

MILTON ELECTION CANDIDATES ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is arguably the biggest issue in the federal election. We asked Milton riding candidates in the federal election, if elected, what would you and your party do to help tackle the climate emergency?

PERCY DASTUR . PEOPLE'S PARTY OF CANADA

Climate change has been happening since the earth was formed 4.5 billion years ago by accretion from the solar nebula. Carbon emissions can have an effect on climate change and most scientists believe that human activity is already having a negative impact on climate change. Carbon tax will not help fight climate change. It will only flush out more dollars of the pockets of hard-working Canadians.

A People's Party government will:

- Invest in adaptation strategies if problems arise as a result of any natural climate change.
- Prioritize implementing practical solutions to make Canada's air, water and soil cleaner, including bringing clean drinking water to remote First Nations communities.
- Stop sending billions

of dollars to developing countries to help them reduce their emissions.

• Abolish subsidies for green technology because that promotes corporate welfare, which is not the best utilization of taxpayers' dollars.

• Encourage private players to develop efficient alternatives, and they will provide solutions through technology.

• Abolish the Liberal government's carbon tax and leave it to provincial governments to adopt programs to reduce emissions.

• Withdraw from the Paris Accord and abandon unrealistic greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

ELEANOR HAYWARD . GREEN

Our biosphere, upon which we all depend, is suffering a trifecta of related anthropogenic challenges: environmental toxification (pollution), biodiversity emergency (extinction crisis and invasive species) and climate change.

These circumstances present not just an environmental issue; the consequences compound into a grave national security

threat, but also present opportunities. We require all hands on deck.

The GPC presents a comprehensive strategy to transition our economy and meet our Paris emission targets with Mission: Possible, in line with guidelines that empirical evidence determines we must.

I will work for Milton to implement a national climate action plan. Already in Canada more people work in renewable energy than in the tarsands. In fact, 274,000 Canadians have clean-tech jobs with an average salary of \$92,000 per year. Investing in the clean and caring circular economy is essential to remain competitive and create a vibrant society.

One of the six key Green Values includes evoking ecological wisdom. Much has been lost, but there is much left to save. Governments have a duty to regulate business practices, commercial products, and behaviours to dramatically reduce the current burden on ecosystems, species and people who are at risk of being trampled on the path of so-called progress.

LISA RAITT . CONSERVATIVE

We should all be concerned about the kind of planet we will leave to future generations. The Conservative party's Climate Plan is built on three guiding principles:

- Green technology, not taxes.
- A cleaner and greener natural environment.
- Taking the climate change fight global.

I believe this plan is the most comprehensive environmental platform ever put forward by a political party in Canada. Unlike Justin Trudeau's plan, it does not rely on a carbon tax that will hit hard-working families the hardest, with higher costs for gasoline, groceries and home heating.

Under the Conservative plan, it will not be free to pollute. But big polluters will bear that cost, not taxpayers.

We will introduce the Green Homes Tax Credit, a 20 per cent refundable credit on their income tax for green improvements to their homes, to encourage Canadians to improve their homes with emissions-reducing technologies.

We will take action on

reducing plastic waste by harmonizing recycling standards across provinces and working with industry to cut down on excessive packaging.

We will work with municipalities to end their practice of dumping billions of litres of raw sewage into our waterways.

We will bring back the Green Public Transit Tax Credit, saving commuters from Milton GO \$652/year.

ADAM VAN KOEVERDEN . LIBERAL

Like most Miltonians, I recognize climate change is the issue of our generation. It's time to act in a meaningful way.

The Liberal government has already invested billions in fostering green technology, building green infrastructure and more public transit, and increasing the protections of our lakes, coastlines and land.

We've also put a price on pollution. Economists, climate scientists and experts agree this is the best way to combat climate change.

But more must be done. If re-elected, we will:

- Plant two billion trees
- Ban single-use plas-

tics by 2021

- Achieve net-zero emissions by 2050
- Exceed Canada's 2030 emissions reduction goal
- Help retrofit 1.5 million homes to be more energy efficient
- Help homeowners and landlords pay for retrofits with an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000
- Help people buy newly-built, zero-emissions certified homes with grants of up to \$5,000

• Increase the amount of land conserved from 14 per cent up to 25 per cent by 2025, and up to 30 per cent by 2030.

Climate change is an issue that will impact all of us. Unlike the Conservatives, who have questioned the science behind climate change, we are taking this issue seriously. It's time to act in the best interests of our town, our country and our world.

FARINA HASSAN . NDP

Did not respond.

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