

## Backgrounder—Platform Summary

### Smart Economy

- **Infrastructure investment where we need it.** Energy is about more than just where you get it. It's about how we move it around our community. Yukon's renewable energy needs to be expanded and our electrical grid needs to be improved to sustain our population and economic growth. The Green Party will invest in the infrastructure that keeps energy flowing from source to community to your home.
- **Green jobs.** Create thousands of jobs through investment in renewable energy, and retrofitting thousands of buildings to high standards for energy efficiency. This type of investment would improve Yukon's energy consumption, while creating jobs that locals can benefit from.
- **Smart economic stimulus.** Expand access to employment insurance for those who paid into it, while protecting the pensions of retired Canadians. Reduce EI and CPP contributions for businesses.
- **Get the prices right.** Yukon has legislation that protects taxpayers from falling into debt. The same commitment can be brought to Ottawa. We can avoid structural deficits, implement a revenue-neutral carbon pricing architecture to modernize our economy, and build a "Made in Canada" Green economy. This approach to finances and economic investment will help every region, including Yukon.
- **Fair global trade.** Trade is a part of a sustainable future only when it is fair for all. These are our values, as Yukoners, and they ought to be reflected in our national policies.

### Strong Communities

- **Help for married couples and families.** Every Yukoner should have the option to choose a lifestyle that suits their values and is sustainable.
  - Support for those who stay home to raise their children and support for those who need to get back to work while their kids are still young.
  - Fix the tax system. Lower income taxes and introduce full income splitting to reduce the tax burden on married couples and families.
  - Early childhood education. More workplace child care spaces.
- **Help for local governments.** Sustainable long-term funding support for municipalities to repair decades-old crumbling infrastructure. Yukon communities need federal help upgrading existing facilities, including

recreational facilities, water and waste water treatment and community housing.

- **Respect and support our elders.** Ensure secure pensions and provide programmes that address health – both physical and mental – and ensure dignity by stopping elder abuse and respecting living wills. Yukon’s population is aging and our elders and seniors deserve to be protected by their government.

## **True Democracy**

- **Respect First Nations.** Canada must move forward in implementing the spirit and intent of Self Governing Agreements and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In Yukon, that means investing in drinking water systems, housing and education. The Green Party believes all Canadians deserve a reasonable standard of living. For too long, we have failed to help First Nation leaders and citizens meet that basic, human rights goal.
- **Reform our voting system.** Hold a national discussion on the health of our democracy, address the growing and undemocratic power of the Prime Minister’s Office and explore the options for a more meaningful electoral system. Consider the risks of “first past the post” and vote on whether it should be replaced. Consider proportional representation.
- **Access to information.** Social justice and equity are cornerstones of democracy. Those cornerstones are best protected by openness and transparency.
- **Make poverty history.** Meet Canada’s commitments and push other nations to meet theirs in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In Yukon, that means looking in our own backyards and investing in our communities where poverty is all too persistent.

## Budget Overview

<b>All totals in \$Millions</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
<b>Status Quo</b>				
Budgetary Revenues	235,600	247,633	262,667	278,900
Program Expenditures	245,200	242,133	245,367	251,100
Public Debt Charges	29,400	33,300	36,300	37,500
Budgetary Balance (Deficit)	(39,000)	(27,800)	(19,000)	(9,700)
<b>Green Party Initiatives</b>				
Personal & Corporate Tax Cuts Funded by Carbon Pricing	-	0	0	0
Revenue Increases	-	6,519	(9,319)	10,686
Spending Expenditure Increases	-	3,869	5,276	6,517
Green Party lowers deficit by	-	2,649	4,043	4,168
<b>Budgetary Balance (including Green measures)</b>	<b>(39,000)</b>	<b>(25,151)</b>	<b>(14,957)</b>	<b>(5,532)</b>
<b>Federal Debt (including Green measures)</b>	<b>564,500</b>	<b>589,651</b>	<b>604,608</b>	<b>610,139</b>
<b>Percent of GDP (including green measures)</b>				
Budgetary Revenues	15.4%	14.9%	14.8%	14.9%
Program Expenditures	16.1%	14.5%	13.8%	13.3%
Public Debt Charges	1.9%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%
Budgetary Balance	-2.6%	-1.6%	-0.9%	-0.3%
Federal Debt (Debt to GDP Ratio)	37.0%	36.4%	35.2%	33.9%

## Budget Detail

<b>GP Budget Detail (All totals in \$Millions)</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
<b>Personal and Corporate Tax Cuts Funded by Pollution Charges</b>			
Adopt carbon pricing	33,832	34,446	34,557
Reduce EI and CPP contributions	(23,135)	(23,359)	(23,156)
Implement income splitting for all adults	(5,000)	(5,310)	(5,618)
Carbon pricing rebate	(5,075)	(5,167)	(5,184)
Eliminate personal income tax below the low income cut-off of 20,000	(623)	(611)	(599)
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Revenue Increases</b>			
Toxic tax	193	164	131
Cancel logging tax credit	5	5	5
Cancel Corporate mineral exploration tax credit	24	24	25
Close tax haven loopholes	1,216	1,216	1,216
Cancel scheduled corporate tax rate reductions	4,582	6,910	7,809
Legalize and tax marijuana	0	1,000	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>9,319</b>	<b>10,686</b>
<b>Spending Increases / Decreases</b>			
Eliminate subsidies on fossil fuels	-1,462	-1,491	-1,521
Cancel federal support for AECL research	-155	-155	-155
Reduce military spending to 2005 spending ratio and reorient to peacekeeping	-3,275	-3,083	-2,615
Stop federally funded GMO research	-101	-101	-101
Establish a national affordable housing program *	400	834	1,267
Reinvest in national rail systems	600	700	720
Invest in resources to prosecute white collar crime	180	180	180
Invest in national pharmacare	300	300	300
Municipal youth employment program	1,000	1,000	1,000
Municipal youth employment program tuition credit		160	160
Increase post secondary education bursaries	400	400	400
First Nations education, safe drinking water and improved housing *	800	800	800
Increase EcoEnergy home energy retrofit grants by 50%	400	600	600
Energy retrofit for low income housing *	150	150	150
Energy retrofit for municipal, university, schools and hospitals	200	200	200
National solar roof program	180	180	180
Create six municipal superfunds:			
- Community brownfield remediation	300	300	300
- Water and waste treatment facilities	600	600	600
- Sports, cultural and recreational facilities	300	300	300
- Mass transit promotion	700	700	700
- Cycling and pedestrian promotion	200	200	200
- Community housing *	300	300	300
Invest in early childhood education	500	700	1,000

Electrical grid upgrades	1,000	1,000	1,000
Provide stable base-funding for the CBC	100	150	200
Restore scientific capacity to the federal government	15	15	15
Transition to organic farming	75	175	175
Retraining of forestry workers and reforestation	95	95	95
Invest in wild fisheries and rivers	24	24	24
National campaign to discourage marijuana use (similar to anti-tobacco)	43	43	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>5,276</b>	<b>6,517</b>
<b>Green Party lowers deficit by</b>	<b>2,649</b>	<b>4,043</b>	<b>4,168</b>
* Note: these four items are part of the Green Party national affordable housing strategy			