

2019 Climate Change Consultations & Responses from the Green New Democratic Deal Policy Paper

Transportation

What We Heard: Ontario must transition to a transit system with a smaller carbon footprint.

How We Responded:

- We'll work with municipalities to electrify all municipal transit fleets by 2040, and will establish a grant program to help municipalities buy electric transit vehicles (p. 16)
- We'll take immediate steps to electrify the GO Train network on an accelerated timeline to replace dirty diesel trains along all lines (p. 15)

What We Heard: Ontario can better invest in and expand public transportation by making transit more accessible and affordable.

How We Responded:

- We'll work with municipal transit systems to make fares more affordable, and explore reduced fares for students, seniors and low-income people (p. 16)
- We'll reform Metrolinx's governance structure so transit planning is transparent, services are coordinated, investment is driven by interest, and public funding goes towards projects in the public interest (p. 15)
- We'll restore provincial funding for municipal public transit systems, and will fund municipal transit systems to 50% of their net operating costs to enable service improvements, more routes, and increased ridership (p. 15)

What We Heard: Ontario can reduce emissions from personal passenger vehicles by building better bike infrastructure.

How We Responded:

- We will require municipalities to have active transportation plans that incorporate the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and vulnerable road users, and will establish a grant program to fund these projects (p. 17)

- All new residential and non-residential developments will be required to incorporate active transportation into their planning. New multiple-unit dwellings and ICI (Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional) developments in urban areas will be required to provide secure bicycle storage (p. 17)

Energy & Conservation

What We Heard: Ontario should mandate that all new buildings must have solar panels and renewable energies, and it must be included in their building code.

How We Responded:

- We'll explore all options to ensure electricity is affordable, including expanding rooftop solar capacity on buildings (p. 18)
- By 2030, the NDP commit to ensuring that all newly built broader public sector, residential and commercial buildings are built according to the highest standards of energy efficiency, operating at net zero emissions (p. 10)
- Reduce emissions from existing broader public sector buildings to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030 (p. 10)
- By 2030, we will reduce emissions for residential and ICI (Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional) buildings by 50%, and by 2050, ICI buildings in Ontario will be retrofitted to operate at net-zero emissions (p. 11)

What We Heard: Ontario must ensure that all new buildings can accommodate electric cars.

How We Responded:

- As part of our comprehensive ZEV strategy, we will provide \$600 for households to install EV charging stations at home, and will require new homes to have vehicle charging capacity (p. 17)
- We will build charging stations on suitable broader public sector properties and will work with municipalities and private sector partners to build charging stations at workplaces and along roadways (p. 17)

Adaptation & Resilience

What We Heard: Ontario must protect our freshwater and safe water supplies. Water is sacred, and we must change the way we think about and value water.

How We Responded:

(p. 20) The ONDP Provincial Water Strategy will:

- Ensure Source Water Protection Plans are implemented so every Ontarian has access to reliable, safe drinking water, and we can end water advisories.
- Launch a transparent and public review of the Permit-To-Take-Water process, especially bottled water, to ensure permitting provides for long-term stability, public use, and good watershed management
- Ensure Long-Term Water Use Planning based on current and future needs, and ensuring water use is sustainable.
- Create an inventory of water, including measurement of use and return
- Ensure that communities have the water needed for planned growth
- Ensure Source Water Protection Plans are implemented so every Ontarian has access to reliable, safe drinking water, and we can end water advisories

Fairness

What We Heard: In transitioning to a net-zero economy, we must ensure we don't leave anyone behind by protecting workers' rights, creating opportunities for minority folks to become leaders in their communities, and being intentional about inclusivity, accessibility, and acting on reconciliation.

How We Responded:

- Reconciliation is one of our three core values that guide our transition into a thriving, just and sustainable future. We recognize and honour the fact that respecting Indigenous knowledge and sovereignty is critical to addressing climate change (p. 5)
 - Our recruitment & training programs will actively recruit from and support communities underrepresented in the trades, including women and Black, Indigenous and people of colour.

- We will collaborate with Indigenous Peoples to ensure traditional territories and foods are well-managed and protected.
- We will collaborate with Indigenous partners to reach afforestation goals, manage forests and prevent wildfires, and invest in Indigenous-managed protected areas.
- Equity is one of three core values, and we will work to address the root causes of inequities and use an environmental justice lens for all programs and policies we deliver, ensuring that no community, industry or group is left behind (p. 4)

Jobs & Opportunities

What We Heard: Ontario must ensure that the millions of new jobs created by the transition to net-zero emissions are good, stable jobs through expanding local hiring opportunities, advancing economic justice, and guaranteeing a just transition.

How We Responded:

- We have committed to guaranteed jobs in our transition to a net-zero economy (p. 8)
- We will partner with labour and industry as well as universities, colleges and employers to educate, train, and place new workers, while fast-tracking workers who already have industry experience (p. 8)
- We'll train and support workers at all stages of their career whose industries are being displaced by newer technologies, and workers transitioning from legacy industries (p. 8)
- We'll implement a large-scale job-training program to achieve our building retrofit targets (p. 11)
- We will implement Ontario's first ever Comprehensive Zero-Emissions Vehicles Strategy (ZEV Strategy), supporting the auto sector as it transitions to zero-emissions vehicles. We will ensure that Ontario's highly-skilled and experienced auto workers are put back to work, with jobs that are stable and unionized (p. 9)
- These recruitment & training programs will actively recruit and support communities and peoples underrepresented in the trades, such as women and Black, Indigenous and people of colour (p. 11)

What We Heard: We must boost respect for community work and create better pay for care & education work.

How We Responded:

- We will immediately recruit, train and hire 10,000 PSWs, make their jobs full-time with benefits and give them a living wage (p. 12)
- We will address the nursing shortage in Ontario and the need for more early learning educators and better pay in the child care sector (p. 12)

What We Heard: Corporations should be responsible for paying back the public.

How We Responded:

- We will develop an equitable cap-and-trade system to make large polluters pay for their emissions. Proceeds will fund policies and programs that help Ontario get to net-zero, while ensuring that Ontarians in trades and industrial sectors are not unfairly penalized (p. 14)
 - 25% of cap-and-trade revenue will support low-income, rural, and Northern Ontario families and industries that have been disproportionately impacted by carbon pricing (p. 14)