



CBTU SMCC

CANADA'S BUILDING TRADES UNIONS
LES SYNDICATS DES MÉTIERS DE LA CONSTRUCTION DU CANADA
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2021 PARTY PLATFORMS & KEY COMMITMENTS

ELECTION 2021

On August 15, Election 44 was called for September 20. This gives just over a month for all major parties to hit the campaign trail. To date, the Liberals, Conservatives, NDP, and Bloc have released their full party platforms. The Green party is releasing theirs on an ongoing basis. In an effort to keep you updated, below is a snapshot of where each party sits on our issues.

LIBERAL PARTY

The Liberals recently released their official platform, emphasizing support for skilled labour mobility, the creation of good green jobs and a Just Transition, prioritizing the economy, and doubling funding for UTIP. Specific commitments include:

- Introducing a new Labour Mobility Tax Credit to allow workers in the building and construction trades to deduct up to \$4,000 in eligible travel and temporary relocation expenses giving them a tax credit of up to \$600 a year.
- Moving forward with their affordable childcare plans, having reached agreements with seven provinces and territories so far.
- Meeting net zero goals in the oil and gas sector by 2050 by committing to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. These actions will incentivize clean innovation and the adoption of clean technologies, including carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS), examining EV capacity, and supporting home retrofits.
- Moving forward with legislation on Just Transition for workers and commitments to support provinces and workers most impacted by the transition.
- Reforming Employment Insurance by addressing gaps made obvious during COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information on the Liberal Party, visit [this link](#).

The Conservatives released their official platform just one day after the election was called, emphasizing support for infrastructure, workers, and childcare. Specific commitments include:

- Creating a Construction Mobility Tax Credit to help with relocation expenses construction workers incur, which will allow workers to subtract up to \$4,000 per year of temporary relocation expenses, including transportation & accommodation.
- Investing up to \$5 billion in infrastructure, which will be used for small modular reactors, electric vehicle development, increased use of hydrogen, technology that will reduce emissions, and more.
- Closing the Canada Infrastructure Bank and recommitting the money to new infrastructure projects.
- The Working Canadian Training Loan to provide low interest loans of up to \$10,000 to those who want to upgrade their skills.

For more information about the Conservative Party, visit [this link](#).

BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS

The Bloc released their platform emphasizing the economy, employment insurance reform, and investments in green energy. Specific commitments include:

- Federal allocation for infrastructure investments to be given directly to Quebec so that the province can determine how to best use it.
- Suspension of the Canadian Economic Recovery Benefit, except for in sectors that are still recovering from the pandemic, such as tourism and air travel, and ensuring it can be fully reactivated if necessary.
- Eliminate the waiting period on employment insurance and increase the rate of benefits compensation.
- Support the transition to green energy by investing in ecological innovation, technology, and research, which a focus on keeping their investments in Quebec.
- An end to subsidies for fossil fuels, which have increased in recent years.
- Rejection of any new interprovincial oil transportation infrastructure, including pipelines for export or an intensification of rail transport.

For more information about the Bloc Québécois, visit [this link](#).

NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The NDP have released their platform, prioritizing infrastructure, support for workers, childcare, and investments in green energy. Specific commitments include:

- Requirements for large scale building retrofits in all sectors and a target of retrofitting all buildings in Canada by 2050 – beginning with upgrades to all buildings built before 2020 in the next 20 years.
- 1 million+ jobs with fair wages and updates to the Canada Labour Code to enhance safeguards for workers so they can stay safe and healthy at work.
- Prioritization of community benefits agreements on more projects and to provide dedicated employment support combining access to expanded EI benefits, re-training and job placement services.
- They will continue the current initiative to implement \$10/day provincial and territorial childcare.
- They have set a target to power Canada with net-zero electricity by 2030, establish a Canadian climate bank, drive demand for electric vehicles, and ensure every new building in Canada is net-zero.

For more information on the NDP, visit [this link](#).

GREEN PARTY

The Green Party will release its platform commitments one by one as the campaign progresses. So far, the Greens have shared their commitments on:

- Reducing emissions, noting they will scale up renewable-energy production, make investments in environmentally friendly research and innovation, cancel all new pipeline projects, end fossil-fuel subsidies, and build a national energy grid.
- A Just Transition for fossil fuel workers, stating they will work with unions and workers to develop retraining and resettlement programs tailored to different regions of the country.

Once it is available, CBTU will share updates on the Green Party platform; for more information on the Green Party, visit [this link](#).



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