

NDP Response: Our Right to Know

There is scientific consensus that we are now facing a climate emergency. Given this,

- a) What is your detailed climate action plan, what are your targets, and how will you achieve them?**
- b) What are your plans to mitigate the damages caused by climate change?**

New Democrats have put forward a bold \$15 Billion Climate Change plan that commits to achieving targets set by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of limiting global temperature increases to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Our plan will lower emissions to net-zero by 2050 and create 300,000 new good jobs in our first four years in office.

As a start, an NDP government will declare a climate emergency and put into law the requirement for the government to establish a plan to meet ambitious science-based greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. We will revise our 2030 targets to ensure they are in line with the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Our government will also enshrine in law the right to a healthy environment by establishing a federal Environmental Bill of Rights.

To achieve these ambitious targets an NDP government will make major investments in low carbon transportation infrastructure including public transit, walking and biking, and rail. We will help families afford zero-emission vehicles with up to \$600 for installing a charging station at home and a \$5,000 tax credit that grows if you buy a vehicle made in Canada. This is will help ensure good jobs building the vehicles of the future stay right here in Canada.

An NDP government will immediately launch an ambitious building retrofit program with the goal of retrofitting all buildings by 2050. Homeowners will be able to access no-interest loans to undergo energy-efficiency projects in their homes. This will not only lower emissions and make homes more comfortable, it will create thousands of jobs in the skilled trades and supporting industries while saving families on average \$900 a year in utility costs.

New Democrats know that more needs to be done to protect and prepare our communities from escalating climate change-related extreme weather events as well as respond compassionately when disasters happen. That is why an NDP government will expand federal funding by \$2.5 billion to help communities respond to disaster and

adapt infrastructure to withstand floods and other extreme weather events. We will also work with the provinces, territories and local governments to ensure that the Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Fund meets the needs of communities and will continue the Flood Mapping project to ensure we have the information we need to prevent flooding and properly plan our communities.

Additionally, our plan includes protecting 30 per cent of our land, freshwaters and oceans by 2030 backed by funding enforcement. We will implement a \$40 million Coastal Protection Fund to clean up our oceans, ban-single use plastics, do more to combat invasive species and so much more. An NDP government is committed to fighting the climate emergency like we actually want to win.

Government is collecting a lot of personal information.

A) What will you do to securely protect the data collected?

B) In case such data are shared with outside agencies, will you commit to removing all identifying information?

New Democrats recognize that government collects personal information about Canadians. This information is important for providing efficient and effective public services and for learning ways to improve the delivery of these services. However, we also recognize that the information that is being collected is sensitive.

New Democrats believe that there must be limits to the information that is being collected and tough, enforceable rules for how that information is gathered, stored and used. A New Democrat government will ensure stringent measures are put in place to protect Canadians' information.

Everyone who makes decisions affecting our country should have access to the best information available. What will your party do with the Office of the Chief Science Advisor? Will you

A) Abolish it.

B) Maintain it as is,

C) Strengthen it by making it responsible to parliament rather than government?

New Democrats are supportive of the position of the Chief Science Advisor to promote science and scientific research in Canada and in decision-making. Our government will strengthen the office by expanding its scope so that it serves as a watchdog to protect and promote science in Canada and making it answerable directly to Parliament and all Parliamentarians.

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Jagmeet
Singh

And we will also invest an additional \$440 million for boosting Canadian research.

Government partially or fully funds a lot of research, much of which is not available to the public that has funded it.

A) Do you support making all publicly funded research accessible to the public?

B) Are you prepared to introduce a law to this effect?

Canada is a global leader in publicly-funded research, spurring new innovations and new ways of thinking. New Democrats are proud of the world-class research and development coming out of our public institutions – that research should be shared, collaborated on, and used to enhance our collective knowledge. We would be happy to consult with all stakeholders in order to determine the best ways to move forward on ensuring public access to publicly-funded research.