

# OUR KIDS. CANADA'S FUTURE.

This federal election is consequential for so many Canadians.

In the 2025 federal general election, the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE) has chosen to put families and children at the centre of our advocacy. We are calling on voters to consider the future prosperity of Canada by focusing on policies that improve the lives of kids. For this reason, we've launched CTF/FCE's "[Our Kids. Canada's Future.](#)" campaign.

To best inform the over 370,000 public school teachers and educators the CTF/FCE represents in every province and territory through our Member Organizations, we are reaching out to see how your priorities align with ours.

Below is a questionnaire we are asking your party to respond to by April 11, 2025.

**Question 1: Does your party commit to retaining and continuing to fund the National School Food Program at the current rate or higher? If no, why?**

*The Liberal Party of Canada will make the National School Food Program permanent. The program is a direct investment in the middle class, making life a little easier for working families. It is also a safety net for the children who don't always have enough to eat at home. In less than ten months, the Liberal government reached agreements with all provinces and territories to reach over 500,000 kids. Conservatives voted against this program. No child should go hungry. So, we will make this program permanent. And we will prioritize Canadian-made food as much as possible.*

**Question 2: Does your party commit to retaining and continuing to fund the Canada Child Benefit at the current rate or higher? If no, why?**

*The Liberal government introduced the Canada Child Benefit, which provides up to \$7,787 per child under six and \$6,570 per child aged six to 17. We will protect and deliver the Canada Child Benefit, which helps low- and middle-income families afford the costs of raising a child. Additionally, we will also expand automatic tax filing, which will help reach even more beneficiaries eligible for the Canada Child Benefit.*

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**Question 3:** Does your party commit to the creation of a Canada Mental Health Transfer or some other transformative mental health fiscal transfer provided directly to provinces and territories? If yes, please provide details.

*The Liberal Party of Canada will protect public health care and make it better for all Canadians. This includes expanding the availability of mental health care, through a number of measures such as:*

- *Providing 100,000 young people a year with mental health care by establishing a permanent \$150 million per year Youth Mental Health Fund. This fund will enhance community-based mental health services and give access to mental health care to people who otherwise would not, improving the lives of young people, and the friends and families that love them.*
- *Providing urgent and immediate support to address the overdose crisis by adding \$500 million to the Emergency Treatment Fund to support municipalities, Indigenous Peoples, and community health care organizations to confront the toxic drug and overdose crisis and connect more people to treatment and vital services, faster.*
- *Building hospitals, clinics, and more by investing \$4 billion to construct and renovate community health care infrastructure. This will also support investments in public long-term care; improve access to team-based care, including mental health care services; and provide funding for expensive machinery like MRIs.*
- *Investing in deeply affordable housing, supportive housing, and shelters in recognition of the link between housing and mental health outcomes. We will do this through \$6 billion invested in the new Build Canada Homes (BCH) which will build and acquire housing. This investment builds on the Rapid Housing Initiative which supported 15,000 homes for our most vulnerable, including projects like Dunn House in Toronto, Canada's first-ever social medicine supportive housing initiative. We will continue to work with partners to deliver projects that recognize the link between housing and health outcomes.*
- *Continuing to fund the 9-8-8 suicide crisis helpline which responded to over 300,000 calls and texts in its first year. People need help but it can be hard to ask, especially when you are struggling. Every call this line takes, every message they respond to, is there to support people in crisis and offer help without judgement.*
- *Adding thousands of new doctors to Canada's health care system by working with the provinces and territories and Indigenous Peoples.*

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**Question 4:** Does your party commit to investing in green infrastructure, investing in renewable energy, training for the clean energy transition, and ensuring that environmental considerations and conditions are placed on all future federal spending? If yes, please provide details. If no, why?

*The Liberal Party of Canada recognizes that investing in sustainability will make us stronger, which is why our platform contains numerous measures aimed at ensuring Canada becomes a leader in clean growth. These include:*

- *Kickstarting the clean energy supply chain by investing in critical minerals and attracting investment in critical minerals to get them from “rock to road” faster, support early-stage mining companies, and support thousands of jobs across the supply chain. To get the vital components needed to build Canada strong, we will:*
  - *Directly support clean energy and critical mineral projects through the FLMF, reducing our reliance on other countries and protecting Canadian jobs. This will include supporting on-site development, processing, and refining capacity.*
  - *Connect critical mineral projects to supply chains through a new First and Last Mile Fund (FLMF). This will make more projects viable and create a more integrated and accessible Canadian economy.*
  - *Accelerate exploration and extraction, including investing in prospecting activities and recovering valuable minerals from end-of-life products like mining waste and batteries, contributing to a circular economy.*
- *Investing in ourselves by providing funding for projects of national and economic significance and leveraging the Canada Growth Fund to accelerate private investment in Canadian critical minerals projects. This will deliver strong value for taxpayers and make Canada an even more attractive market for investments, and fulfill Canada’s ambitions to be a clean energy superpower.*
- *Expanding Canada’s electric vehicle (EV) charging network by supporting the building of thousands of new stations by 2027. We will also look at ways to reintroduce a purchase incentive worth up to \$5,000 that supports Canadian workers and strengthens our domestic supply chains.*
- *Examining measures to reduce Canada’s reliance on imported clean fuels as part of our plan to support Canadian farmers and businesses.*
- *Launching a new training and upskilling benefit worth up to \$15,000 for workers in the middle of their careers. This will help Canadians be ready for jobs in the clean economy.*
- *Establishing a Youth Climate Corps pilot which will provide paid skills training for young Canadians to quickly respond to climate emergencies, support recovery, and strengthen resilience in communities across the country. This is our moment to act boldly, prepare for the emergencies we know are coming, and empower the next generation to lead the fight for our future.*

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- *The sustainable transition in Canada must also be founded on strong partnerships with Indigenous Peoples. Our transition must proceed in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples — not just respecting them but also ensuring they share in the benefits. We will invest in community capacity so that Indigenous communities can benefit from the development of sustainable major projects.*

**Question 5:** What role do you see the federal government playing in strengthening public education across Canada? While public education is primarily the responsibility of provincial and territorial governments, policies that impact taxation and criminal code changes as well as investments in social care and infrastructure that impact students, teachers, and their families are areas we would like to hear about.

*Canada's educational institutions are the foundation on which our shared prosperity is built. We need to protect our social infrastructure so that current and future generations can benefit from the strength of these systems. The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to protecting and expanding Canada's social infrastructure, including in education and skills training, social care and other areas that impact students, teachers, families and communities.*

*We will:*

- *Launch a new training and upskilling benefit worth up to \$15,000 for workers in the middle of their careers.*
- *Provide a new Apprenticeship Grant of up to \$8,000 for registered apprentices.*
- *Provide funding and expand the mandates, where appropriate, for the Student Work Placement Program, the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS), Canada Summer Jobs, and the Canadian Service Corps.*
- *Make generational housing investments to double the pace of construction and drive down the cost of homes, rent, and mortgage payments. The high cost of housing has become a barrier to opportunity for too many young Canadians and this plan will help restore the bargain that hard work helps you afford a home.*

*We will protect K-12 education on-reserve so that more First Nations kids can go to school surrounded by their language, culture, and communities. We will also accelerate funding for access to post-secondary education so more First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students can go to college, and universities and invest in associated infrastructure so that cost is not the barrier and invest in Indigenous-led post-secondary education institutions such as the Inuit Nunangat University and the First Nations University.*

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*We will invest in education to support our two official languages, English and French. We will promote French-language educational pursuits across Canada by collaborating with provinces and territories to invest in educational and community spaces, such as early learning and child care that serve official language minority communities; creating a scholarship for Francophone students who continue their post-secondary studies in French in a minority context.*

**Question 6:** Would your party consider creating a federal minister of education that works with provinces and territories to improve the quality of public education across Canada? If no, why?

*A Mark Carney-led Liberal government will be committed to driving outcomes that matter to Canadians, including ensuring our social system is as strong as can be. We will work with the provinces and territories to ensure that all Canadian institutions can deliver for Canadians.*

**Question 7:** Tell us about any of your party's policies that you believe align with the CTF/FCE's election priorities regarding 1) eliminating child poverty 2) investing in mental health 3) taking decisive action on climate change and preparing for a more climate resilient future?

*Canada is strongest when we are united - our plan will build Canada Strong through investments that grow our economy and ensure that we can protect our way of life — our public health care, our natural heritage and environment, our official languages, our culture.*

*Under the previous Liberal government, we made significant progress combating child poverty through the introduction of the Canada Child Benefit. New benefits like the Canada Dental Care Plan and National Pharmacare will expand our ability to help families and make life more affordable, which will benefit children. Today, more than 900,000 children are receiving high-quality care through our investments in Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care. A new Liberal government will protect and expand these programs, while taking further action to help children and families.*

*Our investments in the \$10-a-day Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) system will create 100,000 new spaces by 2031. It will also create more well-paying jobs for ELCC providers. And we will work with provinces and territories to link new housing developments and community infrastructure with childcare centres.*

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*Through the Middle Class Tax Cut, we will reduce the marginal tax rate on the lowest tax bracket by 1 percentage point which will save dual-income families \$825 per year. We will also make life more affordable through investments in housing, funding home retrofits and lowering energy bills, and making the National School Food Program permanent.*

*We will invest in and expand access to mental health care, including through a permanent Youth Mental Health Fund; adding \$500 million to the Emergency Treatment Fund, to support municipalities, Indigenous Peoples, and community health care organizations to confront the toxic drug and overdose crisis and connect more people to treatment and vital services, faster; Invest in deeply affordable housing, supportive housing, and shelters in recognition of the link between housing and mental health outcomes; and continue to fund the 9-8-8 suicide crisis helpline which responded to over 300,000 calls and texts in its first year.*

*A Mark Carney-led Liberal government will take decisive action to recognize the opportunity for Canada to be a world leader in clean energy and clean growth. This includes investing in major projects, such as critical minerals and new energy transmission lines, as well as in people, through skills training and apprenticeship programs. We will also work to protect nature, including by launching the Canadian Nature Protection Fund; investing in community resilience through investments in natural infrastructure like forested areas and wetlands; protecting our freshwater; and mapping Canada's geologically sensitive areas.*