over their communities?

A re-elected Liberal government will eliminate all long-term drinking water advisories on reserve by 2021, and continue to take steps to ensure water stays safe to drink. Everyone in Canada should have reliable access to safe, clean drinking water, but for all the progress we've made,

many people living in Indigenous communities still cannot safely drink or bathe in the water that comes from their taps. That needs to change. In the last four years we have invested nearly \$2 billion to build, repair, and upgrade public water systems in First Nations communities, and working with First Nations partners have eliminated 87 long-term drinking water advisories. We will move forward with investments to eliminate the rest of the advisories, and make sure that resources and training are in place to prevent future ones.

We will ensure that Indigenous communities that currently rely on diesel are powered by clean, reliable energy by 2030. Indigenous communities need safe, reliable sources of energy to power their communities, keep their homes heated, and keep their lights on. Without it, many rely on diesel to keep their homes, schools, and businesses up and running – a solution that's costly for communities and damaging to the environment. We will work with Indigenous communities and move forward with investments that will see all Indigenous communities off diesel and instead powered by clean, renewable, and reliable sources of energy – such as hydro, wind, and solar – by 2030.

We will continue to invest in Indigenous priorities, in collaboration with Indigenous partners. Working in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, we have made good progress in the last four years – helping to deliver a better quality of life for many Indigenous Peoples after a decade of indifference and neglect. That work is not done. Together, we will continue to move forward – in close collaboration with Indigenous partners – to deliver better and more timely distinctions-based support. We will continue to invest in the things that make a real difference in the lives of Indigenous Peoples and their communities, from education and skills training to early learning and child care.

We will also work with Indigenous communities to address all major infrastructure needs by 2030. Our government has made significant investments in Indigenous communities to help build houses, schools, recreational centres, clinics, roads, and other essential infrastructure. Even with these investments, Indigenous communities continue to experience real and pressing infrastructure needs, which contribute to ongoing levels of unacceptable poverty, and make it difficult for communities to prosper. This cannot continue. To address this infrastructure deficit, we will co-develop and invest in distinctions-based community infrastructure plans, and will move forward with addressing critical infrastructure needs – such as housing, all-weather roads, high-speed internet, health facilities, treatment centres, and schools – in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities by 2030. We will also move forward with new investments to support the ongoing operation and maintenance of this infrastructure.

The Liberal Party has committed to ensuring that Indigenous communities directly benefit from major resource projects. From ore to oil to natural gas, Canada is rich in natural resources – but for too long, the original caretakers of this land have been excluded from the benefits that come along with developing those resources. To ensure that Indigenous communities directly benefit from major resource projects in their territories, we will move forward with a new national benefits-sharing framework.

We also know we need to create more opportunities for Indigenous-led businesses to succeed. Across the country, Indigenous-led businesses are helping to create jobs, build strong communities, and make real progress on the important work of economic reconciliation. But there is more we can do to ensure their success. To create more opportunities for these businesses to succeed and grow, we will move forward with a new target to have at least five percent of federal contracts awarded to businesses led by Indigenous Peoples

Better procurement = better value for Canadians

Question: How would your party fix procurement to develop Canadian expertise for a sustainable and prosperous future?

This Liberal government has built a world-class procurement system that drives value for money while advancing our government's socio economic objectives, while simplifying the procurement system for suppliers and client departments, and delivering better results for Canadians.

As the single largest purchaser of goods and services, the Government of Canada is uniquely positioned to support Canadian entrepreneurs and innovators to develop new products, grow, and create jobs. We have always worked toward leveraging this procurement to support Canadian businesses, and to drive our sustainability objectives. Through our Innovative Solutions Canada program, a new procurement program, the government is now working with canadian SMEs as they development new, innovative solutions to persistent government challenges - things like addressing gridlock, which would help cut greenhouse gases. And once these technologies are developed, the government is committed to being the first customer. This creative new approach repositions the Government and innovators as partners in thinking beyond what is possible today to develop novel solutions to cross-cutting challenges with broad commercial potential. Modelled on an international best practices, this approach enables Canadians to be bold and creative in fields like plastic waste reduction, and imagine and deliver new innovations that can change the world.

Our Liberal Party will always support companies and initiatives who are developing sustainable and clean innovations - from clean technology to sustainable design, we know Canadians have the talent and potential to expand in this very important sector.