



# **TCNDP General Meeting**

## **Convention Delegate Selection & Resolutions**

### **Saturday December 18, 2021, 12:00 – 14:00**

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1. Call to order
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Anti-harassment policy
4. Approval of agenda
5. Introduction
6. Election of delegates (17)
7. Motion

*Be it resolved that the Toronto Centre NDP Provincial Association Executive be given the authority to fill Provincial Convention Delegate spaces that remain vacant after this meeting is adjourned.*

8. Policy resolutions debate

Prioritization: 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 20, 30, 1, 6, 10, 16, 18, 28, 31, 11, 14, 19, 29, 32, 36, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, 35, 37

9. Adjournment

# **1) Notwithstanding Clause**

**Moved by Jeff Slater**

WHERE AS Doug Ford and François Legault have used the notwithstanding clause to undermine Canadians' Charter rights

WHERE AS increasingly frequent usage of the notwithstanding clause risks completely undermining the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will never use the notwithstanding clause.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will support and advocate for the removal of Section 33 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

## **2) Cancel Doug Ford**

**Moved by Jeff Slater**

WHERE AS Doug Ford is the worst Premier in the history of the province of Ontario

WHERE AS Doug Ford's Conservatives have passed multiple unconstitutional pieces of legislation

WHERE AS Doug Ford's legislative agenda has made life demonstrably worse for the people of Ontario

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government, at the earliest possible opportunity, will introduce omnibus-style legislation to undo Doug Ford's destructive and unconstitutional legislative agenda.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this legislation will repeal many pieces of legislation. including but not limited to:

- Bill 5, which limits the freedom of expression of Toronto voters
- Bill 124, which infringes on the right to fair collective bargaining of public sector workers
- Bill 184, which enables landlords to more easily evict tenants
- Bill 218, which shields private LTC operators from legal consequences for their negligent behaviour
- Bills 254 & 307, which seek to rig elections in Doug Ford's favour

### **3) Fair compensation for injured workers**

**Moved by Brian Chang**

Whereas the WSIB cuts injured workers' benefits by "deeming" that they are receiving wages from "phantom jobs" when in fact they have been unable to find work and

Whereas injured workers are often unable to perform the duties of the "deemed" position and

Whereas the WSIB's practice of "deeming" ignores the fact that deemed positions often do not exist and forces unemployed injured workers and their families into poverty,

Therefore the NDP will change the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA) to eliminate "deeming" and instead require that an injured worker's benefits will be based on their actual employment status after their injury; this would mean full benefits if the injured worker has not been able to find a job.

## **4) Accept the Word of An Injured Worker's Treating Doctors**

**Moved by Brian Chang, John Rae**

Whereas the WSIB regularly refuses to accept the assessment of an injured worker's treating health professional and;

Whereas the WSIB appoints their own doctor to assess the injured worker and;

Whereas the WSIB appointed doctor makes an assessment of the injured worker without physically examining and/or involving the injured worker and;

Whereas the WSIB accepts the assessment of a WSIB appointed doctor over the injured worker's own health professional.

Therefore the NDP legislate that the WSIB accept the assessment of an injured worker's injuries as determined by the injured worker's health professional.

## **5) Real Democracy for Ontario (1)**

**Moved by Angela Zhu**

Whereas the Ontario NDP is eager to introduce a voting system that will excite and engage voters and revitalize our democracy;

Whereas Ontario New Democrats believe that all citizens should have a meaningful voice in the legislature;

Whereas Mixed-Member Proportional Representation is used successfully around the world and has been recommended by 12 out of 14 Canadian Commissions and Studies on electoral reform. Unlike the winner-take-all ranked ballot system in single-member ridings, MMP will not favour any one party;

Be it therefore resolved that the Ontario NDP will introduce a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) voting system, ensuring that every vote counts, allowing all voters to cast a personal vote for a candidate within the open regional list so that all MPPs face the voters.

Be it further resolved that this system will be designed by an independent group of diverse citizens including indigenous representatives in a deliberative process:

- a. This independent group will be asked to come up with a uniquely made-in-Ontario proportional voting system.
- b. The process will include a heavy investment in education and public outreach.
- c. The group will be supported in their work by both a panel of experts and a multiparty committee of the legislature.
- d. After a thorough discussion with the public, it will make a final recommendation in time to implement the new voting system for the 2026 election.

## **6) Real Democracy for Ontario (2)**

**Moved by Angela Zhu**

Ontario New Democrats are committed to introducing a voting system that will excite and engage voters and revitalize our democracy. The goal is to create a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) voting system, ensuring that every vote counts, and voters can cast a personal vote for a candidate within the open regional list so that all MPPs face the voters. All citizens will have a meaningful voice in the legislature. MMP is used successfully around the world and has been recommended by 12 out of 14 Canadian Commissions and Studies on electoral reform. Unlike the winner-take-all ranked ballot system in single-member ridings, it will not favour any one party. The system will be designed by an independent group of diverse citizens including indigenous representatives in a deliberative process. They will be asked to come up with a uniquely made-in-Ontario proportional voting system. The process will include a heavy investment in education and public outreach. The group will be supported in their work by both a panel of experts and a multiparty committee of the legislature. After a thorough discussion with the public, it will make a final recommendation in time to implement the new voting system for the 2026 election.

## **7) Build Social Housing as an Emergency Priority in Ontario**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas lack of housing in Ontario is a crisis, with shelters often at capacity, and

Whereas rents are skyrocketing far above inflation due to lack of new supply, gentrification of older neighborhoods, and renovation/evictions, and

Whereas home ownership is not available to thousands of working-class Ontarians, and

Whereas builders and land developers seeking profit have failed for decades to bring any significant amount of low-cost housing to the market,

Therefore be it resolved that the ONDP actively campaign for the expropriation of vacant accommodations in buildings with over 10 units, and actively seek the construction of 1,000,000 quality housing units, to be built within five years by a new publicly-owned Ontario Housing Construction Corporation that would sustainably acquire land and build rent-geared-to-income accessible housing comprised of a mix of freehold, cooperative, co-housing, mixed income, rental and subsidized rental units, in order to house the house-less.



## **8) De-fund, Disarm and Disband Police Forces in Canada**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas police protect the rich from violence caused by capitalism (poverty, mental illness, discrimination, etc.), break strikes and attack social justice protests, fight minor crime instead of major corporate crime, escalate mental health incidents, and disproportionately kill racialized people, and

Whereas reforms have not reduced victim injuries and deaths, or held offending police accountable,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the ONDP advocate: The rapid de-funding of police forces by 50%, transferring the funds to necessary social services including but not limited to housing, mental health, and addictions treatment; The disarming of police beginning with the removal of all military hardware, gas, pepper and other sprays and guns; The permanent removal of all non-indigenous police forces from indigenous lands; and ultimately, the disbanding of armed, uniformed police forces to be replaced by community-controlled peace services.

## **9) New Protocols to Manage Pandemics**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas the Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated insufficient government preparedness, and private senior care residences experienced 4 times the deaths that occurred in public residences, inconsistent workplace lockdowns caused excess deaths, and workers' wages were insufficiently subsidized during necessary lockdowns, and there was profiteering on personal protective equipment, vaccine research, respirators, and essential supplies,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the NDP advocate mandatory public protocols to manage pandemics to save lives, reduce suffering, and eliminate profiteering, nationalize all privately owned senior care residences, stockpile necessary supplies and equipment, create public laboratories to monitor diseases and mass produce antivirals and medications on a cost recovery basis, and address overcrowding, poverty and disabilities to reduce vulnerability and exposure to deadly pathogens, and

Be It Further Resolved that such protocols will give workers the absolute right to refuse unsafe work with no loss in pay or benefits, never prioritize corporate profit over public safety, and will appropriately penalize violators.

## **10) Boycott apartheid Israel, End the Siege of Gaza, uphold Palestinian Rights**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas the boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaign helped to end apartheid in South Africa.

Whereas the current BDS campaign aimed at Israeli Apartheid, endorsed by CUPE Ontario, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers and unions around the world, seeks to end the siege of Gaza, and uphold the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people, including the right of refugees to return to their homes and properties.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Ontario NDP actively support the international campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions to demand that Israel end the siege of Gaza, dismantle the apartheid wall and Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and fully comply with international law, including U.N. resolution 194, which calls for the right of return of Palestinian refugees.

## **11) End Tax Evasion – Tax the Super-Rich**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas the federal government is losing billions a year in revenue from offshore tax havens and losses due to tax loopholes and gifts to the rich;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the ONDP actively campaign for imposing severe penalties against tax evasion including confiscation of untaxed profits, seizure of assets of equivalent value held by tax outlaws, along with jail time for the culprits and their accomplices.

And Be It Further Resolved that the ONDP actively campaign for a progressively steep increase in taxation of personal incomes above \$250,000 a year, corporate profits above \$2 million a year, personal inheritances above \$2 million, and all stock market financial transactions, while eliminating other tax credits and regressive taxes like the HST.

## **12) Solidarity with Palestine**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas millions of Palestinians face indignities and injustice from the State of Israel every day;

and whereas, when the 2015 NDP federal election campaign blocked or removed NDP candidates who simply mentioned Israeli state crimes against Palestinians, it was a gross disservice to social justice;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the ONDP actively campaign in support of the demand of Palestinian unions, civil society and unions across Canada and around the world for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against the Israeli state until it dismantles the apartheid wall, allows refugees to return home, ends its demolition of Palestinian homes and olive groves, lifts the siege of Gaza, ends its occupation of Palestinian lands, and terminates its apartheid practices.

## **13) Ring of Fire**

**Moved by John Wilson**

Whereas the Ring of Fire is one of the largest reserves and potentially the most profitable mineral development opportunities in Ontario in more than a century, the economic equivalent of the Athabasca oil sands, worth \$120 billion.

Whereas the Ring of Fire development would impact nine First Nations, and the first to benefit from it should be the Indigenous people, recognizing that there can be 'no reconciliation without restitution.'

Whereas public ownership of The Ring of Fire will generate jobs, growth and long-term prosperity for the working class, including Indigenous people, for generations to come.

Whereas social democratic governments around the world have implemented public ownership of resource extraction to maximize the benefit to working people, to provide jobs, and fund excellent social services.

Be it resolved that the ownership and future development of The Ring of Fire be exclusively via public ownership under workers' and community control.

## **14) Modernization of ONDP Autism Policy**

**Moved by Brian Chang**

WHEREAS The ONDP has not yet meaningfully and formally consulted with Autistic community leaders, nonspeaking Autistic youth, or Autistic-led education and advocacy groups about autism-related policy or messaging; and

WHEREAS many disproven myths about Autistic people, especially nonspeaking Autistic people labeled “low-functioning”, are still prevalent and perpetuated in autism-related ONDP central messaging; and

WHEREAS evidence has been found that common “autism therapy” practices can cause severe unintended mental health consequences long-term; and

WHEREAS injustices and harms are perpetuated when policy is made about marginalized people without their meaningful and informed participation; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP immediately begin a formal and transparent consultation process to inform a modernization of ONDP messaging and policy related to Autism. This consultation process should be guided by experts in the field of social policy and services who are Autistic, and should be accessible, especially to those who communicate by spelling on a letterboard or typing, and should feature direct, first-person consultation with nonspeaking Autistic people, Autistic youth, Autistic BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+ Autistic people, and multiply-disabled Autistic people. This consultation should be completed before the ONDP announces any new Autism-related commitments.

## **15) Autism Puzzle Piece Image**

**Moved by Brian Chang**

WHEREAS Autism is a life-long disorder; and

WHEREAS this image depicts Autism as only a part of a puzzle-  
something that needs to be solved,

and not reflective of the person as a whole; and

WHEREAS Autistic people are not a problem which need to be solved;  
therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP condemn and prevent the use of the  
puzzle piece in messaging.



## **16) Funding Education and Training for Students With Disabilities**

**Moved by Brian Chang**

WHEREAS the ONDP supports the right to accessible education for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS people with disabilities already face high cost of living in Ontario; and

WHEREAS post-secondary education including colleges, universities, creative arts institutions, and trades training programs, is financially inaccessible to students living on disability supports; and

WHEREAS people with disabilities can often flourish in non-conventional fields of study and work such as art and creative industry endeavors; and

WHEREAS many students with disabilities must attend education programs and career training part-time due to their disabilities and/or lack of accessible accommodations; and

WHEREAS OSAP currently requires students who must attend school or training part-time to pay for at least their first term of post-secondary education/training out-of-pocket, which is financially inaccessible for most students with disabilities; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will include significant new funding commitments for students with disabilities in all election platforms and Party policies, including full coverage through OSAP for all part-time education and training programs that are currently funded for full-time students, and new supports for people with disabilities who wish to pursue training in creative arts and industries.

## **17) Defending Autistic People in Ontario**

**Moved by Brian Chang**

WHEREAS Autism is a neurological difference, not a behavioural problem; and

WHEREAS Autistic people across Ontario are calling for progressive leaders to commit to funding adaptive communication technology and non-behavioural supports for daily living; and

WHEREAS the ONDP has historically supported behaviour-based approaches of ABA/IBI, which are considered harmful and dangerous by all Autistic-led advocacy groups in Canada; and

WHEREAS new research has revealed ABA/IBI often leads to trauma, anxiety, and self-esteem problems by enforcing that Autistic children should not act on their internal nature and that they need to be “fixed”; and

WHEREAS evidence-based literature reviews show major commonly-cited studies promoting ABA/IBI have failed to measure for negative effects or harms, and that more than 70% of studies promoting ABA/IBI were designed by researchers with significant undisclosed financial conflicts-of-interest;

therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP cease support of behaviour-based autism interventions and supports, including ABA, IBI, and all Behavioural Analysis industry practices

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ONDP instead promote non-behavioural programs for Occupational Therapy, Augmentative and Alternative Communication supports, Speech/Language Therapy, and Neurodiversity-affirming mental health therapy for Autistic people who have been traumatized by behaviour-based education and treatment settings.

## **18) Housing**

**Moved by John Rae**

Whereas, Issues of Housing affordability and the need to house the homeless are likely to be primary issues during the next Provincial election; and

Whereas, Many young persons with disabilities are forced to live in elderly persons' facilities due to the lack of accessible accommodation; and

Whereas, We live In an aging society;

Therefore, be it Resolved that the NDP shall openly discuss the desperate need for an increased level of accessible housing, as it advocates for increased affordable housing and accommodations for Ontarians who currently find themselves homeless.

## **19) Eliminate Deeming**

**Moved by John Rae**

Whereas, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) denies injured work; and

Whereas, Injured workers often are unable to perform the duties of the “Deemed” position and;

Whereas, the practice of “Deeming” ignores the fact that deemed positions often do not exist and;

Whereas, the “Deeming” by the WSIB has placed injured workers in financial difficulty;

Therefore the NDP will legislate the removal of "Deeming" under the WSIA and an injured worker's benefits will be based on the injured worker's pre injury wage rate.

## **20) COVID-19 Day of Remembrance**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas the disaster in long-term care was not inevitable.

Whereas many of our seniors and loved ones died alone.

Whereas their deaths could have been prevented.

Whereas pandemics will happen in the future.

Whereas we must transform our physical and social infrastructure to prevent and mitigate future pandemics.

Be it resolved that New Democrats will launch an investigation into all aspects of the Ontario government's COVID-19 pandemic response.

Be it further resolved that this investigation will have no time limit on how far back it can investigate the systemic decisions that led to Ontarians' deaths during COVID-19.

Be it further resolved that the investigation will be tasked with making recommendations about policies needed to prepare Ontario for the next pandemic.

Be it further resolved that the recommendations include a COVID-19 Day of Remembrance where all social institutions and businesses are encouraged, under the guidance of public health units, to practice pandemic mitigation protocols so as to ensure that all levels of society maintain a physical stock of personal protective equipment and habitual 'muscle memory' of the best practices to keep everyone safe for when the next respiratory pandemic occurs.

Be it further resolved that the COVID-19 Day of Remembrance's design be made in consultation with BIPOC communities, healthcare workers, long term care residents, and other frontline communities who experienced the most acute trauma during COVID-19.

Be it further resolved that the investigation into long term care's terms of reference include a commitment to ensuring our society is able to

mitigate future pandemics to such an extent that everyone can reasonably expect that even in a future pandemic, they can hold their loved one's hands when they are dying.

## **21) Better ventilation- safer schools**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas COVID-19 is an airborne virus; and

Whereas the pandemic highlighted the importance of ventilation systems in reducing the transmission of COVID-19; and

Whereas many Ontario schools lack ventilation systems standards that meet established standards for air changes and filtration; and

Whereas studies have shown that improved ventilation not only protects the health of students and education workers, but that it improves learning; therefore

Be it resolved that an NDP Government will work with public health and air quality experts to develop clear standards for improving HVAC/ventilation systems in all Ontario schools and invest in the workers needed to maintain them.

## **22) Access to outdoor spaces**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas the COVID-19 global pandemic has shown just how little outdoor space people in apartments and condos in dense urban areas can access other than public parks; and

Whereas public parks have proved invaluable during the Covid-19 global pandemic as a place for families to be outside, children to play, friends to socialize safely and to maintain mental health; therefore

Be it resolved that New Democrats condemn the public shaming of people for using public parks during the Covid-19 global pandemic; and

Be it further resolved that New Democrats believe Ontarians deserve access to outdoor spaces which they can freely access; and

Be it further resolved that density planning, especially as extreme weather continues as a result of climate change, must include access to parks, wading pools, and other outdoor spaces.



## **23) Public Long-Term Care**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas the state of Ontario's Long-Term Care system has deteriorated under successive Liberal and Conservative governments; and

Whereas Ontarians deserve access to well-funded and non-profit Long-Term Care; therefore

Be it resolved that New Democrats believe Long-Term Care is health care, and should be treated on par with health care; and

Be it further resolved that New Democrats call for the end of for-profit Long-Term Care to ensure that every long-term care dollar is invested in care and in people, and not in dividends and profits

## **24) Precautionary principle**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas the precautionary principle is a foundation of workplace safety; and

Whereas the labour movement has fought for generations to have the precautionary principle applied in union and non-union workplaces; and

Whereas a pillar of the precautionary principle is that preventive action must prevail when facing uncertainty; and

Whereas health care workers called for the precautionary principle to be applied as we learned about Covid, but it was not followed, therefore

Be it resolved that New Democrats condemn Doug Ford for failing to follow the precautionary principle as it related to health care early in the Covid-19 global pandemic; and

Be it further resolved that when Doug Ford and his cabinet insisted that people in Long-Term Care, whether patients or workers had adequate PPE, when in fact, they did not have the N95 respirators or other PPE the precautionary principle required, people were infected with Covid-19 and died; and

Be it further resolved that when global science remained unclear about whether infection with Covid-19 was possible through aerosol or droplets, Doug Ford defaulted to a lower level of protection for people, whether they were patients or workers, and as a result people likely were infected with Covid-19 and likely died; and

Be it further resolved New Democrats reaffirm our commitment to the precautionary principle.

## **25) Public home care**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas all Ontarians deserve a long, healthy life in their own communities and homes, and;

Whereas the best way to live out an active, community-engaged lifestyle is to live in our own homes; and

Whereas home care services provide assistance to seniors and others who wish to remain at home but may need assistance; and

Whereas there is a need for increased home care services across Ontario, in particular in rural and remote areas of the province, that are both culturally sensitive and community-focused; and

Whereas private, for-profit delivery of home care services are not in line with our New Democratic values of a universal, public, inclusive system of Medicare-for-all; and

Whereas private delivery of home care is of inferior quality to publicly-delivered care, and results in disjointed delivery to Ontarians; and

Whereas the Ford government and the Liberals before them failed to expand public home care services as a primary public service for Ontarians, thereby abandoning tens of thousands without the necessary supports to age gracefully in their homes and in their communities; therefore

Be it resolved that an NDP government would greatly improve home care services for Ontarians by making home care a top priority for a new government; and

Be it further resolved that an NDP government would expand home care services using only the public delivery model.

## **26) Culturally-responsive public services**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas experts across Canada support the collection of race-based health care data; and

Whereas rich data will ensure Ontario can better meet the needs of racialized people; therefore

Be it resolved that race-based data should be used to develop culturally-responsive, anti-racist public services including health care, mental health, education, and other public services; and

Be it further resolved that the development of culturally-responsive services must occur in coordination of racialized communities.

## **27) Invest in Legal Aid**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas all Ontarians deserve fairness before the law; and

Whereas cuts to Legal Aid diminish the ability of low-income people to receive fair justice; therefore

Be it resolved that New Democrats are committed to proper funding of Legal Aid to ensure that Legal Aid clinics can give Ontarians the legal services to ensure that all Ontarians are equal in the application of justice.

## **28) Membership Simplification**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas membership is fundamental to the governance of the Ontario NDP; and

Whereas the membership processes and systems that the Ontario NDP uses are archaic, confusing, and serve no current purpose; and

Whereas a simpler membership system would allow for Ontario NDP Ridings to better support membership work, and help members keep their membership up to date;

Whereas the categories of Membership Statuses are a relic of a time before computers and sophisticated software; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive establish a representative task force to study and recommend changes to simplify, clarify, and increase the credibility of our membership processes and systems; and that this report be presented to Provincial Council for approval and implementation before the next Convention;

Be it further resolved that membership be moved to an annual membership without a period where lapsed memberships are considered active;

Be it further resolved that the 1 -5 system be abolished in favour of “active” and “inactive” memberships.

## **29) Supporter Class Membership**

**Moved by Ben Donato-Woodger**

Whereas the NDP must restore and expand its links to the working people, the unemployed, the under-employed, and the non-waged workers, and to students; and

Whereas the NDP has always been a party to champion the marginalized and oppressed, a fact that proudly distinguishes the NDP from the parties of big money as the democratic political expression of workers and labour; and

Whereas membership fees can be a barrier for many Ontarians to fully join our movement as Ontario NDP members; therefore

Be it resolved that the Provincial Executive investigate removing all membership fees for Ontario NDP membership, and report back with an actionable report to Provincial Council to vote on free Ontario NDP memberships before the next Ontario NDP Convention.

### **30) Access to Gender Affirming Health Care Campaign**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

WHEREAS the current Ford Conservative government has attacked trans communities by cutting important access to health and community services; and

WHEREAS wait times for referrals and access to trans affirming care and surgeries has dramatically increased, causing distress to those requiring these essential services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP develop an Access to Gender Affirming Health Care campaign which advocates that the government restore appropriate funding and supports for essential trans health and social services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the ONDP work alongside trans communities across Ontario in the development of this campaign to educate members and the public about the need for these essential services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the ONDP work with Ontario Labour in the development of this campaign.



## **31) Funding for Gender-Affirming Healthcare**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

WHEREAS two-spirit, transgender, non-binary, gender diverse, and intersex communities face significant challenges to accessing health care services that are friendly, competent, and affirming in Ontario; and

WHEREAS everyone deserves access to health care, and they shouldn't have to fight for it, shouldn't have to wait for it, and should never receive less care or support because of who they are; and

WHEREAS gender affirming care is life saving care; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would fund all gender-affirming healthcare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Ontario New Democrats call on the government to establish a committee tasked with making recommendations to the Minister of Health on ways to improve access to gender-affirming care and transition-related procedures in Ontario. The committee would be made up of members of the two-spirit, transgender, non-binary, gender diverse, and intersex communities with diverse lived experiences as well as health care providers.

## **32) HIV Prevention**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

WHEREAS, Ontario's incidence rate of HIV has increased in recent years.

WHEREAS, preventative medications exist that can effectively eliminate the risk of catching HIV through sexual intercourse.

WHEREAS, high risk populations continue to experience higher rates of new HIV infections than the general population.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would ensure, as part of universal pharmacare, that HIV preventatives (pre & post exposure prophylaxis) are free and widely available.

### **33) Pronoun Visibility**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

WHEREAS, retail and service sector employees who are misgendered at work face a traumatic, painful, and humiliating experience.

WHEREAS, pronouns are integral to one's personal identity, sense of self, and well-being as they go beyond personal expression and strike directly to the core of who a person is.

WHEREAS, corporations and businesses enforce strict dress codes for their employees, which strip all forms of personal expression in the name of the aesthetic of "professionalism".

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP create legislation that ensures employers who mandate uniforms for their employees must allow said employees, as an option, to display their pronouns visibly on their uniform.

### **34) Access to Gender Neutral Washroom Spaces**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

WHEREAS, trans and gender non-conforming individuals experience significant stress, anxiety, and trauma simply for fulfilling a basic physical need that is at the core of personal dignity.

WHEREAS, trans and gender non-conforming individuals are four times more likely than a cisgender individual to be the victim of violent crime.

WHEREAS, 57% of trans Ontarians have avoided using public washrooms out of fear of harassment and violence.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will ensure universal access to gender-neutral washroom spaces by adopting binding legislation to enforce the provision of said spaces in the public domain.

## **35) Protecting Intersex Children from Medically Unnecessary Surgeries**

**Moved by Susan Gapka**

Whereas: Intersex babies and children are subjected to medically unnecessary surgeries due to the appearance of unconventional external genitalia,

Whereas: federal criminal code s268(3) currently provides legal consent for a doctor to perform genital reconstruction on intersex babies and children,

Whereas: the authentic gender of intersex babies is unknown until they become self-aware and medically unnecessary surgeries may destroy anatomy congruent with their authentic gender.

Therefore, be it resolved: that the Ontario NDP will petition the Canadian federal government to amend criminal code s268(3) to prevent medically unnecessary genital surgeries on intersex babies and children,

Be it further resolved: that the Ontario NDP institute provincially, laws that protect intersex babies from medically unnecessary surgeries.

## **36) City Charter**

**Moved by Jeff Slater**

Whereas Ontario's large cities deliver critical programs and services to a population larger than some provinces;

And Whereas

- the Supreme Court of Canada has affirmed that cities are mere "creatures of the province", without inherent constitutional status or authority;
- the constitutional rules adopted in 1867 when 80% of Canadians lived on farms, are inadequate to managing modern municipal corporations serving hundreds of thousands of people;
- Ontario's large cities lack the authority and resources to address critical urban issues such as housing, economic inequality, local transit, climate change and infrastructure;
- cities are helpless to fend off increasing provincial interference in local decision-making;

And Whereas

- the adoption of City Charters for Ontario's large cities is an effective consultative and change mechanism for addressing these deficiencies;
- the protection of these City Charters through a Section 43, single-province constitutional amendment, is an easy-to-achieve but powerfully effective means of granting and protecting city authority;
- polling shows that a super-majority of Ontario New Democrats support constitutionally-protected City Charters;

Therefore Be it Resolved that the NDP agree in its 2022 election platform to empower Ontario's large cities by adopting constitutionally-protected City Charters in Toronto and any major Ontario city that wants one.

## **37) Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform**

**Moved by Jeff Slater**

Whereas ONDP Policy 5.1 on electoral reform reaffirmed in 2019, states that New Democrats will “Use new ways such as constituent assemblies... to restore local democratic control and accountability;”

Whereas ONDP policy 5.1.23 calls for a proportional electoral system;

And whereas the only practical way to overcome the partisan challenges of electoral reform is likely to be by convening a citizens' assembly involving a multi-party commitment to abide by the recommendations of that assembly;

Be it resolved that the NDP include a citizens' assembly to deliver its recommendations on electoral reform as part of its 2022 election platform;

Be it further resolved that the ONDP seek to establish with the Ontario Liberals and Greens a common position before (or if necessary, after) the 2022 election regarding the process and mandate for a binding citizens' assembly in which the preferred electoral model of each party will be considered, among other possible models, by citizens randomly chosen to sit in the assembly;

And be it further resolved that the preferred model advanced by the ONDP to such a citizen's assembly will be as laid out in ONDP Policy 5.1.23.