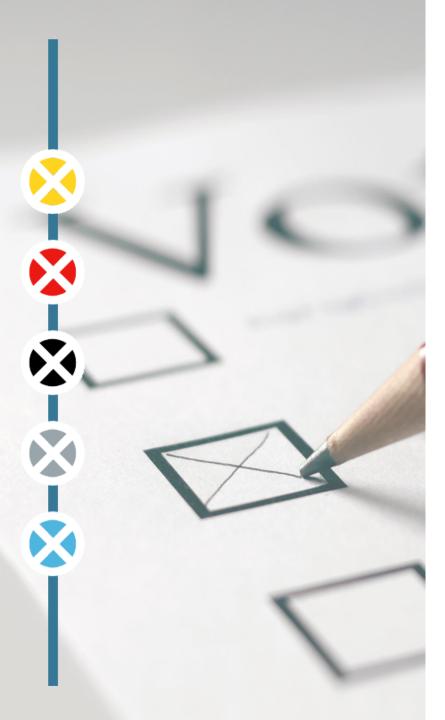


## SCORECARD

# WHERE DO THE FEDERAL PARTIES STAND ON INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ISSUES?





This analysis of the major federal party platforms by NWAC helps highlight the platform promises Canada's major political parties have made on issues important to Indigenous women.

The following 11 priorities were used for the analysis of the party platforms:

- Rights of Indigenous women and MMIWG2S
- 2. Self-determination and decision-making
- Reconciliation and residential schools
- Environment and climate change
- 5. Clean drinking water and public services

- 6. Housing
- 7. Child welfare
- 8. Justice and policing
- Employment and economic development
- 10. Education
- 11. Health care

The research is being shared by the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) to help advance dialogue, reconciliation and transparency.

The following party platform analyses are based on the details in the appendices.

| Rank |                          | Score |
|------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1    | *NDP                     | A     |
| 2    | Liberal                  | В     |
| 3    | green<br>PARTY OF CANADA | В     |
| 4    |                          | D     |
| 5    | S BLOC<br>Québécois      | D     |



The party that best addresses issues important to Indigenous women through their election platform is the NDP. They addressed all 11 priorities in their platform to one degree or another.

| Party                    | Overall<br>Score                | 1<br>Rights of<br>Indigenous<br>women &<br>MMIWG2S | 2<br>Self-<br>determination<br>& Decision-<br>making | 3<br>Reconciliation<br>& Residential<br>schools | 4<br>Environment<br>& Climate<br>change | 5<br>Clean<br>drinking<br>water &<br>Public<br>services | 6<br>Housing | <b>7</b><br>Child welfare | 8<br>Justice &<br>Policing | 9<br>Employment<br>& Economic<br>development | 10<br>Education | 11<br>Health care |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>♦NDP</b>              | <b>A</b> (52 points / 11 ≈ 4.7) | 4  | 5  | 5   | 5                                       | 5   | 4            | 5                         | 5                          | 4  | 5               | 5                 |
| Liberal                  | <b>B</b> (45 points / 11 ≈ 4.0) | 5  | 5  | 3   | 4                                       | 5   | 5            | 4                         | 2                          | 3  | 4               | 5                 |
| <b>SPECIAL STATE</b>     | <b>B</b> (41 points / 11 ≈ 3.7) | 5  | 5  | 4   | 4                                       | 3   | 4            | 4                         | 4                          | 1  | 3               | 4                 |
| <b>*</b>                 | <b>D</b> (26 points / 11 ≈ 2.4) | 2  | 4  | 3   | 1                                       | 3   | 2            | 1                         | 2                          | 4  | 1               | 3                 |
| <b>BLOC</b><br>Québécois | <b>D</b> (19 points / 11 ≈ 1.7) | 1  | 5  | 3   | 1                                       | 2   | 1            | 1                         | 1                          | 2  | 1               | 1                 |

 $\mathbf{A} - 5$  points;  $\mathbf{B} - 4$  points;  $\mathbf{C} - 3$  points;  $\mathbf{D} - 2$  points;  $\mathbf{F} - 1$  point

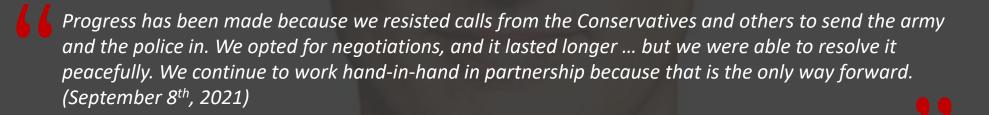
## **Quotes** from Justin Trudeau – Liberal Party Leader

LIBERAL PARTY

JUSTIN TRUDEAU

We know that there is still work to be done in [addressing address the challenges they face when it comes to finding adequate housing], and we are committed to doing this work for as long as it takes and with the necessary investments. We also know that Indigenous communities continue to need better access to culturally grounded, Indigenous-led solutions to mental health. Our investments have been — and will continue to be — a result of listening to Indigenous partners and working together to build a better future for all. (August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021)



















### Liberal Party of Canada - Platform Review

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

The Liberal Party pledges to support and funding of the revitalization of Indigenous laws, legal systems and traditions. The LPC also commits to accelerate the resolution of outstanding land claims and advance the priorities of Indigenous communities to reclaim full jurisdiction in the areas that matter to them such as child and family services, education, health care, policing, tax, and administration of justice. They also state that they will include, in all cabinet ministers' mandate letters, the requirement to implement UNDRIP, and ensure their offices and ministries work alongside Indigenous peoples to advance their rights. The party also states they will fully implement an Act respecting the *United Nations* Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

While the party's platform makes no mention on the amount of funding to be allotted to this revitalization, nor do they detail the type of support they will continue to give on these issues, overall this is consistent with AFN's priority to ensure all policies, legislation, and operational practices are consistent with First Nations and Treaty rights, the UNDRIP, and Canada's international obligations.

Score: 5 out of 5

The Liberal Party pledges to accelerate the implementation of the Federal Pathway, including working with all partners to share priorities in the 2021 National Action Plan. In addition, they commit to working with First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nations to implement \$2.2 billion in funding over the next 5 years and an ongoing \$160.9 million to address MMIWG2S through the implementation of the Federal Pathways and the 2021 National Action Plan. They also promise the creation of a standing Federal-Provincial-Territorial table on MMIWG2S to facilitate and coordinate work.

In line with NWAC's priorities to address MMIWG2S, the platform pledges to accelerate the implementation of the Federal Pathway and to provide stable funding over the next 5 years. The platform does not indicate the inclusion of Indigenous women in decision-making or in the creation of the standing table.

Score: 5 out of 5

SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING





#### **RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS**

The Liberal Party promises to continue to work in in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation on addressing climate change, specifically in tracking the impacts of climate change on their traditional lands and waters and charting collaborative strategies forward. The LPC promises to also support and establish new Indigenous Guardians programs as well as support and expand Indigenous-led fire crews including the incorporation of TEK for fire management strategies. They also commit to identify and prioritize the clean-up of contaminated sites in areas where Indigenous, racialized, and low-income Canadians live and support Indigenous communities to build capacity to establish more IPCAs.

The platform does address the need for an equitable path forward for women and Indigenous people and are committed to facilitating a just and equitable transition to clean growth , but it does not specifically include the need for Indigenous women in climate change decision-making. The LPC platform also does not include an overall incorporation of TEK in addressing climate change and is more focused specifically on traditional lands and it does not meet the priorities outlined by AFN and NWAC such as working with Indigenous leaders as full and effective partners in the implementation of the Government of Canada's climate plan and related decision-making processes.

Score: 4 out of 5

The Liberal Party pledges to accelerate the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. The LPC also promises to provide the necessary supports for communities who wish to continue to undertake the work of burial searches at the former sites of Residential Schools, Day Schools and Indian Hospitals and sustained financial support for the Centre for core operations in fulfilling the mandate issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The party does not specifically detail to what degree they will implement the 94 Calls to Action as part of their commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. They also do not mention to what degree they will support or fund searches for unmarked graves or re-burials. They do not pledge to mandate the release of all records from churches and governments, nor to pursue criminal charges against all living perpetrators of violence against Indigenous children in the Residential School System as outlined in NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities.

Score: 3 out of 5

#### ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE





#### CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

The Liberals are promising to invest \$2 billion in Indigenous housing, with half of that available by the summer construction period. They also say they'll codevelop an Indigenous Urban, Rural and Northern Housing Strategy funded by a \$300 million initial investment, as well as co-develop and fund Canada's first-ever National Indigenous Housing Centre, through which Indigenous people will fully oversee federal Indigenous housing programs once fully realized. In addition, they commit to continue supporting the establishment of Indigenous-led institutions in housing and infrastructure.

This promise aligns with the asks of the AFN and NWAC in terms of supporting Indigenous Peoples' by investing and providing continued support to the codevelopment with Indigenous partners of a new Indigenous Urban, Rural, and Northern Housing Strategy.

Score: 5 out of 5

The Liberal Party pledges to maintain their commitment to invest \$6 billion to ensure sustainable access to clean water for First Nations and make any investments necessary to eliminate all remaining advisories. They also commit to ensuring that that resources and training are in place to prevent future advisories. In addition, they pledge to continue to move forward on their agreement in principle to resolve national class action litigation related to safe drinking water in First Nations communities.

There is no mention to repeal the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act and replace it with First Nations-led legislation or to fully fund 100% of actual operations and maintenance costs for all federally funded assets, as outlined by AFN as a 2021 federal priority. However, they promise to eliminate ALL remaining advisories and do not limit it to long-term advisories.

Score: 5 out of 5

HOUSING





CHILD WELFARE

The Liberal party's platform addresses future justice and policing issues including the support of an external review of the RCMP's sanctions as well as the prohibition of the use of neck restraints or tear gas/rubber bullets for crowd control by the RCMP. The LPC also promises to work with provinces, territories, and municipalities that contract RCMP services to make the service better connected to community social support workers.

The platform does not address existing issues specific to Indigenous people nor is it in line with the NWAC's 2021 Election priorities to develop a strategy to provide fully funded support to Indigenous-led police services, with a focus on violence prevention, invest in community-guided solutions to end discriminatory policing practices, and provide funding and support to healing and restorative justice programs.

Score: 2 out of 5

The Liberal platform promises to continue to fully implement the *Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* as well as continue to work with Indigenous communities to help children and families stay together and ensure fair and equitable compensation for those harmed by the First Nations Child and Family Services program. In addition, they promise to continue to fully fund Jordan's Principle and the Inuit Child First Initiative. They also pledge to continue to reform child and family services in Indigenous communities.

While they do pledge to continue to fully fund Jordan's Principle, they do not indicate that there will be no further appeals from the rulings of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle as addressed in AFN and NWAC's list of 2021 Federal Priorities. The platform also lacked any details on how they will reform these child and family services. The reform of services also does not mention ensuring First Nations are fully and properly involved in the creation of a Canada-wide system of early learning and childcare, as outlined by AFN in their 2021 Federal Priorities.

Score: 4 out of 5

JUSTICE & POLICING





#### EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To address the education needs of Indigenous peoples, the Liberal Party promises in their platform to ensure that the *Indigenous Languages Act* continues to be fully implemented supported with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding. They also promise to ensure more Indigenous families have access to high-quality programming including the creation of 3,300 new spaces. They also commit to supporting before/after school care for children on reserve, invest in Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities, and move forward on building an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care system that meets the needs of Indigenous families.

While the platform does not commit a dollar amount in terms of investment nor do they detail the scale at which they will support these initiatives, they promise to support Indigenous languages in Canada with long-term, predictable and sufficient funding. They do not address the specific needs of investment in constructing, renovating, and redesigning First Nations schools such as the 140 First Nations schools that are overcrowded and require additions and the 46 in need of total replacement as pointed out by AFN. Their platform is also primarily focused on early childhood education and does not mention post-secondary education or any gender-specific needs.

Score: 4 out of 5

The Liberal Party platform promises to expand the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program to enable businesses to access zero-interest loans, create a navigator position to help Indigenous entrepreneurs find programs that apply to their situation, and work with all government departments to analyze and, as appropriate, adjust eligibility criteria to ensure that programs are as inclusive as possible. The party also pledges to continue to deliver distinctions-based support in response to COVID- 19.

The platform does not detail specific steps they will take to help communities in the economic recovery. They also do not mention closing the infrastructure gap between First Nations and the rest of Canada nor the steps to ensure that First Nations have access to sufficient infrastructure stimulus funds for shovel-ready projects in First Nations communities as part of a post-pandemic recovery plan for First Nations, as mentioned as a federal priority in AFN's A Healing Path Forward. The platform does not include gender-specific solutions and does not align with NWAC's priority of equitable access to funding, services and information for Indigenous women entrepreneurs and business-owners.

Score: 3 out of 5

#### EDUCATION





**HEALTH CARE** 

11

The Liberal Party platform seeks to address inequalities and discrimination in the healthcare system as it relates to Indigenous people by fully implementing Joyce's principal and co-developing distinctions-based Indigenous Health legislation. The LPC also commits to providing an additional \$1.4 billion for a distinctions-based mental health and wellness strategy with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, expanding on a recent commitment of \$597.6 million, for a total investment of \$2 billion over five years. In addition, the party promises to co-develop a distinctions-based, community-led Indigenous Long-Term and Continuing Care Framework that prioritizes ensuring Indigenous peoples can receive long-term and continuing care services in or near their own communities and culturally appropriate care and programming.

The platform is in line with NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities to provide equal access to high-quality health care within home communities as well as access to health care without racism or discrimination and the implementation of Joyce's Principle.

Score: 5 out of 5

**Overall Score: B** 



## **Quotes** from Erin O'Toole – Conservative Party Leader

All the [TRC] calls to action are important and we will have an action plan to tackle them...We're going to make progress on the TRC calls to action because they're very important and they should be beyond politics. (August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021)

Critical pieces of infrastructure like rail and like bridges should not be illegally blockaded to make a political point...In fact, when that happens it hurts Indigenous communities the most, many of whom are developing resources and for the first time in generations creating wealth and jobs for Indigenous communities. (August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

I've been talking to Indigenous leaders since I became Opposition leader. Reconciliation will be important for me as will be pride in Canada, building it up, making more opportunity for more people including Indigenous Peoples. That will be my priority and I do think we should be proud to put our flag back up. (August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021)



CONSERVATIVE PARTY
ERIN O'TOOLE













### Conservative Party of Canada - Platform Review

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

Related to decision-making, the CPC pledges to develop a plan to implement TRC Calls to Action 71 to 76 and to uphold and respect the rights to pursue economic opportunities as affirmed by UNDRIP by implementing Article 18. The CPC also outlined a number of commitments to address self-determination and decision-making for Indigenous Peoples, but the overall focus of the platform is more on economic independence rather than complete self-governance. In addition, the CPC does not commit to UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety as called for by NWAC and the

Score: 4 out of 5

AFN.

The CPC pledges to develop a National Action Plan in collaboration with Indigenous groups to address violence against Indigenous women and girls. No further detail is provided, and despite calls from NWAC for immediate action to be taken, there is no estimated timeline for when this National Action Plan will be developed and there is also no mention of implementing the Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls or of collaborating with Indigenous women on this issue.

Score: 2 out of 5

SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING



#### **RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS**

The CPC pledges to develop a plan to implement TRC Calls to Action 71 to 76, to fund an investigation of all former residential schools, outlined plans to allocate resources to communities to honor those recovered, and commit resources to educate Canadians and build a monument to honor survivors and those who died. This does not align with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every Call to Action, and there is no mention of a criminal investigation as called for by the AFN.

Score: 3 out of 5

The CPC did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

#### ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

The CPC commits to recognizing safe drinking water as a fundamental human right and pledges to end long-term drinking water advisories in First Nations communities as well as commitments to make Indigenous Peoples significant beneficiaries of the CPC's plan to connect all Canadians to high-speed Internet by 2025. While the CPC platform does address the crucial issue of clean drinking water, there is no specific pledge to fund all costs to eliminate the boil advisories or to close the infrastructure gap. There is also no mention of other important public services, and while the platform does include commitments to improve infrastructure and public services in Northern communities, this is not pledged for Indigenous communities outside of the North.

Score: 3 out of 5





The CPC promises to enact a "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" strategy for housing, which aims to cease "federal paternalism" towards Indigenous Peoples and instead would involve partnering with Indigenous communities to empower Indigenous Peoples to meet their own housing needs. This promise aligns with the asks of the AFN, but there is no mention of what scope of investment would be made in this and no mention of implementing the National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy. In addition, the platform does not provide a firm timeline for addressing this issue despite its urgency.

Score: 2 out of 5

#### CHILD WELFARE

The CPC commits to allocating \$25 million for national police support and community training programs with the goal of reducing incarceration rates of Indigenous Peoples. NWAC and the AFN feel that Reconciliation should be a key part of changes to the justice system, and this is not mentioned in the CPC platform. In addition, NWAC and the AFN have called for long-term commitments to change the system, including the justice system and prison systems writ large, which is not addressed by the CPC. The platform also does not include AFN's calls for a joint process for a First Nations policing services or supporting the development and implementation of restorative First Nations justice systems among other asks.

Score: 2 out of 5

6 HOUSING

The CPC did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

JUSTICE & POLICING





The CPC platform outlines a detailed and extensive plan to "level the playing field" and encourage the success of Indigenous businesses in Canada including a commitment to provide \$4 million over three years for the hiring and training of local and regional economic development officers, developing an Indigenous Business Mentorship program, and establishing a national working group to encourage more Indigenous applicants to the public service among other commitments. While the platform is detailed with several positive commitments, there is no specific plan or priority for reducing barriers for Indigenous women.

Score: 4 out of 5

**EDUCATION** 

The CPC outlined a commitment to increase the capacity of mental health services in Indigenous communities, including providing \$1 billion over five years to boost funding for Indigenous mental health and drug treatment programs, and a commitment to support innovative approaches to address the mental health and addiction crises. While the pledge to increase capacity in these services is noted as a priority by NWAC, the platform does not address the need to improve the healthcare system for Indigenous communities, including barriers, racism and discrimination faced by Indigenous Peoples when accessing healthcare services.

Score: 3 out of 5

9

#### EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

10

The CPC did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

11

**HEALTH CARE** 

**Overall Score: D** 



## **Quotes** from Jagmeet Singh – New Democratic Party Leader

66

There's been a lack of attention to the problem of a lack of housing for Indigenous communities and particularly outside of reserves, in major communities. (August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

99

66

There is a clear design that denied Indigenous people their rights and it is the reason Indigenous people still don't have clean drinking water, are discriminated by the federal government, and it's why we are fighting against it. (September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021)

77



I completely agree that we have to recognize Indigenous languages as official languages. (September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021)



JAGMEET SINGH













### New Democratic Party - Platform Review

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

The NDP is committed to fully implementing UNDRIP, which is in line with both AFN and NWAC. They are also aligned with the AFN Federal Priority of self-governance through their promise of legislation and funding to support Indigenous Nations who are building and re-building governance structures and respect Inuit and Métis self determination.

Score: 5 out of 5

RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

The NDP has committed to ensuring culturally appropriate programing, emergency shelters and transitional housing for Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people fleeing violence. The NDP also promises to ensure full gender equality for First Nations status. Although the NDP is pledging to implement all 94 Calls to Action and Calls to Justice, no timeline is given despite calls from NWAC for immediate action to be taken. There is also no mention of funding which is not in line with NWAC priority.

Score: 4 out of 5

#### SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

Their platform aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to fully implement the 94 Calls to Action. The platform also promises an investigation and recovery effort be undertaken at all former residential schools in Canada, including fully funding searches and re-burials, it also includes the appointment of a special prosecutor to pursue those who inflicted great harm on Indigenous children in residential schools. The DP also pledges to support and fully fund community-driven solutions for healing, including projects similar to the former "Aboriginal Healing Foundation".

Score: 5 out of 5





#### **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

NDP platform addresses the crucial issue of clean drinking water in Indigenous communities, it also pledges to support Indigenous-led water management training programs and water systems operations. They also pledge to fully fund services and infrastructure that Indigenous communities need to thrive, including investments in roads, broadband internet, and expanding bus routes and passenger rail for rural and remote communities. Although this is in line with NWAC and AFN, the NDP does not mention AFN's Priority of repealing the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act and replace it with First Nations-led legislation.

Score: 5 out of 5

HOUSING

4

The NDP environmental plan is in line with AFN and NWAC through incorporating Indigenous leadership at decision-making tables to help direct climate efforts not only for traditional lands but for the basis of Canada's climate change plan. They are missing gender specific pledges for climate since they do not specifically include Indigenous women in decision-making as called for by NWAC.

Score: 5 out of 5

5

#### CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

The NDP pledges to with Indigenous communities to implement codeveloped, fully funded Indigenous National Housing Strategy within our first 100 days in office and ensure that Indigenous communities have the resources to make homes greener and more energy efficient, working to keep the benefits of good jobs, training and investment close to home. This is in line with NWAC's priority of access to safe and clean housing, as well as AFN's priorities to co-develop and fund a National First Nations Infrastructure Modernization Strategy. This plan does not address AFN's priority of working with First Nations to develop a National Action Plan to address and eliminate First Nations homelessness.

Score: 4 out of 5





CHILD WELFARE

Their platform meets all three priorities outlined by NWAC. They pledge funding for programs that focus on healing and restorative justice, making First Nations Policing an essential service with long term, sufficient and equitable funding, while taking steps to end discriminatory policing practices, work with Indigenous communities to enhance community safety and develop a First Nations justice and policing strategy. It is also in line with AFN's priority of recognizing First Nations Police Services.

Score: 5 out of 5

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



9

8

The NDP pledges to fully implement Jordan's Principle, working with the provinces and territories to end the delays and ensure equitable access to health services and educational supports for Indigenous children from coast to coast to coast. They will also take immediate action to respect, support and resource Indigenous jurisdiction over child welfare systems, and will back this commitment with long-term, predictable funding guaranteed in legislation so that Indigenous peoples can exercise their jurisdiction and authority over matters involving their own children and families. This is in line with NWAC and AFN priorities of ending all court challenges against Indigenous children, fully funding the creation of a community-led child and family service system, and fully implementing Jordan's Principle to eliminate service inequalities experienced by First Nations children.

Score: 5 out of 5

#### JUSTICE & POLICING

The NDP pledges to work with Indigenous communities to support locally-driven economic development and create good jobs through infrastructure and public service investments, and expanded access to broadband internet and cell service for rural and remote communities. They also commit to working with Indigenous entrepreneurs to find solutions for accessing capital, investing in Indigenous entrepreneurs, and ensuring the government prioritizes procurement from Indigenous companies where possible. They also pledge to create a Northern Infrastructure Fund to fast-track investment.

While the platform is detailed with several positive commitments, there is no specific plan or priority for addressing systematic discrimination against First Nations women and gender diverse individuals in the labor market.

Score: 4 out of 5



**EDUCATION** 

10

NDP pledges to provide every child with a safe place to learn, backed by federal investments and infrastructure as well as implementing *Shannen's Dream*. They touch on both early childhood education and post-secondary education which is in line with the scope of AFN's priorities. Their commitment to work with Indigenous communities to help protect and revitalize Indigenous languages with new legislation and stable funding is in line with NWAC. They also commit to establishing Indigenous history educations for all Canadians based on Calls to Action 62 and 63. They fail to mention dollar amounts or timelines when it comes to funding and fails to mention any investment in transitional/adult education for First Nations adults without a high school diploma.

Score: 5 out of 5

The NDP is in line with both NWAC and AFN by committing to implement Joyce's principle to tackle systemic racism in health care. They also commit to ensuring that Indigenous people can get the care they need in their community through investment in Indigenous healthcare infrastructure, medical supplies and diagnostic equipment. They also promise to improve access to mental health and addiction treatment services both on and off reserves which is Indigenous-led and culturally based. Their commitment to promote Indigenous food sovereignty by reforming the Nutrition North program to improve access to food, including country and traditional food.

Score: 5 out of 5

11

**HEALTH CARE** 

**Overall Score: A** 



## **Quotes** from Annamie Paul – Green Party Leader

GREEN PARTY OF CANADA ANNAMIE PAUL

If we're going to be allies, if we're going to heal this foundational harm that has been perpetrated over all of these centuries, then this is the time to do the work. The only fitting tribute to those 215 children that have been found is to do the work, respect the Treaty Rights, sovereignty, selfdetermination, Nation-to-Nation conversations, and to move towards reconciliation. (June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

66

We know that there was an organized, liberate policy of erasure. Erasure of culture, erasure of identity, erasure of language, that it was the policy of the government, and unfortunately many of the aspects, and many of the elements that were created in another era continue to this day. (June  $7^{th}$ , 2021)



The first thing everyone can do is educate themselves about the legacy that has been brought by colonialism in the territories that we know as Canada. After you educate yourself, then you need to act; the report in Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and the Calls for Justice need to be implemented. (September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021)













Score: 5 out of 5

### Green Party of Canada - Platform Review

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

The Green Party has committed to upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples and working with Indigenous Peoples on a nation-to-nation basis. Their platform states that they will implement UNDRIP, work towards and implement land claims, honor treaties, and work with Indigenous leadership to transition out of the Indian Act which is all in line with both AFN and NWAC's priorities. They also pledge to build community capacity to support exercising self-determination ensuring representation of youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and distinct identities among off-reserve Indigenous are adequately funded and those perspectives are included. This is in line with NWAC's priority of having Indigenous women involved in decision making.

**RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS** 

The Green Party has committed to implementing all of the Calls for Justice outlined in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & 2SLGBTQQIA+, including off-reserve Status, non-Status, Métis, and Southern Inuit in the implementation, all of which is aligned with NWAC's priorities and AFN's call on political parties. However, they do not mention the provision of support to healing centers for Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people as asked for by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priorities.

Score: 5 out of 5

#### SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

The Green Party's plan aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action and to stop fighting the Canada's Human Rights Tribunal. They pledge to provide funding for work on the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Project; and provide sustainable funding for new and existing Indigenous Healing Centers to address the harms caused by residential schools. However, it does not mention whether they will pursue all living perpetrators of violence against Indigenous Children and whether they will FULLY fund the search for unmarked graves and reburials, as called for by AFN.

Score: 4 out of 5





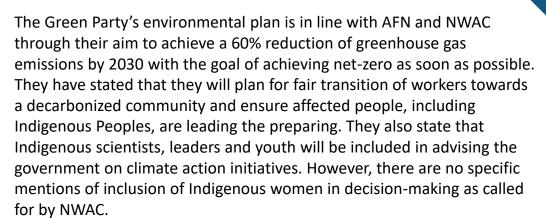
#### **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

Although the GPC platform pledges to end all drinking water and boil water advisories by investing in and upgrading critical infrastructure to ensure safe water access and supporting Indigenous-led processes to implement safe drinking water and wastewater management systems, they do not concretely describe the extent of the funding nor the urgency at which they will act to address this issue. There is also no specific mention of AFN's priority of repealing the *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act* and replacing it with First Nations-led legislation. Nevertheless, they also promise to address issues regarding other public services like transportation and access to broadband connectivity.

Score: 3 out of 5

**HOUSING** 

sing 6



Score: 4 out of 5

#### CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

The Green Party has committed to develop inclusive and culturally appropriate Urban Indigenous Housing Strategies, reinvest in housing for Indigenous communities, and pledge to assist urban and rural Indigenous people in identifying emergency accommodations and affordable housing options for youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and vulnerable populations. The Green Party's plan is in line with the asks from AFN and NWAC when it comes to co-developing and funding a National First Nations Infrastructure Modernization Strategy by providing investment and support. They also specifically address the needs of vulnerable populations including the needs of Indigenous women and two-spirited people. Although they list some strategies to address homelessness, there is no explicit mention of a National Action Plan to address and eliminate First Nations homelessness nor mention of green housing initiatives that are developed at the community level to meet the particular needs of Indigenous people.

Score: 4 out of 5





CHILD WELFARE

7

The Green Party's pledges to fully implement Jordan's Principle and thus eliminate service inequalities experienced by First Nations children, recognize the right of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation to determine child and family services and end all court challenges against Indigenous children are in line with asks from AFN and NWAC centered around community-led initiatives. However, there are no references to AFN's priority of the creation of a Canada-wide system of early learning and childcare..

Score: 4 out of 5

While the platform included numerous commitments to fund programs that focus on healing and restorative justice, advocate to end discriminatory policing practices and taking actions to end over-representation of First Nations people in the criminal justice and correctional systems, there are no references to developing a strategy to provide fully funded support to Indigenous-led police services, with a focus on violence prevention, or the acknowledgement of First Nations laws as part of the legal system on a footing equal to common and civil law.

Score: 4 out of 5

8

**JUSTICE & POLICING** 

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9

The Green Party did not address the employment and economic development, in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Women in particular, in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5





**EDUCATION** 

10

The Green Party has pledged to support healthcare services that incorporate traditional practices and recognize the role of extended families and elders, devote sufficient resources for maternal and infant care, and culturally appropriate reproductive health services that uphold reproductive autonomy and increase investments in Indigenousled mental health. They promise to sustain the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative, to uphold Jordan's Principle in full, and to implement Calls to Action 18-24 from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Although there are no mentions of the implementation of Joyce's Principle or specific strategies to address anti-Indigenous Racism in Health Care Systems in Canada, the Green Party's platform is mostly in line with NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities to provide equal access to high-quality health care within home communities, and specifically mental health care.

Score: 4 out of 5

The Green Party's plans around education are in line with NWAC and AFN priorities when it comes to the development of language and culture specific curricula and broad access to high-quality education, including post-secondary education. There are nonetheless no specifications on how they plan to achieve that nor are there any mentions of investing in constructing, renovating, and redesigning First Nations schools and teacherages to address needs such as the 140 First Nations schools that are overcrowded and require additions and the 46 in need of total replacement as outlined by AFN.

Score: 3 out of 5

11

HEALTH CARE

Overall Score: B



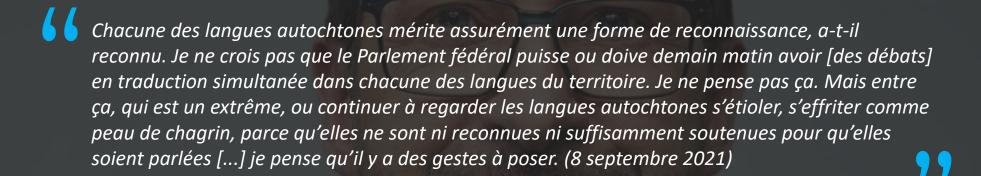
## **Quotes** from Yves-Francois Blanchet – Bloc Québécois Leader



BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS

YVES-FRANÇOIS BLANCHET

Le Bloc Québécois s'engage à nouveau auprès des nations autochtones à être une voix qui portera la leur au sein de la Chambre des communes du Canada, comme nous nous faisons un devoir de le faire depuis la création de notre parti et au cours des deux dernières années. (25 août 2021)



Partout où je vais au Québec, j'essaie de rencontrer les leaders autochtones. Pour nous, il est important que nous ayons une relation de nation à nation, sur ce territoire où nous coexistons. (11 septembre 2020)











### Bloc Québécois- Platform Review

RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

The platform included numerous commitments to address self-determination which will aim to abolish the Indian Act. The BQ commits to ensure that the federal government applies the UNDRIP within its jurisdiction and promises to put pressure on the government so that it carries out the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety as called for by NWAC and the AFN.

Score: 5 out of 5

**RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS** 

1

The BQ did not address the issues of the rights of indigenous women & MMIWG2S in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

2

#### SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

Bloc Québécois will ensure the predictability and sustainability of funding for programs that allow for the healing of residential school victims, such as the Health Support Program specifically designed for this purpose. They also promise to keep pressuring the federal government so that it carries out the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety. This aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action, and while the platform aligns with the request that an investigation and recovery effort be undertaken at all former residential schools in Canada, it does not mention a criminal investigation as called for by the AFN. Also, while the BQ platform mentions allocating resources for programs that allow for the healing of residential school victims, the AFN has called for a specific commitment to invest the same amount into strengthening First Nations as was spent establishing the schools. The platform also calls on churches to make their archives accessible which is line with the call from NWAC to mandate the release of all records from churches.

Score: 3 out of 5



#### **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

The Bloc Québécois recognizes the failure of the Government on its promise to have potable drinking water for all Indigenous communities as early as 2021. The Bloc Québécois promises to ensure that Aboriginal Nations receive their due and will put pressure on the federal government to carry out the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls for action.

While the BQ platform recognizes the failure of the government in regard to having clean drinking water for all Indigenous communities, there is no specific pledge to fund all costs to eliminate the boil advisories or to close the infrastructure gap between Indigenous Peoples and the rest of Canada. There is also no mention of other important public services such as public transportation and fire services.

Score: 2 out of 5

**HOUSING** 

4

The BQ did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

5

#### CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

6

The BQ did not address the issues of housing in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5





CHILD WELFARE

7

The BQ did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

The BQ did not address the issue of justice and policing in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

8

**JUSTICE & POLICING** 

The BQ is proposing measures that will encourage work for seniors given their invaluable knowledge by allowing seniors with low income to work more without penalty and by including Indigenous communities.

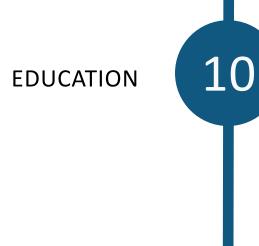
While the platform briefly mentions including Indigenous communities in employment, there is no specific plan nor priority for funding and access to resources and infrastructure for employment or reducing barriers for Indigenous women who currently face even greater difficulties accessing employment resources.

Score: 2 out of 5

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT







The BQ did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

The BQ did not address the issue of healthcare in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5



**HEALTH CARE** 

**Overall Score: D** 

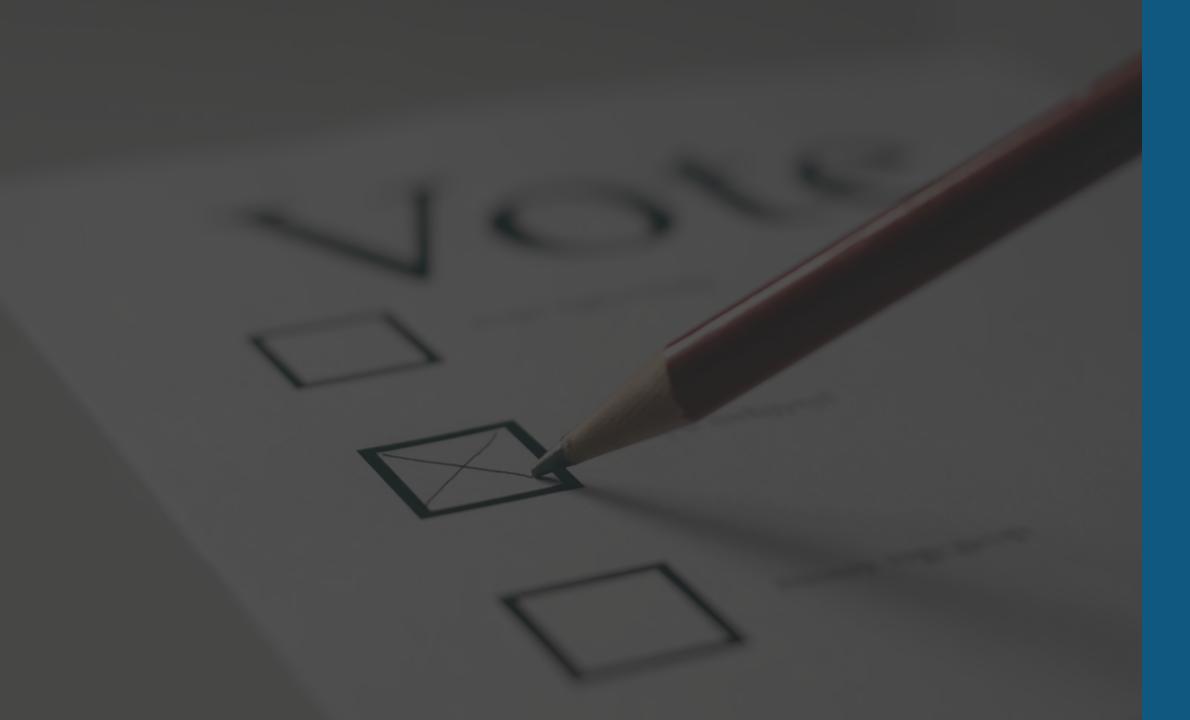


On behalf of NWAC, Nanos Research conducted an analysis of the major party platforms as it relates to Indigenous issues. Platforms were assigned letter grades based on the analysis of 11 separate topics as well as an overall grade for the platform. Overall platform grades were then compared to determine which platforms are better suited to address Indigenous issues compared to others.

The scores for each priority were calculated using a 5-point scale where 1 is does not address the priority in the platform and 5 is completely addresses the priority. The overall score was then calculated by taking the average of the scores for the 11 priorities (x [total points]/11= y [overall score]) and a letter grade was assigned.

| Score               | Definition   |
|---------------------|--|
| A – 5 points        | The party's platform completely addresses the priority.                                |
| <b>B</b> – 4 points | The party's platform mostly addresses the priority.                                    |
| <b>C</b> – 3 points | The party's platform somewhat addresses the priority.                                  |
| <b>D</b> – 2 points | The party's platform mentions the priority, but does not address it in a material way. |
| F-1 point           | The party's platform does not address the priority.                                    |







#### ELXN 44 – Federal Party Platform Review – Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)

The following analysis of the <u>2021 LPC Platform</u> for the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). It focuses on key issues of concern and priorities outlined by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priority List.

Each party platform has been reviewed with these key priorities in mind and has been assigned an overall grade in terms of how well they align with NWAC's priorities for Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. For a detailed explanation on how the scores were calculated, please see *page 32* of the report.

#### PRIORITY # 1 – RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

#### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party pledges to accelerate the implementation of the Federal Pathway, including working with all partners to share priorities in the 2021 National Action Plan. In addition, they commit to working with First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nations to implement \$2.2 billion in funding over the next 5 years and an ongoing \$160.9 million to address MMIWG2S through the implementation of the Federal Pathways and the 2021 National Action Plan. They also promise the creation of a standing Federal-Provincial-Territorial table on MMIWG2S to facilitate and coordinate work.

#### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

In line with NWAC's priorities to address MMIWG2S, the platform pledges to accelerate the implementation of the Federal Pathway and to provide stable funding over the next 5 years. The platform does not indicate the inclusion of Indigenous women in decision-making or in the creation of the standing table.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC

Page 1



#### ELXN 44 – Federal Party Platform Review – Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)

#### PRIORITY # 2 - SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

#### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party states they will continue to support Indigenous and First Nations-led processes for rebuilding and reconstituting nations and transitioning away from the Indian Act, as well as further support and funding of the revitalization of Indigenous laws, legal systems and traditions. The LPC also commits to accelerate the resolution of outstanding land claims and advance the priorities of Indigenous communities to reclaim full jurisdiction in the areas that matter to them such as child and family services, education, health care, policing, tax, and administration of justice. They also state that they will include, in all cabinet ministers' mandate letters, the requirement to implement UNDRIP, and ensure their offices and ministries work alongside Indigenous peoples to advance their rights. The party also states they will fully implement an Act respecting the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

#### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the party's platform makes no mention on the amount of funding to be allotted to this revitalization, nor do they detail the type of support they will continue to give on these issues, overall this is consistent with AFN's priority to ensure all policies, legislation, and operational practices are consistent with First Nations and Treaty rights, the UNDRIP, and Canada's international obligations.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC

Page 2



#### ELXN 44 – Federal Party Platform Review – Liberal Party of Canada (LPC)

#### PRIORITY # 3 – RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

#### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party pledges to continue to accelerate the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. They also commit to providing funding towards the construction of a permanent home for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and working to build a national monument in Ottawa to honour residential school survivors. They LPC also promises to provide the necessary supports for communities who wish to continue to undertake the work of burial searches at the former sites of Residential Schools, Day Schools and Indian Hospitals and sustained financial support for the Centre for core operations in fulfilling the mandate issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

#### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The party does not specifically detail to what degree they will implement the 94 Calls to Action as part of their commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. They also do not mention to what degree they will support or fund searches for unmarked graves or re-burials. While they do state that they will move forward on work with Indigenous partners to appoint a Special Interlocutor who will work with Indigenous communities, provincial and territorial governments to develop the necessary legal and regulatory framework to advance justice regarding unmarked graves, they do not pledge to mandate the release of all records from churches and governments, nor to pursue criminal charges against all living perpetrators of violence against Indigenous children in the Residential School System as outlined in NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities.

Score: 3 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC

Page 3



### PRIORITY # 4 - ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party promises to continue to work in in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation on addressing climate change, specifically in tracking the impacts of climate change on their traditional lands and waters and charting collaborative strategies forward. The LPC promises to also support and establish new Indigenous Guardians programs as well as support and expand Indigenous-led fire crews including the incorporation of TEK for fire management strategies. They also commit to identify and prioritize the clean-up of contaminated sites in areas where Indigenous, racialized, and low-income Canadians live and support Indigenous communities to build capacity to establish more IPCAs. The Liberal party recognizes that climate change can more negatively impact women and are committed to facilitating a just and equitable transition to clean growth including an intersectional lens on green jobs so that women, Indigenous people and youth can benefit.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The platform does address the need for an equitable path forward for women and Indigenous people, but it does not specifically include the need for Indigenous women in climate change decision-making. The LPC platform also does not include an overall incorporation of TEK in addressing climate change and is more focused specifically on traditional lands and it does not meet the priorities outlined by AFN and NWAC such as working with Indigenous leaders as full and effective partners in the implementation of the Government of Canada's climate plan and related decision-making processes, including with respect to their fair share of revenues generated from greenhouse gas pollution pricing.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



### PRIORITY # 5 – CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party pledges to maintain their commitment to invest \$6 billion to ensure sustainable access to clean water for First Nations and make any investments necessary to eliminate all remaining advisories. They also commit to ensuring that that resources and training are in place to prevent future advisories. In addition, they pledge to continue to move forward on their agreement in principle to resolve national class action litigation related to safe drinking water in First Nations communities.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

There is no mention to repeal the *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act* and replace it with First Nations-led legislation or to fully fund 100% of actual operations and maintenance costs for all federally funded assets, as outlined by AFN as a 2021 federal priority. However, they promise to eliminate ALL remaining advisories and do not limit it to long-term advisories.

Score: 5 out of 5

#### **PRIORITY #6 – HOUSING**

#### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberals are promising to invest \$2 billion in Indigenous housing, with half of that available by the summer construction period. They also say they'll co-develop an Indigenous Urban, Rural and Northern Housing Strategy funded by a \$300 million initial investment, as well as co-develop and fund Canada's first-ever National Indigenous Housing Centre, through which Indigenous people will fully oversee federal Indigenous housing programs once fully realized. In addition, they commit to continue supporting the establishment of Indigenous-led institutions in housing and infrastructure, such as the First Nations Infrastructure Institute, that assists First Nations in their infrastructure needs.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This promise aligns with the asks of the AFN and NWAC in terms of supporting Indigenous Peoples' by investing and providing continued support to the co-development with Indigenous partners of a new Indigenous Urban, Rural, and Northern Housing Strategy.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



### **PRIORITY #7 – CHILD WELFARE**

### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal platform promises to continue to fully implement the Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families as well as continue to work with Indigenous communities to help children and families stay together and ensure fair and equitable compensation for those harmed by the First Nations Child and Family Services program. The party also promises to work with the Métis Nation to fund the unique needs of Métis children. In addition, they promise to continue to fully fund Jordan's Principle and the Inuit Child First Initiative. They also pledge to continue to reform child and family services in Indigenous communities.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While they do pledge to continue to fully fund Jordan's Principle, they do not indicate that there will be no further appeals from the rulings of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle as addressed in AFN and NWAC's list of 2021 Federal Priorities. The platform also lacked any details on how they will reform these child and family services. The reform of services also does not mention ensuring First Nations are fully and properly involved in the creation of a Canada-wide system of early learning and childcare, as outlined by AFN in their 2021 Federal Priorities.

Score: 4 out of 5

### PRIORITY #8 – JUSTICE & POLICING

#### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal party's platform addresses future justice and policing issues including the support of an external review of the RCMP's sanctions as well as the prohibition of the use of neck restraints or tear gas/rubber bullets for crowd control by the RCMP. The LPC also promises to work with provinces, territories, and municipalities that contract RCMP services to make the service better connected to community social support workers.

# How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The platform does not address existing issues specific to Indigenous people nor is it in line with the NWAC's 2021 Election priorities to develop a strategy to provide fully funded support to Indigenous-led police services, with a focus on violence prevention, invest in community-guided solutions to end discriminatory policing practices, and provide funding and support to healing and restorative justice programs.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



### PRIORITY #9 - EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party platform promises to expand the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program to enable businesses to access new, zero-interest loans when a 10% advance is not possible, create a navigator position to help Indigenous entrepreneurs find programs that apply to their situation, and work with all government departments to analyze and, as appropriate, adjust eligibility criteria to ensure that programs are as inclusive as possible. The party also pledges to continue to deliver distinctions-based support in response to COVID- 19 and work in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and the Metis nation through the economic recovery to support the growth of their economies.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The platform does not detail specific steps they will take to help communities in the economic recovery. They also do not mention closing the infrastructure gap between First Nations and the rest of Canada nor the steps to ensure that First Nations have access to sufficient infrastructure stimulus funds for shovel-ready projects in First Nations communities as part of a post-pandemic recovery plan for First Nations, as mentioned as a federal priority in AFN's A Healing Path Forward. The platform does not include gender-specific solutions and does not align with NWAC's priority of equitable access to funding, services and information for Indigenous women entrepreneurs and business-owners.

Score: 3 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



### **PRIORITY # 10 – EDUCATION**

### What does the LPC promise?

To address the education needs of Indigenous peoples, the Liberal Party promises in their platform to ensure that the Indigenous Languages Act continues to be fully implemented supported with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding. They also promise to ensure more Indigenous families have access to high-quality programming including the creation of 3,300 new spaces. They also commit to supporting before/after school care for children on reserve, invest in Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities, and move forward on building an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care system that meets the needs of Indigenous families.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform does not commit a dollar amount in terms of investment nor do they detail the scale at which they will support these initiatives, they promise to support Indigenous languages in Canada with long-term, predictable and sufficient funding. They do not address the specific needs of investment in constructing, renovating, and redesigning First Nations schools such as the 140 First Nations schools that are overcrowded and require additions and the 46 in need of total replacement as pointed out by AFN. Their platform is also primarily focused on early childhood education and does not mention post-secondary education or any gender-specific needs.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



#### PRIORITY # 11 – HEALTH CARE

### What does the LPC promise?

The Liberal Party platform seeks to address inequalities and discrimination in the healthcare system as it relates to Indigenous people by fully implementing Joyce's principal and codeveloping distinctions-based Indigenous Health legislation. The LPC also commits to providing an additional \$1.4 billion for a distinctions-based mental health and wellness strategy with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, expanding on a recent commitment of \$597.6 million, for a total investment of \$2 billion over five years. In addition, the party promises to co-develop a distinctions-based, community-led Indigenous Long-Term and Continuing Care Framework that prioritizes ensuring Indigenous peoples can receive long-term and continuing care services in or near their own communities and culturally appropriate care and programming.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The platform is in line with NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities to provide equal access to high-quality health care within home communities as well as access to health care without racism or discrimination and the implementation of Joyce's Principle.

Score: 5 out of 5

**OVERALL SCORE: B** 

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - LPC



The following analysis of the <u>2021 CPC Platform</u> for the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). It focuses on key issues of concern and priorities outlined by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priority List.

Each party platform has been reviewed with these key priorities in mind and has been assigned an overall grade in terms of how well they align with NWAC's priorities for Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. For a detailed explanation on how the scores were calculated, please see *page 32* of the report.

### PRIORITY # 1 – RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

### What does the CPC promise?

The CPC pledges to develop a National Action Plan in collaboration with Indigenous groups to address violence against Indigenous women and girls.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

No further detail is provided in terms of the proposed National Action Plan, and despite calls from NWAC for immediate action to be taken, there is no estimated timeline for when this National Action Plan will be developed and when action from that plan may be undertaken.

There is also no mention in the CPC platform of implementing the Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls nor mention of collaborating with Indigenous women on this issue as was called for by the AFN.

Score: 2 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### PRIORITY # 2 - SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

## What does the CPC promise?

Related to decision-making, the CPC pledges to develop a plan to implement TRC Calls to Action 71 to 76 and to uphold and respect the rights to pursue economic opportunities as affirmed by UNDRIP by implementing Article 18. Specifically, the CPC pledges to work with Indigenous organizations to consult and work with communities that want to become partners in projects, as well as to create the Canadian Indigenous Opportunities Corporation which would support Indigenous organizations that are seeking to purchase an equity stake in major projects.

The CPC also commits to requiring governments to consult with Indigenous communities before canceling approved projects if they have signed or are in negotiations, to create an environmental review process for major projects that include partnering with First Nations during the environmental assessment, to support Indigenous Protected Areas and to work with Indigenous Peoples to develop a consultation process for more meaningful dialogue.

In terms of self-determination, the CPC pledges to increase Indigenous governance capacity through training young Indigenous leaders, empower the First Nations Finance Authority to monetize and leverage government funding, remain open to innovative new funding and service delivery models, and to consult with First Nations on improving current funding models with a goal of reducing red tape and easing away from Third-Party management.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform included numerous commitments to address self-determination, the focus is more on economic independence rather than complete self-governance, and the CPC does not commit to UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety as called for by NWAC and the AFN.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### PRIORITY # 3 – RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

### What does the CPC promise?

As part of Reconciliation, the CPC pledges to develop a plan to implement TRC Calls to Action 71 to 76 and to fund an investigation of all former residential schools where unmarked graves may exist. The CPC platform also outlined plans to allocate resources to communities to honor those recovered, to develop resources to educate Canadians and to build a national monument to honor survivors and those who died.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This does not align with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action, and while the platform aligns with the request that an investigation and recovery effort be undertaken at all former residential schools in Canada, it does not mention a criminal investigation as called for by the AFN. Also, while the CPC platform mentions allocating resources for education and to honor those lost, the AFN has called for a specific commitment to invest the same amount into strengthening First Nations as was spent establishing the schools.

Score: 3 out of 5

#### PRIORITY # 4 – ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

### What does the CPC promise?

The CPC did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The CPC did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### PRIORITY # 5 – CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

## What does the CPC promise?

The CPC commits to recognizing safe drinking water as a fundamental human right and pledges to end long-term drinking water advisories in First Nations communities. In addition, the CPC pledges to target high-risk water systems and to work with Indigenous communities in terms of funding new approaches to help ensure investments in water systems are protected and continue to function in the long term. The platform also includes commitments to make Indigenous Peoples significant beneficiaries of the CPC's plan to connect all Canadians to high-speed Internet by 2025.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the CPC platform does address the crucial issue of clean drinking water in Indigenous communities, there is no specific pledge to fund all costs to eliminate the boil advisories or to close the infrastructure gap between Indigenous Peoples and the rest of Canada. The platform also specifies that it pledges to end specifically long-term advisories but makes no mention of how they will address short-term advisories. There is also no mention of other important public services such as public transportation and fire services, and while the platform does include commitments to improve infrastructure and public services in Northern communities, this is not pledged for Indigenous communities outside of the North.

Score: 3 out of 5

### **PRIORITY #6 – HOUSING**

## What does the CPC promise?

The CPC promises to enact a "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" strategy for housing, which aims to cease "federal paternalism" towards Indigenous Peoples and instead would involve partnering with Indigenous communities to empower Indigenous Peoples to meet their own housing needs.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This promise aligns with the asks of the AFN in terms of supporting Indigenous Peoples' in caring for and supporting their own experiencing homelessness, however there is no mention of what scope of investment would be made in this and no mention of implementing the National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy or developing a National Action Plan to address the issue of First Nations homelessness, nor any mention of supporting green housing initiatives or investments in social housing. In addition, the platform does not provide a firm timeline for addressing this issue despite its urgency.

Score: 2 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### PRIORITY # 7 - CHILD WELFARE

## What does the CPC promise?

The CPC did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The CPC did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

### PRIORITY #8 – JUSTICE & POLICING

### What does the CPC promise?

The CPC commits to allocating \$25 million for national police support and community training programs with the goal of reducing incarceration rates of Indigenous Peoples.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While this is a key issue for Indigenous communities, NWAC and the AFN feel that Reconciliation should be a key part of changes to the justice system, and this is not mentioned in the CPC platform. In addition, NWAC and the AFN have called for long-term commitments to change the system, and while training programs are important to implement, this pledge does not address change NWAC and AFN say is needed at all levels of the justice system including not just policing, but also in the justice system and prison system writ large. The platform also does not include AFN's calls for a joint process for a First Nations policing service, ensuring Indigenous Peoples are appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada and other decision-making bodies or supporting the development and implementation of restorative First Nations justice systems. The platform also does not mention commitments to affirm and respect First Nations laws as part of the legal system or to repeal the Safe Communities Act and eliminate mandatory minimum sentences as requested by the AFN.

Score: 2 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### PRIORITY #9 - EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### What does the CPC promise?

The CPC platform outlines a detailed and extensive plan to "level the playing field" and encourage the success of Indigenous businesses in Canada. This includes a commitment to provide \$4 million over three years for the hiring and training of local and regional economic development officers, to collaborate with municipal and First Nations organization foster relationships between First Nations communities and neighboring municipalities, to utilize existing infrastructure of Indigenous organizations to provide business education and capacity building to promote Indigenous business success and success stories. In addition, the CPC commits to developing an Indigenous Business Mentorship program, to work with Indigenous community groups to establish a national working group to encourage more Indigenous applicants to the public service and to improve opportunities for Indigenous businesses to receive government contracts.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform is detailed with several positive commitments, there is no specific plan nor priority for reducing barriers for Indigenous women who currently face even greater difficulties accessing employment resources.

Score: 4 out of 5

### **PRIORITY # 10 – EDUCATION**

### What does the CPC promise?

The CPC did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The CPC did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



### **PRIORITY # 11 – HEALTH CARE**

## What does the CPC promise?

The CPC outlined a commitment to increase the capacity of mental health services in Indigenous communities, including providing \$1 billion over five years to boost funding for Indigenous mental health and drug treatment programs, and a commitment to support innovative approaches to address the mental health and addiction crises, and the development of mental health and drug treatment programs by Indigenous Peoples to develop a capacity to deliver culturally appropriate programs in the appropriate language at the community level.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the pledge to increase capacity in these services is noted as a priority by NWAC, the platform does not address the need to improve the healthcare system for Indigenous communities, including addressing barriers, racism and discrimination faced by Indigenous Peoples when accessing healthcare services.

Score: 3 out of 5

**OVERALL SCORE: C** 

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - CPC



The following analysis of the <u>2021 NDP Platform</u> for the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). It focuses on key issues of concern and priorities outlined by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priority List.

Each party platform has been reviewed with these key priorities in mind and has been assigned an overall grade in terms of how well they align with NWAC's priorities for Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. For a detailed explanation on how the scores were calculated, please see *page 32* of the report.

#### PRIORITY # 1 – RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

### What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to work in partnership with Indigenous women, the families of the missing and murdered, and communities to implement the Inquiry's Calls for Justice and the calls to action brought forward by communities. This includes establishing a comprehensive, plan to address violence against Indigenous women, girls and LGBTQI2S+ People — ensuring that all those fleeing violence have access to culturally appropriate programming, emergency shelters and transitional housing. They also promise to act to ensure full gender equality for First Nations status as a matter of priority, consistent with Canadian and international court rulings.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The NDP has committed to ensuring culturally appropriate programing, emergency shelters and transitional housing for Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people fleeing violence. The NDP also promises to ensure full gender equality for First Nations status. Although the NDP is pledging to implement all 94 Calls to Action and Calls to Justice, no timeline is given despite calls from NWAC for immediate action to be taken. There is also no mention of funding which is not in line with NWAC priority.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY # 2 - SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

## What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to recognize and respect treaties, supporting Indigenous Nations who are building and re-building their governance structures. They will also respect Inuit self-determination by co-developing the federal government's *Arctic Policy Framework* through shared governance within the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, including through the adoption of an Inuit Nunangat policy in full partnership with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. They will support the economic and social self-reliance of Inuit by addressing the massive infrastructure deficit in Northern communities, including housing, access to high-speed broadband, and airports, and ensuring that federal election ballots include Indigenous languages like Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun. They will also respect the path forward established by the Métis National Council and its governing members and pursue government-to-government negotiations on issues including self-government, education, housing and health.

New Democrats pledge to ensure equitable access and self-determination over land, culture, language, housing, child care, income security, employment, education, and physical, mental, sexual, and spiritual health for Indigenous WG2S. The NDP pledges to work in partnership with Indigenous communities across the country to help protect and revitalize the incredible diversity of Indigenous languages in Canada with new legislation and stable funding.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The NDP is committed to fully implementing UNDRIP, which is in line with both AFN and NWAC, they also align with the AFN Federal Priority of self-governance through their promise of legislation and funding to support Indigenous Nations who are building and re-building governance structures and respect Inuit and Métis self determination.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY #3 - RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

### What does the NDP promise?

To fully implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, the NDP pledges to ensure there are funds to communities to commemorate a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to acknowledge the painful legacy of colonization, honour the Survivors of residential schools, and help communities across Canada commit to meaningful reconciliation.

They also pledge to work with Indigenous peoples to co-develop a National Action Plan for Reconciliation, including a National Council for Reconciliation, drawing directly from the Calls to Action and the Declaration to ensure that Canada's laws, policies, and practices are consistent with Canada's human rights commitments – including cultural rights, land rights, and rights to self-determination and self-government.

The NDP pledges to fully fund the search for grave sites at former residential schools, as well as the maintenance, commemoration, reburial and protection of residential school cemeteries according to the wishes of Indigenous families, residential school Survivors and communities. The NDP will also work with nations and Survivors to establish memorials to those lost to residential schools. The NDP will also ensure the appointment of a special prosecutor to pursue those who inflicted great harm on Indigenous children in Canada's residential school system. The NDP will support and fully fund community-driven solutions for healing, including projects similar to the former "Aboriginal Healing Foundation".

#### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action. The platform aligns with the request that an investigation and recovery effort be undertaken at all former residential schools in Canada, including fully funding searches and re-burials, it also includes the appointment of a special prosecutor to pursue those who inflicted great harm on Indigenous children in residential schools.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY # 4 – ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

### What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledge to have title and treaty rights at the heart of their approach to addressing climate change including supporting the creation and expansion of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in all areas of the country, make full and equal partnership the basis of Canada's efforts, and ensuring that First Nations, Inuit and the Métis leadership have a seat at high-level decision-making tables to help direct climate change efforts in Canada. The NDP also commit to expanding the Indigenous Guardians Program, invest in Indigenous-led science and support the creation of Indigenous-managed protected areas, and work jointly with Indigenous leadership and communities to develop coordinated action plans to respond to climate change emergencies like wildfires and floods.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples need to be partners in the development of job creation, employment training and infrastructure investments that flow from federal efforts to address climate change, ensuring that they are implemented in ways that fit the needs and priorities of local communities

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The NDP environmental plan is in line with AFN and NWAC through incorporating Indigenous leadership at decision-making tables to help direct climate efforts not only for traditional lands but for the basis of Canada's climate change plan. They are missing gender specific pledges for climate since they do not specifically include Indigenous women in decision-making as called for by NWAC.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY # 5 – CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

### What does the NDP promise?

The NDP commits to making the full investments required to ensure clean water and lift all drinking water advisories, and supporting Indigenous-led water management training programs and water system operations as an immediate priority. Meaning funding on-reserve emergency management and prevention, including firefighting training and equipment. It also means ensuring safe public transportation, by resuming and expanding rural and remote bus routes and passenger rail service.

The NDP will also create a Northern Infrastructure Fund to fast-track investment and focus on improving much-needed infrastructure like roads and broadband internet for communities in the north.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

NDP platform addresses the crucial issue of clean drinking water in Indigenous communities, it also pledges to support Indigenous-led water management training programs and water systems operations. They also pledge to fully fund services and infrastructure that Indigenous communities need to thrive, including investments in roads, broadband internet, and expanding bus routes and passenger rail for rural and remote communities. Although this is in line with NWAC and AFN, the NDP does not mention AFN's Priority of repealing the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act and replace it with First Nations-led legislation.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### **PRIORITY #6 – HOUSING**

### What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledge to address the Indigenous housing crisis and put an end to chronic overcrowding and long-wait lists by working with Indigenous communities to implement codeveloped, fully funded Indigenous National Housing Strategy within our first 100 days in office. This innovative, ground-up strategy will mean sustainable and dedicated funding to meet the needs of Indigenous peoples, whether in urban, rural or remote communities.

The NDP also commits to tackling the mold crisis affecting tens of thousands of homes, and provide support for First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples to ensure that their homes are safe and healthy. In addition, The NDP commits to ensure that Indigenous communities have the resources to make homes greener and more energy efficient, working to keep the benefits of good jobs, training and investment close to home.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This is in line with NWAC's priority of access to safe and clean housing, as well as AFN's priorities to co-develop and fund a National First Nations Infrastructure Modernization Strategy. This plan does not address AFN's priority of working with First Nations to develop a National Action Plan to address and eliminate First Nations homelessness.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



#### PRIORITY # 7 – CHILD WELFARE

## What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to take immediate action to respect, support and resource Indigenous jurisdiction over child welfare systems, and will back this commitment with long-term, predictable funding guaranteed in legislation so that Indigenous peoples can exercise their jurisdiction and authority over matters involving their own children and families. The NDP also commit to ending discrimination against Indigenous children, young people and families by fully implementing the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders which ordered the Canadian government to stop chronically underfunding child welfare services on reserve, and working with the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society to implement the Spirit Bear Plan. The NDP will put an immediate end to government litigation against Indigenous children.

The NDP pledges to fully implement Jordan's Principle, working with the provinces and territories to end the delays and ensure equitable access to health services and educational supports for Indigenous children from coast to coast to coast. The NDP also commits to ending the court challenge and ensure that Jordan's Principle applies to children off-reserve.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This is in line with NWAC and AFN priorities of ending all court challenges against Indigenous children, fully funding the creation of a community-led child and family service system, and fully implementing Jordan's Principle to eliminate service inequalities experienced by First Nations children.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP Page 7



## PRIORITY #8 – JUSTICE & POLICING

### What does the NDP promise?

In accordance with Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action 30, 31 and 32, the NDP pledges to remove most mandatory minimums, increase the discretion of judges during sentencing, ensure bail programs are culturally appropriate, bolster funding for community justice programs that focus on healing and restorative justice rather than incarceration, and uphold the use of Gladue principles in court proceedings. They also commit to working with Indigenous communities to enhance community safety and develop a First Nations justice and policing strategy. The NDP commits to making First Nations Policing an essential service with long term, sufficient and equitable funding, while taking steps to end discriminatory policing practices like carding. New Democrats also believe that Inuit should have control over policing in their own communities, and the NDP will allow the Inuit to independently oversee policing in Nunavut. The NDP will also work with the Inuit to develop a long-term strategy for recruiting and retaining Inuit and Inuktitut speakers to work in community safety roles.

The party also pledges to uphold and strengthen the Directive on Civil Litigation Involving Indigenous Peoples that puts an end to costly and adversarial legal battles with Indigenous communities. The NDP will also keep residential school Survivors at the heart of decisions around justice for their experiences, ensuring fair compensation for St. Anne's residential school Survivors, Métis Survivors, and those who survived abuse in day schools.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

Their platform meets all 3 priorities outlined by NWAC. They pledge funding for programs that focus on healing and restorative justice, making First Nations Policing an essential service with long term, sufficient and equitable funding, while taking steps to end discriminatory policing practices, work with Indigenous communities to enhance community safety and develop a First Nations justice and policing strategy. It is also in line with AFN's priority of recognizing First Nations Police Services.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY #9 - EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to work with Indigenous communities to support locally-driven economic development and create good jobs through infrastructure and public service investments, and expanded access to broadband internet and cell service for rural and remote communities. The NDP commit to working with Indigenous entrepreneurs to find solutions for accessing capital and scale up, investing in Indigenous social enterprise projects and entrepreneurship, and to ensure that the federal government prioritizes procurement from Indigenous companies where possible.

The NDP will also create a Northern Infrastructure Fund to fast-track investment and focus on improving much-needed infrastructure like roads and broadband internet for communities in the north.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform is detailed with several positive commitments, there is no specific plan or priority for addressing systematic discrimination against First Nations women and gender diverse individuals in the labor market.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### **PRIORITY # 10 – EDUCATION**

### What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to ensure that every child is provided a safe place to learn and an opportunity to succeed, whether on or off reserve. They will implement *Shannen's Dream* of equitable access to education, backed by federal investments and infrastructure, so no student will be forced to learn in dangerous environments, as witnessed in Kashechewan First Nation. The NDP will also support Indigenous youth and help them bridge the gap to post-secondary education through expanded financial assistance and increased educational opportunities for children who grew up in care, and distance education for rural and remote students.

The NDP will work with the provinces to establish Indigenous history education programs for all Canadians, based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action 62 and 63 – and ensure that the development and implementation of these programs are led by Indigenous peoples.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

NDP pledges to provide every child with a safe place to learn, backed by federal investments and infrastructure as well as implementing *Shannen's Dream*. They touch on both early childhood education and post-secondary education which is in line with the scope of AFN's priorities. Their commitment to work with Indigenous communities to help protect and revitalize Indigenous languages with new legislation and stable funding is in line with NWAC. They also commit to establishing Indigenous history educations for all Canadians based on Calls to Action 62 and 63. They fail to mention dollar amounts or timelines when it comes to funding and fails to mention any investment in transitional/adult education for First Nations adults without a high school diploma.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



### PRIORITY # 11 - HEALTH CARE

## What does the NDP promise?

The NDP pledges to make sure that the federal government steps up to close the health gap in Indigenous communities, and supports Indigenous health self-determination. Joyce's Principle will be the basis for a new approach to tackling systemic racism in health care under a New Democrat government. The NDP also commits to making sure that people can get the treatment they need in their community through investments in Indigenous health care infrastructure, medical supplies and diagnostic equipment. The NDP plans on working in partnership with Indigenous communities to improve access to mental health and addiction treatment services both on and off reserve – including an evidence-based action plan to prevent suicide, backed by dedicated federal resources, fully implementing the New Democrat motion on suicide prevention passed by the House of Commons.

The NDP will also work with communities and care providers to ensure that Indigenous-led, culturally appropriate home care and long-term care is available for Elders, in their home communities and languages. Finally, the NDP will build a treatment centre for residents affected by long-term mercury exposure and compensate families affected by the intergenerational problem of mercury poisoning in Grassy Narrows.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The NDP is in line with both NWAC and AFN by committing to implement Joyce's principle to tackle systemic racism in health care. They also commit to ensuring that Indigenous people can get the care they need in their community through investment in Indigenous healthcare infrastructure, medical supplies and diagnostic equipment. They also promise to improve access to mental health and addiction treatment services both on and off reserves which is Indigenous-led and culturally based. Their commitment to promote Indigenous food sovereignty by reforming the Nutrition North program to improve access to food, including country and traditional food.

Score: 5 out of 5

**OVERALL SCORE: A** 

Filename: 2021-1979 Party Platform Review - NDP



The following analysis of the <u>2021 GPC Platform</u> for the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). It focuses on key issues of concern and priorities outlined by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priority List.

Each party platform has been reviewed with these key priorities in mind and has been assigned an overall grade in terms of how well they align with NWAC's priorities for Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. For a detailed explanation on how the scores were calculated, please see *page 32* of the report.

#### PRIORITY # 1 – RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party has pledged to implement all of the Calls for Justice from the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, including off-reserve Status, non-Status, Metis, and Southern Inuit in the implementation of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & 2SLGBTQQIA+. They also pledge to develop, in collaboration with women's and Indigenous organizations, a comprehensive Canada-wide plan of action — with a timetable and dedicated funding — to eliminate violence against women, girls and gender-diverse people.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party has committed to implementing all of the Calls for Justice outlined in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & 2SLGBTQQIA+, including off-reserve Status, non-Status, Métis, and Southern Inuit in the implementation, all of which is aligned with NWAC's priorities and AFN's call on political parties. However, they do not mention the provision of support to healing centers for Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people as asked for by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priorities.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY # 2 - SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party outlines a commitment uphold fiduciary responsibilities, honor treaties, and respect all rights of Indigenous Peoples and work towards the creation of an Indigenous Lands and Treaties Tribunal Act to establish an independent body that will decide on specific claims, ensuring that treaty negotiations are conducted and financed fairly and that treaty negotiations and claims resolutions do not result in the extinguishment of aboriginal and treaty rights. They say they will immediately implement the land claims agreements already negotiated and languishing for lack of funding, particularly for First Nations in the territories and formally repudiate the doctrine of terra nullius, doctrine of discovery, and others. They also say they will recognize the rights of non-status and Metis as "Indigenous", work towards settlement of community land and resource rights for Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) communities, accept CAP-Daniels and include off-reserve Stats, non-Status, Metis, and Southern Inuit in the implementation of calls to action in Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP), TRC, National Inquiry into MMIWG. Greens are committed to implementing UNDRIP for those First Nations who support it. The Green Party believes that every nation has a right to decide who will speak on its behalf, and the government of Canada must be led by Indigenous Peoples with respect to designing any UNDRIP legislation. A Green government will ensure that all First Nations are thoroughly involved in the development and design of UNDRIP implementation legislation. Greens would also ensure that any Nations who do not support UNDRIP would not have it imposed upon them.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party has committed to upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples and working with Indigenous Peoples on a nation-to-nation basis. Their platform states that they will implement UNDRIP, work towards and implement land claims, honor treaties, and work with Indigenous leadership to transition out of the Indian Act which is all in line with both AFN and NWAC's priorities. They also pledge to build community capacity to support exercising self-determination ensuring representation of youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and distinct identities among off-reserve Indigenous are adequately funded and those perspectives are included. This is in line with NWAC's priority of having Indigenous women involved in decision making.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY # 3 – RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

### What does the GPC promise?

As part of Reconciliation, the GPC pledges to implement all 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, ensure access to quality education for every First Nations, Metis Nation, and Inuit child and establish a dedicated national funding program, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples and the Canadian Museums Association, for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation. They also pledge to stop fighting the Canada's Human Rights Tribunal orders requiring the government to compensate the child and family victims of Canada's discrimination; and ensure non-status First Nations' children living off reserve have access to Jordan's Principle. They promise to honor the original request from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for funding for work on the Missing Children and Unmarked Burials Project; and provide sustainable funding for new and existing Indigenous Healing Centers to address the harms caused by residential schools.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party's plan aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action and to stop fighting the Canada's Human Rights Tribunal. However, it does not mention whether they will pursue all living perpetrators of violence against Indigenous Children and whether they will fully fund the search for unmarked graves and reburials, as called for by AFN.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY # 4 – ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party is committed to achieve a 60% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 with the goal of achieving net-zero as soon as possible and aim to be net negative by 2050, plan for a fair and carefully planned transition of workers towards a decarbonized economy, that protects communities from displacement, and in which affected people (including Indigenous Peoples) are leading the preparation of their transition strategies, support local green infrastructure in developing countries and Indigenous communities. They also plan to create an independent, non-partisan council, composed of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis representatives, climate scientists, youth, and communities most affected by the climate emergency, to advise the government on the development and implementation of its climate change policies through a lens of environmental justice and eradicating environmental racism.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party's environmental plan is in line with AFN and NWAC through their aim to achieve a 60% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 with the goal of achieving netzero as soon as possible. They have stated that they will plan for fair transition of workers towards a decarbonized community and ensure affected people, including Indigenous Peoples. They also state that Indigenous scientists, leaders and youth will be included in advising the government on climate action initiatives. However, there are no specific mentions of inclusion of Indigenous women in decision-making as called for by NWAC.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY # 5 – CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party promises to end all drinking water and boil water advisories by investing in and upgrading critical infrastructure to ensure safe water access, and supporting Indigenous-led processes to implement safe drinking water and wastewater management systems. They also promise to provide a transportation service to and within rural and remote communities. They also pledge to ensure access to strong internet connection by investing in broadband connectivity in critical areas.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

Although the GPC platform addresses the issue of clean drinking water in Indigenous communities and they pledge to adopt Indigenous-led processes to implement safe drinking water and wastewater management systems, they do not concretely describe the extent of the funding nor the urgency at which they will act to address this issue. There is also no specific mention AFN's Priority of repealing the *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act* and replacing it with First Nations-led legislation. Nevertheless, they also promise to address issues regarding other public services like transportation and broadband connectivity.

Score: 3 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### **PRIORITY #6 – HOUSING**

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party has committed to develop inclusive and culturally appropriate Urban Indigenous Housing Strategies - for Indigenous Peoples and by Indigenous Peoples - as proposed by the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association's Indigenous Caucus. They also promise to reinvest in housing for Indigenous communities by changing the legislation that prevents Indigenous organizations from accessing financing through CMHC to invest in self-determined housing needs, allocating funding towards urban Indigenous housing providers, leveraging federal lands and real property for transfer to off-reserve, while also establishing a "For Indigenous, By Indigenous" housing support program for all off-reserve and urban Indigenous communities. They also pledge to assist urban and rural Indigenous people in identifying emergency accommodations and affordable housing options for youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and vulnerable populations.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party's plan is in line with the asks from AFN and NWAC when it comes to codeveloping and funding a National First Nations Infrastructure Modernization Strategy by providing investment and support. They also specifically address the needs of vulnerable populations including the needs of Indigenous women and two-spirited people. Although they list some strategies to address homelessness, there is no explicit mention of a National Action Plan to address and eliminate First Nations homelessness nor mention of green housing initiatives that are developed at the community level to meet the particular needs of Indigenous people.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



#### PRIORITY # 7 – CHILD WELFARE

## What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party recognizes that Indigenous children in residential schools have been replaced by Indigenous children in foster care and pledge to affirm the inherent right of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation to determine child and family services; support kinship ties and ensure sufficient funding and resources so that families are kept together. As a result, they also pledge to adopt recommendations on funding for First Nations Child and Family Services from the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Democracy's 2020 report; adopt a framework for the well-being of children, families, and communities, such as the Measuring to Thrive framework proposed in the report; establish a non-political First Nations policy and practice secretariat to support First Nations and First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) agencies to transition to First Nations governance and ensure non-status First Nations' children living off reserve have access to Jordan's Principle.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party's pledges to fully implement Jordan's Principle and thus eliminate service inequalities experienced by First Nations children, recognize the right of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation to determine child and family services and end all court challenges against Indigenous children are in line with asks from AFN and NWAC centered around community-led initiatives. However, there are no references to AFN's priority of the creation of a Canada-wide system of early learning and childcare.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY #8 - JUSTICE & POLICING

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party has committed to expand on and codify the requirement for sentencing judges to take into account systemic and historical racism when dealing with Indigenous persons, and the requirement that they act to reduce the impact of systemic racism and develop clear laws and guidelines aligned with the principles set out by the Supreme Court in *R. v. Ipeelee* and *R. v. Gladue*, and implement additional laws to reduce incarceration of Indigenous Peoples in provincial and federal prisons. They also promise to develop a restorative justice model that will allow for transformative justice, meaningful accountability and rehabilitation of those who cause harm, greater healing for those who are victimized and those who are criminalized and imprisoned, and ultimately decreased involvement in the traditional criminal legal system and develop laws and policies aimed at providing social, housing, health, economic and educational support in order to reduce the over-policing and over-incarceration of Black and Indigenous peoples and also advocate for an end to police street checks, carding, and arbitrary stops and detentions which have been shown to disproportionately target Black and Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform included numerous commitments to fund programs that focus on healing and restorative justice, advocating to end discriminatory policing practices and taking actions to end over-representation of First Nations people in the criminal justice and correctional systems, there are no references to developing a strategy to provide fully funded support to Indigenous-led police services, with a focus on violence prevention, or the acknowledgement of First Nations laws as part of the legal system on a footing equal to common and civil law.

Score: 4 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



### PRIORITY #9 - EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party did not address the employment and economic development, in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Women in particular, in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party did not address the employment and economic development, in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous Women in particular, in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC Page 9



### **PRIORITY # 10 - EDUCATION**

### What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party has committed to ensure that every First Nations, Métis and Inuit child has access to quality educational opportunities based on the expressed cultural, political and social priorities of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit governments, following meaningful consultation and that there is sufficient support to the development of Indigenous education curricula that are language and culture specific. They also plan to support and sustain the transmission, proliferation, and regeneration of Indigenous cultural works and languages and educate non-Indigenous Canadians on the histories, customs, traditions and cultures of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples of Turtle Island. They pledge to provide \$100 million in funding and incentives over three years for the creation and conservation of Indigenous art forms, particularly creative knowledge that is passed through the generations and ensure funding for the protection of Indigenous languages at risk of disappearing, across Canada.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The Green Party's plans around education are in line with NWAC and AFN's priorities when it comes to the development of language and culture specific curricula and broad access to high-quality education, including post-secondary education. There are nonetheless no specifications on how they plan to achieve that nor are there any mentions of investing in constructing, renovating, and redesigning First Nations schools and teacherages to address needs such as the 140 First Nations schools that are overcrowded and require additions and the 46 in need of total replacement as outlined by AFN.

Score: 3 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



#### PRIORITY # 11 – HEALTH CARE

## What does the GPC promise?

The Green Party has pledged to support healthcare services that incorporate traditional practices and recognize the role of extended families and elders, devote sufficient resources for maternal and infant care, and culturally appropriate reproductive health services that uphold reproductive autonomy and increase investments in Indigenous-led mental health. The Green Party is committed to ensure all programming is guided by the First Nations Mental Wellness Continuum Framework, establish permanent program funding for the delivery of land-based, trauma-informed, community addictions care for Indigenous peoples, increase targeted investment in the mental health workforce serving Indigenous communities and double the current budget of the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative. They promise to sustain the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative to continue capacity building in the healthcare profession for Indigenous communities; expand access to non-insured health benefits (NIHB) to all Indigenous people, regardless of Status, residency, membership or any other factors and ensure that compensation funds are made available to the spouses and families of all Aboriginal veterans. The Green Party is also committed to uphold Jordan's Principle in full, ensuring Indigenous Peoples receive the health care they need without being delayed by bureaucratic disagreements over jurisdiction and implement Calls to Action 18-24 from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

Although there are no mentions of the implementation of Joyce's Principle or specific strategies to address anti-Indigenous Racism in Health Care Systems in Canada. The Green Party's platform is mostly in line with NWAC's 2021 Election Priorities to provide equal access to high-quality health care within home communities and specifically mental health care.

Score: 4 out of 5

**OVERALL SCORE: B** 

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - GPC



The following analysis of the <u>2021 BQ Platform</u> for the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). It focuses on key issues of concern and priorities outlined by NWAC in their 2021 Election Priority List.

Each party platform has been reviewed with these key priorities in mind and has been assigned an overall grade in terms of how well they align with NWAC's priorities for Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people. For a detailed explanation on how the scores were calculated, please see *page 32* of the report.

### PRIORITY # 1 – RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN & MMIWG2S

#### What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issues of the rights of indigenous women & MMIWG2S in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issues of the rights of indigenous women & MMIWG2S in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

#### PRIORITY # 2 – SELF-DETERMINATION AND DECISION-MAKING

#### What does the BQ promise?

Related to decision-making, the Bloc Québécois promises to ensure that the Government of Canada implements the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) within its jurisdictions. They are proposing to revamp the Comprehensive claims policy from the ground up, both in terms of taking into account the Declaration, but also to create an independent entity that would deal with these claims. Ultimately, this process aims to abolish the *Indian Act*.

Additionally, the Bloc promises to be an ally to any nation that wishes to exercise their right to self-determination and self-governance. The Bloc promises to promote co-management of resources with Indigenous Peoples.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The platform included numerous commitments to address self-determination which will aim to abolish the Indian Act. The BQ commits to ensure that the federal government applies the UNDRIP within its jurisdiction and promises to put pressure on the government so that it carries out the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety as called for by NWAC and the AFN.

Score: 5 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



### PRIORITY #3 - RECONCILIATION & RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

### What does the BQ promise?

As part of Reconciliation, the Bloc Québécois will ensure the predictability and sustainability of funding for programs that allow for the healing of residential school victims, such as the Health Support Program specifically designed for this purpose. They also promise to keep pressuring the federal government so that it carries out the TRC Calls to Action in their entirety and so that Indigenous communities have all the resources necessary to unveil the historic truth of Residential Schools and to compel churches to make their archives accessible.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

This aligns with calls from NWAC and AFN to implement every TRC Call to Action, and while the platform aligns with the request that an investigation and recovery effort be undertaken at all former residential schools in Canada, it does not mention a criminal investigation as called for by the AFN. Also, while the BQ platform mentions allocating resources for programs that allow for the healing of residential school victims, the AFN has called for a specific commitment to invest the same amount into strengthening First Nations as was spent establishing the schools. The platform also calls on churches to make their archives accessible which is line with the call from NWAC to mandate the release of all records from churches. The platform does not mention fully funding searches for unmarked graves or re-burials.

Score: 3 out of 5

### PRIORITY # 4 – ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

## What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issues of the environment and climate change in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



### PRIORITY # 5 – CLEAN DRINKING WATER & PUBLIC SERVICES

### What does the BQ promise?

The Bloc Québécois recognizes the failure of the Government on its promise to have potable drinking water for all Indigenous communities as early as 2021. The Bloc Québécois promises to ensure that Aboriginal Nations receive their due and will put pressure on the federal government to carry out the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls for action.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the BQ platform recognizes the failure of the government in regard to having clean drinking water for all Indigenous communities, there is no specific pledge to fund all costs to eliminate the boil advisories or to close the infrastructure gap between Indigenous Peoples and the rest of Canada. There is also no mention of other important public services such as public transportation and fire services.

Score: 2 out of 5

#### **PRIORITY #6 – HOUSING**

### What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issues of housing in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issues of housing in terms of the concerns of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



### PRIORITY # 7 – CHILD WELFARE

### What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issue of Indigenous child welfare in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

### PRIORITY #8 – JUSTICE & POLICING

## What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issue of justice and policing in their platform.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issue of justice and policing in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



### PRIORITY #9 - EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### What does the BQ promise?

The BQ is proposing measures that will encourage work for seniors given their invaluable knowledge by allowing seniors with low income to work more without penalty and by including Indigenous communities.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

While the platform briefly mentions including Indigenous communities in employment, there is no specific plan nor priority for funding and access to resources and infrastructure for employment or reducing barriers for Indigenous women who currently face even greater difficulties accessing employment resources.

Score: 2 out of 5

#### **PRIORITY # 10 – EDUCATION**

## What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

### How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issue of education in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



## PRIORITY # 11 - HEALTH CARE

## What does the BQ promise?

The BQ did not address the issue of healthcare in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

## How well does this align with NWAC's priorities?

The BQ did not address the issue of healthcare in terms of Indigenous Peoples in their platform.

Score: 1 out of 5

**OVERALL SCORE: D** 

Filename: 2021-1979 NWAC Party Platform Review - BQ



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