



**CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS**
In business for your business.

Federal Election 2019: Party leaders' survey

We sent a survey questions to all six major federal parties, asking them to outline their vision for small business in Canada. Here are the unedited survey answers from the parties that responded as of October 17 (the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party, the NDP, the People's Party and the Bloc Québécois).

1. Vision: What is your vision for making Canada a place where entrepreneurs want to start and grow their business?

	<p>Canada's economy is strong and growing and Canada's entrepreneurs are creating jobs. In recent years, their hard work - and the hard work of the people who work for them - have helped push unemployment to historic lows, and given Canada a strong record of economic growth.</p> <p>From the coffee shop around the corner to the general store down the street, small businesses make our communities great places to live and work in. That's why we're going to make it easier and more affordable for you to start and grow your business.</p> <p>We cut the small business tax rate from 11% to 9% - saving businesses as much as \$7,500 a year. Canada now has the lowest small business rate in the G7. That's extra money in your pocket to reinvest in your business. And to make sure you can keep even more of your hard-earned money, we're cutting more fees and reducing red tape.</p> <p>We're also going to make it easier for you to access the money you need to turn your business ideas into reality. And to make sure you grow once you're up and running, we're going to make it easier for you to do business online so you can reach customers wherever they are. We believe in Canadian small business owners, which is why we're making sure you have the support you need to thrive.</p> <p>To help small and medium-sized businesses create jobs and grow their local economies, a re-elected Liberal government will stand up for Canadian entrepreneurs.</p> <p>Cutting fees and reducing red tape</p> <p>We want business owners to spend more on their business and less on fees. To help, we will eliminate the "swipe fee" on HST and GST that merchants must pay to credit card companies every time a credit card is swiped. According to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, this will save businesses nearly \$500 million a year in fees.</p>
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We will cut the cost of federal incorporation by 75 per cent, to \$50 from \$200. We will eliminate all fees from the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), Export Development Canada (EDC), and Farm Credit Canada, for business advisory services like mentorship and training to business owners.

We will implement a voluntary, real-time payroll system to automate records of employment so that small businesses no longer have to submit detailed records to Service Canada.

Helping entrepreneurs start, grow, and renew their businesses

We want to make it easier for business owners to have access to money to help grow their business.

We will create the Canada Entrepreneur Account — providing up to 2,000 entrepreneurs a year with as much as \$50,000 to launch a new business. The program will operate initially as a pilot project for the first 3 years.

Making it easier for small and medium-sized businesses to trade and do business online

We want to make sure Canadian businesses can grow where their consumers are. In a digital economy, this means having a strong presence on the web and constantly looking for new markets.

To help owners do more business online, we will provide every new business with a \$250 voucher in support services, such as developing your website or creating e-commerce platforms, from leading Canadian service providers.

But even at a time of record-low unemployment, the changing nature of work can make finding and keeping a good job a challenge. That's why we will give working Canadians the help they need to get ahead and keep our economy moving forward. First and foremost, to help every Canadian cover their most basic needs, a re-elected Liberal government will put more money in the pockets of Canadians who need it most by lowering taxes - we will raise the Basic Personal Amount (a level of income on which no tax is collected) to \$15,000 by 2023-24. From there, our platform commits to giving further help to long-term workers who are laid off, helping workers get the skills they need to succeed, and strengthening employment benefits. We will do this while also maintaining a sharp focus on helping Canada's entrepreneurs succeed and grow their businesses.

These commitments are in the context of an ambitious plan for innovation advanced by our government. This includes historic levels of funding for the innovation ecosystem, such as superclusters and the largest funding boost to fundamental science in Canada's history. We have also made strong commitments to the NRC and its work with small businesses, increasing government procurement opportunities for entrepreneurs, supporting female innovators and venture capitalists, advancing understanding and protection of IP, opening global markets through free trade along with a new export diversification strategy, supporting our students at home and abroad, and more. A re-elected Liberal government will always remain a collaborative partner to Canada's innovation ecosystem and the entrepreneurs, business owners, innovators, and experts who are critical to Canada's overall economic success.



Repeal Justin Trudeau’s Tax Increases

To ensure hardworking small business owners are not punished for investing in their business or saving for their retirement, we will repeal Justin Trudeau’s tax increases by restoring access to the small business deduction for those companies targeted by Trudeau. In Canada, 8.3 million people are employed by small businesses. A new Conservative government will make sure our small business owners can get ahead and keep driving our economy into the future. Trudeau promised that passive investments currently held by small businesses would be grandfathered in under the new rules. He broke that promise when he brought in this new tax on their savings.

Exempt Spouses from Justin Trudeau’s Tax Increases on Family Businesses

To recognize the contributions and sacrifices that families make to running a business, we will exempt spouses from Justin Trudeau’s new rules that impose significant tax increases on dividends for the partners of hardworking business owners. The contributions of a spouse to a business cannot simply be measured in investments of time and money.

Tax System Overhaul will address transfers of family businesses

To make Canada’s tax system more competitive and fair, we will appoint an expert panel to undertake a comprehensive, system-wide review. The panel will review Canada’s innovation programs to make recommendations to improve Canada’s competitiveness to attract more jobs and investment. The tax review will examine whether innovation programs (such as SR&ED) support Canadian companies that provide benefits, profits, and patents that stay in Canada. If an innovation program benefits the subsidiaries of foreign multinationals, then we will consider how they could be refocused. The expert panel will also look at policies to strengthen Canada’s ability to capitalize on intangibles, like intellectual property, and improve incentives to encourage more businesses to patent their innovative ideas. As part of this review, we would also examine the rule that makes it easier to transfer a farm to a stranger rather than a family member.



Small and medium-sized businesses are the economic lifeblood of our country. They create good jobs in our communities and they drive innovation at every level of our economy. These business owners work hard to grow their companies and they need a government that’s on their side and in it for them. Jagmeet Singh will fight for their priorities and their workers, instead of billionaires and big corporations.

New Democrats also agree that it should be easier for the family business to be passed on to future generations. That’s why a New Democrat government will introduce legislation to finally to end the unfair tax treatment of family transfers of small businesses. We’ve also heard from business owners that one of the biggest hurdles to growth is accessing new markets. To better help Canadian small business get their products and services to market we’ll also streamline access to government export services, that’s currently clunky and hard to navigate, and make it simpler to break into foreign markets.



A Peoples’ Party of Canada government will

- Eliminate all corporate subsidies and other inefficient government interventions (bailouts of failing companies, regional development grants,

	<p>conditional loans and loan guarantees with an implicit subsidy, tax credits, etc.) that unfairly support some companies or business sectors. This will generate savings of between \$5 billion and \$10 billion a year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Gradually reduce over the course of one mandate the corporate income tax rate from its current 15% down to 10%. When completed, this measure will make about \$9.5 billion available to businesses, allowing them to increase salaries or invest in productivity improvements.* · Over the course of one mandate, gradually abolish the personal capital gains tax by decreasing the inclusion rate from the current 50% down to 0%. When completed, this measure will put about \$7 billion per year back into the pockets of Canadians.*
	<p>The Bloc Québécois intends to promote small business succession and abolish tax rules that stand in the way of passing small businesses down to the next generation. Xavier Barsalou Duval, Member for Pierre-Boucher-Les Patriotes-Verchères, tabled Bill C-275, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (business transfer), before the election.</p>

2. Tax Burden: What is your plan to improve the fiscal environment for small businesses?

	<p>Our government cut the small business tax rate from 11% to 9%, making Canada’s small business tax rate the lowest in the G7. In addition, we have taken a wide range of other steps to make it easier to start and grow a business in Canada (please see Q1 in survey).</p> <p>At the same time, we believe strongly in the need to protect workers and ensure all Canadians have a secure retirement.</p> <p>We will always work to find a balanced approach between supporting businesses and economic growth, as well as protecting workers. These two objectives go hand-in-hand and are critical to the long-term success of our economy.</p>
	<p>On halting or slowing CPP increases, we cannot commit to a policy that requires approval of two thirds of the provinces with 60% of the population, which is what is required to modify the CPP Act.</p> <p>Instead, we have focused on things we can absolutely do for business like a 25% reduction in federal regulation, repealing Justin Trudeau’s tax changes, tax reform and bringing in more skilled workers.</p>
	<p>Small businesses are the engine of job creation in Canada and an important part of every community across the country. Small businesses need a government that helps them access the services and infrastructure they need to thrive and expand, while investing in a healthy and talented workforce. That’s exactly what Jagmeet Singh’s New Deal for People will deliver for business owners during in our term in government. We’ll keep small business taxes fair while ensuring that the richest Canadians and biggest corporations finally pay their fair share as well. To make life more affordable for small business owners our plan for public, universal pharmacare will also save businesses approximately \$600 per employee with extended health benefits every year.</p>
	<p>We have no specific proposal on these issues.</p>
	<p>We will not reduce access to Employment Insurance, nor will we reduce CPP/QPP contributions.</p> <p>Nevertheless, we do intend to help businesses by implementing the following measures to reduce the labour shortage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income tax credit for recent graduates and immigrants who take jobs outside urban centres • Income tax credit for employers to cover training and retraining costs for workers aged 65 and older who wish to remain in the workforce,

	<p>as well as access to increased employment income for seniors without affecting their Guaranteed Income Supplement benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incentives to support the employment of Indigenous people (transportation, accommodation)• Letting Quebec manage the Temporary Foreign Worker Program
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3. Red Tape: What is your plan to reduce the overall paper burden and to improve the services (quality/ time/cost) the government provides to small businesses?

	<p>Red Tape</p> <p>We have a strong record on addressing red tape. Under our government, we have cut administrative burdens, reducing 5 times more regulations for businesses than the Conservatives did. We also committed to further reduce burden on small businesses, including an annual modernization bill and the establishment of an External Advisory Committee on Regulatory Competitiveness. Please also see Q1 in survey.</p> <p>Free Trade Within Canada</p> <p>We will take bold steps to make free trade within Canada a reality. Across Canada, the livelihoods of millions of workers depend on the good trade deals we have negotiated with our trading partners. And while Canada is a leader when it comes to international trade – we are the only G7 country to have free trade agreements with all other G7 nations – there is still more work to be done to make sure people and businesses benefit from greater trade right here at home.</p> <p>Building on 2017’s Canadian Free Trade Agreement and more recent efforts to break down the barriers that limit trade between provinces and territories, we will move forward with new collaborative rules to streamline trade by promoting mutual recognition of standards from coast to coast to coast. This could mean, for example, that a professional who is licensed in one province is more easily able to work or practice in another.</p> <p>We will assert federal jurisdiction where needed, to help move forward with free trade within Canada, and will create a Canada Free Trade Tribunal to hear, investigate, and help resolve cases where domestic trade barriers may exist.</p>
	<p>Reduce Red Tape for All Businesses</p> <p>To make it easier for job creators to succeed, a new Conservative government will reduce the regulatory burden by 25 per cent over our four-year mandate. We will set targets for each minister and each department. To get there, we will implement a 2-for-1 rule whereby the government would have to get rid of two regulations before imposing any new one. This will help to lower unnecessary costs for entrepreneurs and to make it easier to start and run a business.</p> <p>The Canadian Chamber of Commerce found that there were 131,754 regulations on the federal books in 2015. The Montreal Economic Institute found that they now number 136,000, an increase of 4,300 since Justin Trudeau became Prime Minister. These federal regulations are on top of hundreds of thousands of provincial rules and red tape, many of which are duplicated at the federal level.</p>

	<p>To lead government-wide regulatory reduction, we will assign responsibility for red tape reduction to a minister reporting directly to the Prime Minister. This will help to ensure that we meet our red tape reduction targets and eliminate, where possible, regulatory discrepancies and duplication with the provinces. We will call on experts from the private sector, individuals who truly understand the administrative burden of these regulations, to support the cost-benefit analysis.</p> <p>Furthermore, we will mandate all ministers and regulators to support innovation, economic growth, and competitiveness.</p>
	<p>New Democrats believe that small businesses should have access to all the support they need to grow, innovate and stay competitive in Canada and around the world. That’s why we have stood up for lower small-business taxes, opposed unfair merchant fees, and continue to fight to make it easier to pass on small businesses to the next generation. In government, New Democrats will keep working hard for small businesses to tackle issues that impact their bottom line, like high credit-card merchant fees. We’ll also provide small and medium-sized businesses with a single point of contact to help ease regulatory processes and support compliance - freeing up time for entrepreneurs to invest in growing their business.</p>
	<p>The PPC leader Maxime Bernier was minister of state for small business when the Red Tape Reduction Commission submitted its report and the government implemented its “one-for-one” rule. Our party is committed to expanding it and adopting more ambitious measures to slash bureaucratic regulation affecting businesses.</p> <p>A People’s Party of Canada government will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Reassert the authority and leadership of the federal government on internal trade. · Use section 91(2) of the Constitution, which gives Ottawa exclusive power to regulate matters of international and interprovincial trade, to force provinces to apply the principle of mutual recognition where applicable. This principle means that if a worker, product or service meets regulatory standards in one province, then other provinces will trust that they meet their own standards. · Appoint a Minister of Internal Trade whose sole responsibility will be to conduct studies, raise public awareness, counteract the influence of special interests that benefit from interprovincial barriers, and put pressure on provincial governments to get rid of them.
	<p>We want to implement a single income tax report, wholly managed by the Quebec government. We also want to eliminate redundancies between the federal government and the provinces by letting provinces manage all programs.</p>

4. Environment: How are you planning to address environmental issues while supporting the growth of small businesses?

	<p>Climate change is having a serious and irreversible effect on people, on our communities, and on our economy. We can't afford half-measures or a wait-and-see approach.</p> <p>That's why, starting this year, it is no longer free to pollute anywhere in Canada. We put a price on pollution to help reduce emissions, and introduced a new rebate system that puts more money back in the pockets of Canadians, the consumers for Canadian SMEs.</p> <p>In addition, in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick support is being provided to small and medium-sized businesses, such as restaurant owners, farmers, truck drivers, and convenience and grocery store owners. Specifically, these businesses could be eligible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refunds between 25% and 50% on the cost of new energy-saving equipment -such as appliances, which could include appliances, heating and cooling equipment, anti-idling devices and high efficiency boilers; • Funding of up to 25% of eligible costs for energy-efficient retrofits and other projects to improve energy efficiency, reduce their energy use and save money. <p>These investments will help make small and medium-sized businesses more productive and competitive as they reduce their energy costs.</p> <p>We also established an External Advisory Committee, which will provide practical advice to help refine and improve the ongoing delivery of Climate Action Incentive Fund programs for small and medium-sized businesses.</p>
	<p>Done. The first bill passed by a new Conservative Government will be an Act to Repeal the Carbon Tax.</p> <p>Furthermore, we have a real plan to protect our environment that focusses on green technology, not taxes, promotes a cleaner and greener natural environment, and takes the climate change fight global. More information can be found at arealplan.ca.</p>
	<p>Canadians expect that their governments take the climate crisis seriously and that we take real concrete action to fight back. Jagmeet Singh's New Deal for People ends empty Liberal promises and moves forward on protecting our land, our air, and our water, while creating over 300,000 good new jobs in the process. Our plan will provide small business owners new opportunities in everything from green energy retrofits and home construction to solar panel installation, to manufacturing and everything else in between. As we work to grow our economy and invest in the services that make life better for everyday families, we'll continue to work with small and medium business owners to ensure they're getting the support they need to grow and thrive as well. Because we're in it for you.</p>

	<p>A People's Party government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Withdraw from the Paris Accord and abandon unrealistic greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. · Stop sending billions of dollars to developing countries to help them reduce their emissions. · Abolish the Liberal government's carbon tax and leave it to provincial governments to adopt programs to reduce emissions if they want to. · Abolish subsidies for green technology and let private players develop profitable and efficient alternatives. · Invest in adaptation strategies if problems arise as a result of any natural climate change.
	<p>We want to green the equalization payment system. We also want to support innovation and promote a green economy by investing in R&D. We are convinced that innovation—not oil and fossil fuels—is the way forward. We want to create an energy efficiency commercial renovation program with an annual budget of \$400 million.</p>

5. Labour Shortage: What is your plan to address the shortage of skilled and unskilled labour?



To help give people the time and money they need to keep their skills relevant and in-demand, we will move forward with the Canada Training Benefit, which gives workers money to help pay for training, provides income support during training, and will also offer job protection so that workers can take the time they need for training, knowing they will have a job to come back to when their training is done. This will help allow employers to focus resources on their priorities and ensure that workers remain updated on their skills throughout their careers, increasing productivity.

We also recognize that many small businesses rely on apprentices to operate and grow their businesses, in sectors as diverse as construction, transportation and food services.

We will help Red Seal apprentices get the work experience they need to finish their certification and find good, well-paying jobs.

People in the skilled trades are a vital part of our economy – helping to build our homes, feed our families, and keep our communities powered and moving – but too often, apprentices miss out on good jobs because they can't get the job experience they need to complete their training on time.

Today, only one out of five Red Seal apprentices is able to complete their certification on time, with the lack of stable jobs cited as the most common reason. This is true even for trades where workers typically earn more than \$100,000 per year.

To give apprentices more certainty and more opportunities to gain work experience, we will move forward with creating the Canadian Apprenticeship Service, in partnership with provinces, territories, employers, and unions. With this new help, apprentices who enter the Red Seal trades can be more confident about the future, knowing that jobs will be available when they need them.

To support this effort, we will work with our partners to create more opportunities, providing up to \$10,000 per apprentice, over four years, for every new position created. This investment will help 12,500 more apprentices finish their training on time, which in turn will help provide the qualified workforce that small businesses need to operate and grow.

To keep our economy strong and growing, we will move forward with modest and responsible increases to immigration, with a focus on welcoming highly skilled people who can help build a stronger Canada.

To make sure that communities of all sizes are better able to attract and support new Canadians, we will move forward with a Municipal Nominee Program. This program will allow local communities, chambers of commerce, and local labour councils to directly sponsor permanent immigrants.

To continue to support greater immigration and economic growth across Atlantic Canada, we will move forward with making the Atlantic Immigration Pilot permanent.

	<p>A minimum of 5,000 of the new spaces will be dedicated to each of the Municipal Nominee Program and the Atlantic immigration stream.</p>
	<p>Attract the Best and Brightest</p> <p>To match prospective immigrants with jobs in Canada and to help Canadian employers fill skills shortages, we will reverse Justin Trudeau’s policy decision to reduce the number of points awarded for a job offer under the Express Entry Program. We will restructure the program to better match its original intent, attracting the world’s best and brightest to help our industries succeed. A new Conservative government will also work to keep the best and brightest talent in Canada after they finish university. International students educated in Canada are ideal candidates to help fill gaps in the Canadian job market. We will prepare and implement a plan to match students with jobs, focusing on high-demand skills.</p> <p>Help Businesses Fill in Their Skills Gaps</p> <p>To help businesses fill vacancies that cannot be filled by Canadians, we will rework the Temporary Foreign Workers Program to better align it with domestic needs. We will certainly welcome input from CFIB on how to improve the TFW program.</p> <p>To reduce duplication and ease the application process, we will create a trusted employer system so that companies do not have to constantly re-apply to the program. We will establish clear standards and timelines for Labour Market Impact Assessment processes and revise the zoning regions to make sure rural areas and tourism hotspots are not lumped into large geographic areas with urban hubs.</p> <p>To ensure that those who enter Canada as low-skilled workers, as justified by concrete labour market data, are treated fairly, we will establish a path to permanence by allowing employers to sponsor applications for permanent residency. Immigration is good for the economy, good for jobs, and good for people who have chosen to come to Canada.</p> <p>We will continue to monitor the Temporary Foreign Workers Program to ensure that it is achieving its intended results: supporting Canadian businesses with genuine labour needs, while also ensuring that Canadians get the first crack at jobs in our country.</p> <p>Prepare Canadians Today, for the Jobs of Tomorrow</p> <p>To make sure that Canadians receive the best advice, skills training, and employment assistance, we will establish success measures for the hundreds of millions of dollars that the Government of Canada currently spends to prepare Canadians for the workforce.</p> <p>A new Conservative government will work with colleges and universities to make sure courses, programs, and academic curricula reflect the demands of today’s labour market so that we are setting our students up for success.</p>
	<p>New Democrats have always been on the side of workers and we’ve always been in it for them, but we’re in it for small business owners as well. We</p>

	<p>know that one of the best ways to address the labour shortage many industries are facing is by ensuring our workers are trained in the skills they need to match the jobs that are available. We're committed to working with the provinces to ensure that Canadians have access to education throughout their professional lives, including proactive training and retraining, as well as support when they are unemployed. Our vision is one where training opportunities are flexible enough to work with people's busy lives, and significant enough to really improve job prospects.</p> <p>We also know that cities and towns in rural, remote, and northern Canada face unique labour shortages that require unique solutions. That's why Jagmeet Singh's New Deal for workers and businesses also ensures that these communities have the support they need to retain families, attract workers, and stop out-migration. A New Democrat government will put in place a new tax credit for graduates to work in designated rural and Northern communities, and make it easier for employers to hire and retain the workers they need.</p>
	<p>A People's Party government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantially lower the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accept every year, from 350,000 to between 100,000 and 150,000, depending on economic and other circumstances. • Reform the immigration point system and the related programs to accept a larger proportion of economic immigrants with the right skills. • Accept fewer resettled refugees and limit the number of immigrants accepted under the family reunification program, including abolishing the program for parents and grand-parents. • Limit the number of temporary foreign workers and make sure that they fulfil temporary positions and do not compete unfairly with Canadian workers.
	<p>We will not reduce access to Employment Insurance, nor will we reduce CPP/QPP contributions.</p> <p>Nevertheless, we do intend to help businesses by implementing the following measures to reduce the labour shortage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income tax credit for recent graduates and immigrants who take jobs outside urban centres • Income tax credit for employers to cover training and retraining costs for workers aged 65 and older who wish to remain in the workforce, as well as access to increased employment income for seniors without affecting their Guaranteed Income Supplement benefits • Incentives to support the employment of Indigenous people (transportation, accommodation) • Letting Quebec manage the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

6. Deficit - How are you planning to address the growing budget deficit?

	<p>We cut the small business tax rate from 11% to 9% - saving businesses as much as \$7,500 a year. Canada now has the lowest small business rate in the G7. That's extra money in your pocket to reinvest in your business.</p> <p>Our net debt-to-GDP ratio is on a downward track, and we have laid out a new fiscal track that will see this fiscal anchor continue to decline even further.</p> <p>That puts Canada in an enviable position, especially compared to other G7 countries. Our net debt-to GDP ratio is less than half of the EU average, and less than a third of where the United States is right now.</p> <p>That relatively low level of debt is a serious competitive advantage.</p> <p>In addition, we are also one of only two G7 countries to have a AAA rating by all three of the major international credit rating agencies.</p> <p>Our government is fully committed to maintaining that advantage in an increasingly volatile and unpredictable world.</p>
	<p>Balance the Budget Within Five Years</p> <p>To lower your taxes and put more money in your pocket so you can get ahead, a new Conservative government will balance the budget on a responsible timeline of five years. We will reduce Canada's foreign aid by 25 per cent, cut wasteful spending on high-priced consultants and empty office space, and control spending and invest infrastructure money on a responsible and structured timeline.</p>
	<p>Jagmeet Singh's new Deal for People puts forward a plan that finally invests in the services and supports that everyday families deserve. Our investments won't just boost the economy and expand our labour force, they'll create good jobs in everything from health care to energy. Our plan uses Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) costing and analysis, and focuses on making the types of investments that have been ignored for years. In all cases, we will manage debt and deficits responsibly, borrowing when required to defend the services that Canadians and their families rely on, and moving to balance when prudent. By carefully focusing on Canadians' priorities and showing the courage to raise fair progressive revenues from those at the top, our fiscal approach ensures that Canada's debt-to-GDP ratio falls over our 10-year fiscal horizon. Canada's long-run finances will be fiscally sustainable according to the PBO's fiscal sustainability measures. Further, by assisting the provinces in areas from pharmacare to child care, we will help to relieve the fiscal sustainability squeeze impacting the vast majority of Canadian provinces.</p>
	<p>People's Party government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get rid of the deficit in two years through spending cuts and fiscal prudence. Spending cuts will include: corporate welfare (\$5B-\$10B),

	<p>foreign development aid (\$5B), CBC (\$1B), equalization payments, and funding for programs which are provincial or municipal responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop using our tax system for political ends and make it simpler and fairer. In particular, it will eliminate targeted tax measures that are inefficient and serve no compelling public policy purpose. • Cut personal income taxes after the deficit has been eliminated, over the course of several budgets, as the fiscal room is found to allow it. The objective will be to lower taxes for all Canadians by raising the basic personal exemption to \$15,000 (from \$12,069 in 2019) and reducing the number of tax brackets from five to two, with incomes from \$15,001 to \$100,000 taxed at 15%, and income over \$100,000 taxed at 25%. • Over the course of one mandate, gradually abolish the personal capital gains tax by decreasing the inclusion rate from the current 50% down to 0%.
	<p>We recognize the importance of returning to a balanced budget. However, the PBO has published studies on the financial health of the provinces in which he warned that the status of the provinces is not viable in the long term if nothing is done, whereas the federal government has always been viable. The debt to GDP ratio continues to decrease, although a financial crisis could shake things up. What we propose is to increase transfers to provinces, especially in health care and post secondary education, since the provinces bear the cost of these ever increasing amounts.</p>