

REGION OF PEEL ADVOCACY PRIORITIES & 2021 FEDERAL PARTY PLATFORMS

Region of Peel Advocacy Priority: Affordable Housing

- Provide long-term, allocation-based, sustainable capital and operational funding in support of current housing stock and new rental development.
- Collaborate with the Region to improve the design and funding of programs.

Liberal Party Platform

- Invest \$4 billion in a new Housing Accelerator Fund with an annual target of 100,000 new middle-class homes by 2024-25. This will support a wide range of eligible municipal investments.
- Permanently increase funding to the National Housing Co-investment fund by a total of \$2.7 billion over 4 years
- Double existing Budget commitment to \$600 million to support the conversion of empty office and retail space into market-based housing.
- Work with municipalities to create a fast-track system for permits to allow faster conversion of existing buildings
- Commit \$1 billion in loans and grants to develop and scale up rent-to-own projects with private, not-for-profit, and co-op partners.
- Ban foreign money from purchasing a non-recreational, residential property in Canada for the next two years unless this purchase is for future employment or immigration in the next two years.

Conservative Party Platform

- Release at least 15% of Federal government real estate portfolio for housing;
- Encourage Canadians to invest in rental housing by extending the ability to defer capital gains tax when selling a rental property and reinvesting in rental housing;
- Explore converting unneeded office space to housing
- Create an incentive for corporations and private landowners to donate property to Land Trusts to develop affordable housing.
- Ban foreign investors not living in or moving to Canada from buying homes here for a two year period.
- Re-implement the Housing First approach to aid in the fight against Canada's addictions crisis.
- Invest \$325 million over the next three years to create 1,000 residential drug treatment beds and build 50 recovery community centres across the country.

NDP Platform

- Streamline the application process and help communities get the expertise and assistance they need to get projects off the ground.
- Waive the federal portion of the GST/HST on the construction of new affordable rental units
- Put in place a 20% Foreign Buyer's tax on the sale of homes to individuals who aren't Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

Green Party Platform

- Redefine affordable housing using a better, updated formula, that accounts for regional variations across the country
- Protect the existing stock of affordable housing by funding non-profit and cooperative affordable housing groups to buy of buildings.

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2021 Federal Election Platform Analysis – Region of Peel Priorities

- Expand the Rapid Housing Initiative to bring new affordable and supportive housing onstream without delay. With this expansion, more quality projects with funding and agreements already in place can quickly become affordable or supportive housing.
- Invest in construction and operation of 50,000 supportive housing units over 10 years.
- Build and acquire a minimum of 300,000 units of deeply affordable non-market, co-op and non-profit housing over a decade.
- Restore tax incentives for building purpose-built rental housing, and provide tax credits for gifts of lands, or of land and buildings, to community land trusts to provide affordable housing.
- Remove the “deemed” GST whenever a developer with empty condo units places them on the market as rentals.
- Implement programs that direct funds to municipalities providing support for people in the homeless community who use drug - Support Housing First initiatives and other successful models of improving health outcomes.
- Support existing youth shelters through federal grants.
- Invest in the creation of new youth shelters in urban and small urban centres across the country which would work on a needs-driven and community-centric approach.

Region of Peel Advocacy Priority: **Infrastructure Funding**

- Increase infrastructure funding to stimulate Peel's economic recovery
- Implement an allocation model to distribute funds expeditiously

Liberal Party Platform

- Invest an additional \$200 million in the Natural Infrastructure Fund to continue funding community-led public green space projects in collaboration with municipalities, Indigenous communities, and non-profit organizations.
- Create a new \$100 million infrastructure and innovation fund over the next 5 years to scale-up and commercialize made-in-Canada technologies and solutions for the reuse and recycling of plastics.

Conservative Party Platform

- Immediately invest in critical projects that will put Canadians to work, cut commute time, and clean up the environment.
- Provide more flexibility to municipalities and First Nations.
- Scrap the Canada Infrastructure Bank and commit the unused money to infrastructure projects that can strengthen the economy. Continue already committed projects and return to the model used in the last Conservative government of working in partnership with provinces, municipalities, and First Nations to encourage the use of Public-Private Partnerships.
- Reprioritize the Investing in Canada Plan (ICIP) towards infrastructure projects that would have the maximum benefit for economic recovery. Will target projects that strengthen transit and trade, reduce congestion and gridlock, and advance economic reconciliation with First Nations. Will also reduce red tape in the application process to get money out the door faster, to where it's needed.
- Set aside a portion of federal infrastructure funds for projects in rural areas.
- Incorporate a mitigation and adaptation lens to the government's infrastructure investments.

NDP Platform

- Partner with provinces, territories, First Nations and municipalities to deliver reliable public infrastructure funding. Use Community Benefit Agreements to guarantee that good jobs, training, apprenticeships and support for local businesses are part of every infrastructure project.

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2021 Federal Election Platform Analysis – Region of Peel Priorities

- Put in place a permanent, direct, allocation-based funding mechanism for modern public transit.
- Expand federal funding to respond to disasters, and support communities in proactively adapting their infrastructure to withstand floods, forest fires and other extreme weather events.
- Partner with Canadians and communities to make serious investments in making buildings more energy efficient.

Green Platform

- Make changes to the Canada Infrastructure Bank to reduce interest rates to municipalities on loans for infrastructure projects.
- Institutionalize federal transfers to municipalities through the creation of a Municipal Fund, renaming the Gas Tax funds, which were delinked from gas tax revenue years ago, and retaining the same eligibility as the Gas Tax funds.
- Ensure a permanent doubling of current Gas Tax funding.
- Allocate one per cent of GST to housing and other municipal infrastructure on an ongoing basis.
- Create a dedicated, long-term funding program for water infrastructure, building on the success of the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund that operated between 2016 and 2018
- Create a national cycling and walking infrastructure fund to help support zero emissions active transportation.

Region of Peel Advocacy Priority: Green Recovery

- Provide sustained funding to reduce greenhouse emissions and address climate change risks to critical municipal infrastructure
- Work with municipalities to develop policy that establishes adaptation targets and defines municipal resilience to climate change

Liberal Party Platform

- Create open-access climate toolkits to help infrastructure owners and investors develop projects that ensure Canada is on the path to a net-zero emissions and resilient future.
- Support retrofits and upgrades to protect against extreme weather.
- Develop strategies, in partnership with the insurance industry and private sector to lower insurance premiums by identifying cost-effective ways to better protect communities and homes from climate impacts and save people money.
- Create a Climate Adaptation Home Rating Program that will be developed as a companion to the EnerGuide home energy audits.
- Expand the eligibility requirements of the CMHC deep home retrofit program and Canada Greener Home Grants to include more climate resilience measures.
- Finalize Canada's first-ever National Adaptation Strategy by the end of 2022, which will set clear targets and indicators to measure progress on—and strengthen the business case for—adaptation.
- Finalize and apply a climate lens to ensure climate adaptation and mitigation considerations are integrated throughout federal government decision making.
- Invest an additional \$700 million to add 50,000 new electric vehicle chargers and hydrogen stations to Canada's network.
- Provide \$100 million to make sure existing buildings can install charging stations.

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Conservative Party Platform

- Develop a Net Zero Foundations program that will include continuing to develop the building codes and standards necessary to support net zero goals for both new builds and retrofits
- Work with provinces, territories, and utilities to put in place a Residential Building Retrofit Initiative
- Work with provinces, territories, and municipalities to encourage the inclusion of a minimum number of EV charging spaces for new developments.
- Implement a national action plan on floods, including establishing a residential high risk flood insurance program.
- Work with provinces and territories to develop a natural infrastructure plan that:
 - creates a national standard to assess the value of natural infrastructure;
 - requires public sector accounting practices to include a proper valuation of existing natural infrastructure;
 - Incorporates retention of natural infrastructure into community design;
 - Provides incentives for farmers and landowners to protect and restore natural infrastructure.

NDP Platform

- Develop a funded National Crisis Strategy to help communities plan for and adapt to the changing climate and the weather extremes.
- Set a target of retrofitting all buildings in Canada by 2050 – beginning with upgrades to all buildings built before 2020 in the next 20 years.
- Eliminate fossil fuel subsidies and redirect these funds to low carbon initiatives, and make sure that future governments can't reverse this by putting in place legislation to ban any future oil, gas and pipeline subsidies.

Green Platform

- Create and implement a national green retrofit of existing residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings.
- Change the national building code to require that all new construction and major renovations to older buildings meet net-zero standards by 2030
- Increase funding to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund to support climate resilient projects.

Region of Peel Advocacy Priority: Sustainable Transportation & Vision Zero

- Increase funding for transit infrastructure to support sustainable transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Work with the Ontario government to expedite key transit projects in Peel.
- Work with the Ontario government to support Vision Zero initiatives.

Liberal Platform

- Accelerate major public transit projects.
- Support the switch to zero-emission buses.
- Develop rural transit solutions.
- Advance a National Active Transportation Strategy.
- Move forward with the electrified High Frequency Rail project in the Toronto to Quebec City corridor and launching a procurement process by the end of 2021.
- Explore opportunities to extend high speed rail toward London and Windsor.

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2021 Federal Election Platform Analysis – Region of Peel Priorities

Conservative Platform

- Build public transit infrastructure that connects homes and jobs by bringing public transit to where people are buying homes.
- Require municipalities receiving federal funding for public transit to increase density near the funded transit.
- Immediately invest in projects that will put Canadians to work, cut commute times, and clean up the environment.

NDP Platform

- Ensure that federal transit funding flows to low carbon transit projects like zero emissions buses and electric trains with the goal of electrifying transit and other municipal fleets by 2030.
- For provinces and municipalities that identify it as a priority, help them build towards fare-free transit to ease commutes, help people make ends meet and lower emissions.
- Step up investments now to help cities transition their bus fleets to electric, and to expand affordable rail and bus options in all parts of the country.
- Support creating high frequency rail along the Quebec Windsor corridor, expand rail service options in other regions.
- Promote smart community planning and active transportation.
- Work with other levels of government to encourage the use of electric bikes and their safe integration into our active transportation network.

Green Platform

- Set up a permanent, dedicated public transit fund of \$3.4 billion annually starting in 2026-27.
- Commit to a multi-year solution to transit operating shortfalls.
- Guarantee every Canadian safe, reliable and accessible access to affordable, net zero ground transportation by expanding VIA Rail to a rail and bus system.
- Invest \$500 million in 2022-23, rising to \$720 million by 2024 to develop regional rail networks and strengthen rail connections between regions by building additional track along existing routes to avoid bottlenecks where heavy freight pushes passenger rail to the side.
- Build electrified, 200 km/h or faster, high-speed rail in the Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal-Quebec City triangle and the Calgary-Edmonton corridor.
- Expand cycling and walking infrastructure, working with municipalities and provincial governments to develop infrastructure that is accessible to all communities and individuals.
- Develop a Green Freight Transport program to address greenhouse gas emissions and pollution in partnership with the freight industry, shipping companies and delivery businesses.

Region of Peel Advocacy Priority: Child Care

- Implement a Canada-wide child care plan that includes funding for both expanding affordable, high quality child care and maintaining a qualified workforce
- Allow flexibility in use and timing of federal funding to address local needs and circumstances

Liberal Platform

- Reduce fees for child care by 50% in the next year.
- Deliver \$10 a day child care within five years or less.
- Build 250,000 new high-quality child care spaces.
- Hire 40,000 more early childhood educators.
- Finalize agreements with all remaining provinces and territories.

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2021 Federal Election Platform Analysis – Region of Peel Priorities

- Work with Indigenous partners to ensure Indigenous children have access to culturally appropriate, affordable, high-quality early learning and child care.
- Enact federal child care legislation to strengthen and protect a Canada-wide child care system.

Conservative Platform

- Convert the Child Care Expense Deduction into a refundable tax credit covering up to 75% of the cost of child care for lower income families to be paid out over the course of the year. Under the child care plan:
 - A family with an income of \$30,000 will receive up to \$6,000 up from the current claim of a maximum of \$1,200.
 - A family with an income of \$50,000 will receive up to \$5,200 from the current claim of a maximum of \$1,200.
 - A family with an income of \$80,000 will receive up to \$4,800 up from a maximum of \$1,200.
 - A family with an income of \$120,000 will receive up to \$4,560 up from the current maximum of \$1,640.

NDP Platform

- Introduce legislation that enshrines Canada's commitment to high-quality, public child care in law.
- Take immediate action to save not-for profit child care centres that are at risk of closure with relief fund to re-open spaces that were lost during COVID-19.
- Work with the provinces to build a universal, \$10 a day child-care system.
- Ensure that child care workers are paid a fair, living wage. Canadian families deserve no less.

Green Platform

- Dedicate added resources to create a universal, affordable, early learning and child-care system.
- Collaborate with provinces/territories, local communities, Indigenous communities and the child-care sector to establish a comprehensive policy road map based on the principles of universality, affordability, quality, inclusivity, accessibility, and equity.
- Immediately begin to ramp up federal child care funding to achieve the international benchmark of at least one per cent of GDP annually.
- Ensure the training, recruitment and retention of well-paid and professional staff.
- Eliminate GST on all construction costs related to child care spaces

Regional Advocacy Priority: Long Term Care

- Support emotion-based care as a critical component of Long Term Care and provide funding and measurement tools to enable successful implementation as part of a national standard

Liberal Platform

- Improve the quality and availability of long-term care homes and beds.
- Implement strict infection prevention and control measures, including through more provincial and territorial facility inspections for long-term care homes.
- Develop a *Safe Long-Term Care Act* collaboratively to ensure that seniors are guaranteed the care they deserve, no matter where they live.

Conservative Platform

- Work with the provinces to develop a set of best practices for Long-Term Care homes by providing guidance without intruding on their jurisdiction.

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- Allocate \$3 billion of infrastructure funding over the next 3 years to renovate Long-Term Care Homes and encourage partnerships with private and non-profits that have historically provided a significant amount of Long-Term Care.
- Boost the number of Personal Support Workers by providing priority in immigration programs to those who can work in Long-Term Care or homecare and promote these careers through immigration and refugee settlement programs.
- Amend the Criminal Code provisions on failing to provide the necessities of life to make clear that a licensed care operator is presumed to have a legal duty to the residents of that facility.
- Amend the Home Accessibility Tax Credit by increasing the limit from \$10,000 per dwelling to \$10,000 per person.
- Allow seniors or their caregivers, including their children, to claim the Medical Expense Tax Credit for home care instead of only allowing them to claim attendant care if they live in a group home.
- Introduce the Canada Seniors Care Benefit, paying \$200 per month per household to any Canadian who is living with and taking care of a parent over the age of 70.

NDP Platform

- End private, for-profit long-term care and bring long-term care homes under the public umbrella.
- Work collaboratively with patients, caregivers, and provincial governments to develop national standards for home and long-term care, regulated by the same principles as the Canada Health Act.
- Work with the provinces to develop and support workforce strategies and violence prevention to recruit and protect frontline staff, and ensure a safe working environment.

Green Platform

- Bring Long-Term Care under the Canada Health Act
- Create enforceable National Standards for LTC with accountability and penalties, including criminal prosecution.
- Set a national standard of four hours of regulated care per day for each LTC resident.
- Ensure safe family access to LTC facilities.
- Require Emergency and Pandemic Preparedness for LTC, including providing proper and adequate supplies of PPE and testing for COVID-19 for staff, family caregivers, and residents.
- Provide all needed vaccinations to all residents, staff and caregivers for LTC (not only COVID-19).
- Provide transformative investment for Seniors Care including infrastructure and staffing funding.
- Increase and stabilise staffing in LTC homes and improve training, fair pay for workers, benefits, and paid sick leave.
- Invest in training and education to support ongoing professional development and specialization for LTC workers.
- Prioritize senior care and long-term care skills for immigration status.
- Provide a dedicated Seniors' Care Transfer to provinces and territories for specific improvements to home, community and LTC separate from the federal health transfers.
- Shift LTC policy towards aging in place by having the Seniors' Care Transfer include transformative investment in home and community care.
- Increase the proportion of LTC investment in community and home-based care from 13% to 35% in order to match the OECD average.
- End for-profit LTC facilities and reorient LTC towards community-based models.
- Make the Caregiver Tax Credit a refundable tax credit so that family caregivers have more flexibility.
- Change the Home Renovation Tax Credit from \$10,000 per household to \$10,000 per person.