



NDP Responds

Note: We have yet to release our full platform but here are the answers to date outlining our commitments.

Canadian Community Economic Development Network

1. How would you direct government spending to create community benefit?

NDP Response: The NDP has numerous proposals to provide the public services that Canadians need, while also deriving direct community benefit. Our affordable childcare plan will create and maintain one million quality childcare spaces that will cost parents no more than \$15 a day. This program will provide direct employment for childcare workers and will help moms and dads take on paid employment, leaving room in their budget for more local spending.

An NDP government will invest more than \$2.7 billion in affordable housing and homelessness programs, helping more Canadians have a safe, secure, and affordable place to call home. This will also create jobs in the construction industry.

Tom Mulcair's Better Transit Plan will invest up to \$1.3 billion annually in predictable, stable, and transparent funding for public transit, reducing gridlock and cutting commute times. This will have a positive impact on the environment, reduce lost productivity due to congestion, allow families to spend more time together, and generate local jobs.

An NDP government will also make important investments to ensure that roads, bridges, and vital infrastructure are there when we need them, by increasing the existing gas tax transfer up to an additional \$1.5 billion annually. This funding will ensure that communities have the infrastructure they need and will boost local employment.

Our investments in healthcare will help to ensure that communities have the doctors, nurses and the clinics they need to provide healthcare to the 6 in 10 Canadians who currently can't get a same-day appointment with a healthcare provider. We will also invest in high quality home care, long-term care, and palliative care to help seniors age with dignity.

2. How would your party support community investment and attract finance capital to help revitalize neighbourhoods?

NDP Response: The NDP's investments in the Green Municipal Fund and our plan for government-backed Green Savings Bonds will leverage private sector investment to help our communities adapt to climate change. This includes clean energy, energy efficiency and soil decontamination projects that will make our communities more efficient, greener and competitive.

Our investments in transit will stimulate neighbourhood revitalization around transit stations. Increasing transfers through the Gas Tax Fund will allow municipalities to make the necessary investments in roads, sidewalks, water infrastructure and recreation and cultural facilities needed for neighbourhood revitalization.

3. How will you support a greater role for social enterprises in economic revitalization?

NDP Response: Affordable housing is one of the top priorities of communities across the country. The NDP housing strategy will invest in cooperative housing and will renew long-term social operating agreements. Our plan for affordable childcare will also support local economic revitalization, create jobs and provide the necessary childcare to help moms and dads take on paid work. We will also work with the community economic development sector to find ways of facilitating the participation of social enterprises in economic revitalization.

4. What is your party's strategy to alleviate poverty in Canadian communities (rural, urban, Aboriginal, and Northern)? How will you support community-based solutions to reduce poverty and unemployment?

NDP Response: An NDP government will introduce the NDP's *Poverty Elimination Act*, which requires a national anti-poverty strategy, including targets and timelines, to be developed in consultation with provinces, territories, municipalities, Indigenous governments and communities, low income Canadians, and civil society. In addition to outlining an overarching set of goals, the strategy will also target specific vulnerable populations, including Indigenous peoples, persons living with disabilities, seniors, newcomers, and rural and remote communities.

The strategy will include measures to address income security, including wages from employment and government income support programs, increased access to affordable housing and affordable childcare, and will combat social exclusion.

By law, the strategy will be required to conform to Canada's obligations under international law, including internationally recognized human rights.

Our anti-poverty strategy will be supported by immediate measures that we will undertake to improve income security and expand access to affordable housing. This includes boosting the level of the Working Income Tax Benefit, the National Child Benefit Supplement, and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, lifting thousands of families and seniors out of poverty. We will also restore the federal minimum wage and progressively raise it to \$15 an hour, to ensure a living wage for more Canadians. Finally, we will invest more than \$2.7 billion over 4 years in affordable housing and homelessness programs to ensure that more Canadians have an affordable, secure, and adequate place to call home.