

**YOUR BALLOT**

**YOUR PLANET**

## 10 Questions to Ask Your Candidates this Federal Election

Election season is upon us, and Canadians are understandably concerned about tariffs, Trump and Canada's sovereignty. While those threats are real, we also can't lose sight of the existential threat of climate change and the need to protect nature and our communities.

Over the last decade we have made considerable progress towards strengthening our environmental safety net to promote a healthy and sustainable Canada. **We cannot let special interests use the disruption being caused south of the border as an excuse to roll back the legal protections that keep us safe.**

We know it can be hard to keep track of various competing priorities and what experts say needs to be done to make progress on each. As environmental lawyers, we've got you covered. Candidate knocking at your door? Going to an all-candidates' debate? **Here are ten questions you can ask about where they and their parties sit on key priorities for climate, nature and communities.**

### CLIMATE CHANGE

- Is your party committed to a climate target that is consistent with a climate-safe world, and does it have a credible plan for meeting that target?
- If elected, would your government cap oil and gas sector emissions to ensure its outsized emissions do not derail our much-needed climate action?
- Would your government ensure that polluters pay for their greenhouse gas pollution, by either strengthening the industrial carbon levy or replacing it with a sector-wide cap-and-trade program?

### NATURE

- If elected, would your government enact a nature accountability law to ensure that Canada makes good on its international commitment to halt and reverse nature loss?

### INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND INDIGENOUS-LED CONSERVATION

- If elected, will your government support Indigenous-led conservation, including by working with Indigenous nations to support Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) and Guardians Programs and to build co-governance frameworks?

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### **INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND INDIGENOUS-LED CONSERVATION (cont'd)**

- If elected, will your government be committed to taking all measures necessary to ensure that the laws of Canada are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including by respecting Indigenous self-determination and decision-making authority?

### **LOOKING BEFORE WE LEAP**

- If elected, will your government conduct rigorous, credible, transparent and participatory environmental impact assessments of projects to ensure they foster sustainability and work for communities?
- If elected, will your government cooperate with Indigenous nations to undertake forward-looking planning for watersheds to ensure the long-term health of species, places and waters?

### **OCEAN**

- If elected, will your government commit to ensuring Canada's coasts and ocean are protected through a national network of well-funded marine protected areas?
- Does your party commit to closing the loopholes on harmful shipping pollution, particularly from cruise ships?