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2025 FEDERAL ELECTIONS: CHC'S QUESTIONNAIRE TO POLITICAL PARTIES

**Disclaimer:** The following responses from the Liberal Party of Canada have been received to date. They have not been altered, modified or interpreted in any way; they are presented as they were received. Additional responses from the other party leaders will be included if, and when, they are received.

# ΟΜΟΣΠΟΝΔΙΑΚΕΣ ΕΚΛΟΓΕΣ 2025 : ΕΡΩΤΗΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΕΚΚ ΣΤΑ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΑ ΚΟΜΜΑΤΑ

**<u>Αποποίηση</u> ευθυνών**: Οι ακόλουθες απαντήσεις ελήφθησαν μέχρι σήμερα από το Φιλελεύθερο Κόμμα του Καναδά. Δεν έχουν – με οποιονδήποτε τρόπο – αλλοιωθεί, τροποποιηθεί ή ερμηνευθεί · παρουσιάζονται όπως ελήφθησαν. Πρόσθετες απαντήσεις από τους αρχηγούς των άλλων κομμάτων θα συμπεριληφθούν, εάν και όποτε ληφθούν.

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.



- **1.** <u>Sovereignty:</u> Our sovereignty has come under attack from our friends the United States. Threats from the Trump Administration have questioned our legitimacy as a sovereign democratic nation.
- What are your party's plans to protect and bolster our sovereignty as a nation and to counter the existential threats and tariffs from the Trump Administration?

Canada is a sovereign nation. Now and forever. A Liberal government led by Mark Carney will protect Canada's sovereignty by reinforcing both our economy, our military, and our cultural identity. We will respond to unjust U.S. tariffs with targeted measures that maximize the effect on the United States, and protect Canadian workers and businesses. We will reinvest every dollar we collect into supporting Canadian workers and industries. To protect our sovereignty, we will exceed NATO's 2% spending target by 2030, expand Arctic surveillance, and modernize our forces to assert and protect Canada's sovereignty at home and abroad. We will reject any attempt to weaken us, wear us down, divide us, or own us. Our response will always be to fight, to protect our workers and industries, and to build.



- **2.** <u>Economic Independence:</u> Canada is a major trade partner of United States. Oil, potash, steel and lumber to mention a few of our resources are shipped to the States at discounted prices.
- What are your party's plans to minimise our dependence on the United States and not to be held hostage by them, and to seek more economic independence by expanding our trade with other regions and countries?

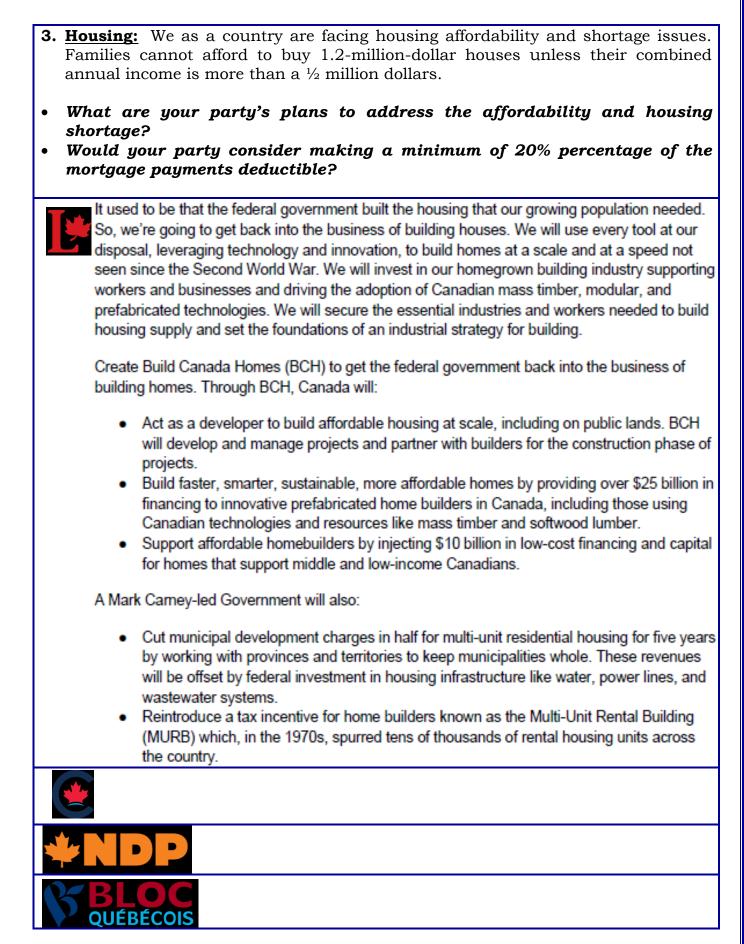
For decades, the U.S. has been our partner, but their unjustified tariffs have ruptured that relationship, and we must focus on other, more reliable, partners moving forward. Thankfully, the rest of the world wants and needs what Canada has to offer. It's the Saskatchewan potash that farmers use to feed the world; and the Canadian energy that is powering economies around the world. This trade is essential to our prosperity, and in order to build the fastest growing economy in the G7, we need to double down on our advantages and strengthen our relationships with reliable partners, taking full advantage of our existing trade agreements, such as CETA. We need to diversify our supply chains so that we can have a more resilient, prosperous economy that isn't dependent on any one country..

To support Canadian workers and businesses diversify their trading relationships we will:

- Open a \$25 billion export credit facility to support Canadian businesses as they expand into new markets.
- Expand the CanExport program and pivoting it to focus on diversifying from the United States and fully take advantage of our existing trade deals, such as CETA and CPTPP.
- Build new trade infrastructure that connects Canada through the new \$5 billion Trade Diversification Corridors Fund, including ports, railways, airports, highways, and other trade enabling infrastructure.









equi can Can fore Can fore	<b>ense:</b> To be an independent and sovereign nation we must have a well- ipped and trained military to protect our sovereignty from adversaries. We not rely on allies solely. Today's allies may be tomorrow's adversaries. ada's contribution to NATO is less than 2% of the GDP. Our military relies on ign planes and other weapons. Since these planes are produced outside of ada, there is a risk of being cut off in case of conflict or disagreement with the ign supplier. <b>at are your party's plans to bolster our military/defense capabilities?</b>
• Wor thre inc	uld your party ensure that any weapon purchases create Canadian jobs, ough domestic service and maintenance facilities for these weapons, luding transfer of technologies? uld your party increase our NATO contribution?
Ŀ	A Mark Carney-led government will rebuild our defence capacity, we will rearm the Canadian Armed Forces, and we will invest in Canadian defence companies. We will strengthen our security, build stronger links with our partners in Europe and Asia, and invest in the North. We will build our defence industry to keep it resilient and benefit our economy. Most importantly, we will put Canadians first by supporting our people and making the Canadian Armed Forces a lifelong career.
	Our Investments will be spent wisely and effectively to put Canada on track to exceed our NATO defence spending target before 2030. This when, ten years ago, under a Conservative government, defence spending was less than 1% of GDP. We will increase investments significantly and quickly to protect Canada. Now, more than ever, we need to reaffirm our sovereignty and invest in the Canadian Armed Forces.
	Overhaul defence procurement to better meet our needs and the urgency of the moment
	<ul> <li>Overhal defice procurement to better meet durineeds and the digency of the information by:         <ul> <li>Establishing a new Defence Procurement Agency.</li> <li>Amending legislation and regulations as required, including taking steps to expand risk-based approaches to approvals, to centralize expertise from across government and streamline the way we buy equipment for the military</li> <li>Buying Canadian whenever possible and prioritizing Canadian raw materials such as steel, aluminum and critical minerals</li> <li>Boosting Canada's domestic defence industries and production as we build security relationships with our partners.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Expand our ability to monitor our coastlines and secure Canada's Arctic, including with new submarines for the Royal Canadian Navy and additional heavy loebreakers, building on our commitment to all orders underway through the National Shipbuilding Strategy.</li> <li>Expand our fleet of aerial and underwater drones to build a persistent presence in the air and sea, including persistent surveillance to protect against threats in the Arctic and at our border. We will work to build Canadian Industry through defence partnerships and by leveraging domestic innovations.</li> <li>Buy Canadian-made airborne early warning and control alroraft, supporting our domestic aerospace industry and accelerating the procurement process.</li> <li>Support the Canadian Army with significant new Investments, such as new self-propelied artillery systems and ground-based air defence capabilities so that the CAF have the capacity to operate in today's context.</li> </ul>
	NDP BLOC DUÉBÉCOIS



5. Immigration: Canada has been built on immigration. The influx of immigrants has raised questions as to whether Canada can afford to continue allowing new immigrants to the country in view of the lack of affordable housing, as well as, cumbersome provincial regimes to recognise their foreign degrees and certifications, in fields such as medicine, engineering, nursing, etc... What is your party's immigration policy? What are your party plans to address the challenges facing immigrants? While the United States is a melting pot, Canada is a mosaic. Many families came here to build better lives and be part of building Canada. Diverse communities have brought new businesses, innovations, cultures, religious plurality, and a strong, well-educated labour force to Canada. Together, we have been partners in building communities based on shared values of fairness, solidarity, responsibility, resilience, and sustainability. This shared mission has made Canada strong and is an economic advantage. A Mark Carney-led government will: Return immigration to sustainable levels by capping the total number of temporary workers and international students to less than 5% of Canada's population by the end of 2027, from a past high of 7.3%, to ease the strain on housing, public infrastructure, and our social services. Stabilize permanent resident admissions at less than 1% of Canada's population annually beyond 2027 with a focus on attracting top global talent that will drive economic growth and prosperity. Our immigration plan will also allow for the reunification of families, while maintaining Canada's global leadership in prioritizing the world's most vulnerable, including human rights defenders and refugees. Attract the best talent in the world to build our economy by revitalizing the Global Skills Strategy to help high-growth Canadian businesses and entrepreneurs with new projects that will support Canada's strategic economic growth. This includes attracting highly skilled talent from the United States who can help grow the economy here in Canada. Work with provinces and territories to streamline and speed up recognition of foreign credentials and international professional experience, so that those who come to Canada can contribute their skills to the economy more quickly upon arrival.

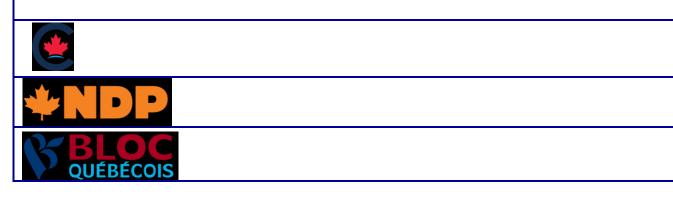


- 6. <u>Canada's Energy and Natural Resources:</u> Given that Canada is blessed with rich energy and natural resources and given that we must strive to be self-sufficient and independent,
- What are your party's plans to bring our energy and natural resources to new markets, both domestically and internationally?

It's time to build Canada into an energy superpower that combines our conventional energy resources with our unlimited potential when it comes to clean, affordable energy. It is what will power the economy of the future — it will be the backbone of the economy we build together. We have major untapped hydro resources. We have the critical minerals needed for batteries and new technologies and the resources needed to produce more biofuel. We already rank at the top for global investment in battery and storage technologies. And we have barely begun to scratch the surface of our potential to build out more renewable power, such as wind and solar power. Around the world, investment is driving towards clean growth, and, with the uncertainty of America's trade war, Canada's stability makes it more attractive than ever.

A Mark Carney-led government will:

- Kickstart the clean energy supply chain by investing in critical minerals, attracting
  investment in critical minerals to get them from "rock to road" faster, supporting earlystage mining companies, and supporting thousands of jobs across the supply chain. To
  get the vital components needed to build Canada strong.
- Attract, expand, and derisk investments in critical minerals exploration and extraction through the expansion of existing tax credits.
- Invest in ourselves by providing funding for projects of national and economic significance and leveraging the Canada Growth Fund to accelerate private investment in Canadian critical minerals projects.





- **7.** <u>Internal Trade:</u> Canada, as a federation, has internal restrictions on the flow of trade, services and human resources. These restrictions limit and/or prevent the flow of goods and services across the country.
- What is your party's position on interprovincial trade?
- What are your party plans to eliminate the restrictions and ensure that interprovincial trade flows without obstacles?

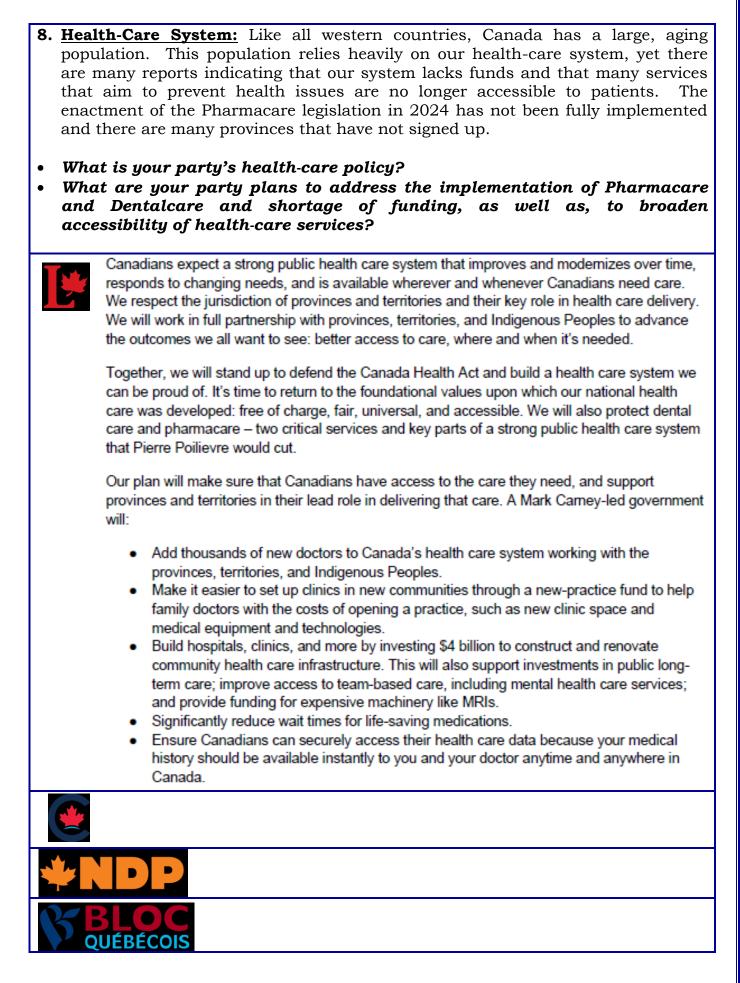
There must be one Canadian economy, not thirteen. That's why Mark Carney has a plan to remove barriers to internal trade. We will reduce internal trade costs by up to 15% and expand our economy by up to \$200 billion, that is up to \$5,000 for every Canadian. We will also build trade corridors that stitch this country together more tightly – where people can work anywhere, where businesses can sell their products anywhere. These actions will grow our economy and offset the impacts of Trump's tariffs. Our plan will lower costs for consumers, create new jobs and careers, open new markets for our homegrown goods and services, improve our energy independence, and increase labour mobility, including for health care workers and construction workers.

A Mark Carney-led government will:

- Unleash free trade in Canada by Canada Day by tabling legislation to eliminate all federal barriers to interprovincial trade and labour mobility and to remove all federal exceptions under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.
- Achieve mutual recognition of credentials with provinces and territories so Canadians can work wherever they want. This includes health professional credentials, professional qualifications in financial services, and trucking safety certifications, amongst others. In cases where mutual recognition is not attainable, we will harmonize regulations to enhance labour mobility.







- **9.** Foreign Affairs/International Relations: Canada has always had a longstanding track record as a staunch supporter of the rule of law and of protecting and promoting human rights and religious freedoms. We believe there is currently a lack of leadership in the western world which has led to nationalistic tendencies globally, for example, by China, Iran and Turkey – amongst others – with no respect toward democratic philosophies and institutions. Furthermore, Turkey's expansionist actions are undermining peace in the Aegean Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean region, her aggressive and imperialistic policies go against NATO, the EU and other countries, such as Greece, Cyprus, Armenia, etc..., and she is constantly violating the international rule of law and human rights.
- What is your party's view of Canada's role and place on the evolving world stage?
- How would you rethink and retool Canada's foreign affairs policies, including maintaining or putting in place military arms and equipment embargoes and other sanctions upon autocratic regimes that consistently and deliberately violate international laws and human rights?



Canada is a nation of values. We champion human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. These values are the basis of the 80 years of peace and prosperity that saw Canada grow and take its place in the world. Today, these values are under threat.

We must never forget that our sovereignty, security, and prosperity are tied to broader global stability. At a time of rising global conflict and authoritarianism, there are those who are stepping back from global leadership. Canada believes in open cooperation, in the free flow of good services and ideas.

A Mark Carney-led government will:

- Restore Canada's diplomatic presence abroad through a new, full foreign policy. The last time Canada issued a full foreign policy was in 2005 – the world is immensely different today than it was then. The intention is to deploy more Canadian diplomats and officials abroad, to expand our trade, and to restore Canadian leadership. We will also issue a complementary national security review.
- Build alliances to protect our sovereignty including work to build a security and economic
  partnership with our Nordic partners to promote Arctic security, Canadian sovereignty,
  and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. This will build on our close relationships, and
  we will continue to leverage our close relationships with the Commonwealth and La
  Francophonie to present a united front against threats to sovereignty around the globe.
- Use Canada's G7 Presidency to catalyze action in defence of our values, including working to protect the rules-based international order from those who want to destroy it.



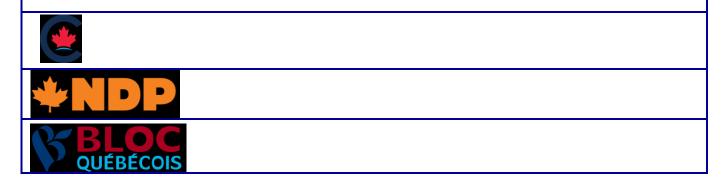


- **10.** <u>**Canada-Greece Bilateral Relations:**</u> Greece is the gateway to Europe, the Middle East, and the Caucasus region, and Canada and Greece share many common values, international interest and objectives. We believe the existing bilateral ties between the countries can be further strengthened.
- What are your party's plans to increase imports and exports between Canada and Greece and to facilitate a more consistent flow of trade and investments?



Trade is essential to our prosperity, and in order to build the fastest growing economy in the G7, we need to double down on our advantages and strengthen our relationships with reliable partners, taking full advantage of our existing trade agreements, such as CETA. We need to diversify our supply chains so that we can have a more resilient, prosperous economy that isn't dependent on any one country. A Mark Carney-led government will:

- Help Canadian businesses diversify their markets by expanding the CanExport program and pivoting it to focus on diversifying from the United States and fully take advantage of our existing trade deals, including CETA which represents a powerful foundation for Canada-Greece trade.
- Open a \$25 billion export credit facility to support Canadian businesses as they expand into new markets. This program offers financing to help other countries procure Canadian goods and services, with similar programs having facilitated the sale of potash to Bangladesh and water bombers to the European Union, including to Greece.





12 / 12

- 11. <u>Bill 96 in Quebec; An Act respecting French, the official and common</u> <u>language of Québec:</u>
- What is your party's position on Bill 96?



The protection and promotion of the French language are fundamental to Canadian identity. Mark Carney agrees with the objectives of Bill 96 - French must be protected. However, doing so must be in alignment with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.We will always stand up for individual freedoms while promoting the French language across Canada.

