



Yukon Federal Green Party Platform People

October 7, 2008

Vibrant communities are places where Yukoners know one another, streets are safe and friendly, and volunteerism is common, leading to feelings of affiliation, belonging, and empowerment.

All Green Party policies are based on the principles of respect:

- citizens have the power and government exists to serve them,
- government must work to help citizens to be informed and engaged,
- policies must be integrated, consistent and fiscally responsible.

As the Green Party MP for the Yukon I will

Close the Gap

Work toward a guaranteed annual income for all Canadians.

Eliminating poverty while supporting healthy communities will pay for itself in reduced health care costs as poverty is the single largest determinant of ill health. Eliminating poverty will pay for itself in reduced crime rates.

- Introduce a Genuine Progress Indicator, which measures well-being and quality of life indicators.
- Bring in income splitting and low-income support as part of our Green Tax Shift.
- Eliminate income tax for those earning \$20,000 or less.
- Ensure universal access to excellent childcare and early childhood education.
- Support parents who take time from their career for child rearing.
- Cut debt for post-secondary students through measures including a Canadian National Student Loan and Bursary Program. Forgive half the loan for students who complete degree or certificate programs.
- Expand industry-based job training and apprenticeship to reduce the shortage of trained workers.
- Ensure women's rights are respected. Enforce pay equity.
- Expand the rights of gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transsexual Canadians.
- Enhance support for disabled people.
- Increase Guaranteed Income Supplement for seniors by 25%.
- Create a National Affordable Housing Program that provides sufficient funds annually to community-based agencies across Canada.

John Streicker, Federal Election Campaign, Fall 2008

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First Nations

The disparity between First Nations and non-First Nations remains the biggest disparity in our society. It affects all Yukoners.

As the Green Party MP for the Yukon I will

- Sign the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Honour the Kelowna Accord
- Promote aboriginal culture, language and history as a fundamental source of Canadian identity.
- Assist the delivery of health care, education and other services in a way that incorporates traditional practices and recognizes the role of extended families and elders.
- Review the existing federal policy on self-government, in consultation with aboriginal representatives, to ensure that it is achieving the goals of aboriginal peoples.
- Assist Yukon First Nations in their current negotiations for sufficient implementation base funding.
- Insist that government live up to commitments (including consultation and accommodation) as made in the Final and self Government Agreements.
- Restart land claim negotiations with the Liard, Ross River Dene, and White River First Nations.

Health

Health is a state of physical, mental, and social well-being, not just the absence of disease.

- Protect our universal, single-payer public health care system and ensure it works well at disease prevention and treatment.
- Promote physical activity and healthy eating, and reduced exposure to Northern contaminants.
- Rebuild hospital capacity and make smarter use of it by increasing long-term-care facilities, as well as post-surgery recuperation outside of hospital, with access to nursing.
- Create a program to provide grants for palliative care hospices and guarantee the right to draw up a "living will".
- Develop, in collaboration with the territorial government, a set of home care objectives as part of a National Home Care Policy



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Justice

We would all like to feel safer on the streets and in our own homes. The first defense to reduce crime is to keep young people from becoming criminals.

As the Green Party MP for the Yukon I will

- Ensure funding resources are available for communities who wish to use restorative justice and community healing.
- Ensure meaningful, proportionate and appropriate responses are offered including increased reliance upon measures like justice circles and community service work facilitating restorative justice and community healing for relatively minor crimes as well as sometimes more serious consequences for serious, violent offences and tighter bail restrictions for serious, repeat offenders.
- Review the Young Offenders Act to ensure it is not an inducement to youth crime, while retaining its core principle, that youth should not be treated as hardened criminals.
- Work to create a gun registration system that is fair, free, and easy to use. We will eliminate registration fees and decriminalize registration for hunting rifles and ensure law-abiding citizens do not have their firearms confiscated.

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