



Labour

1. Does your party believe that unions play a positive role in our economy? If so, what policies will your party implement to create a climate that is easier for unions to organize?

○ Labor unions play an important role in our society standing up for the rights of the workers and advocating on their behalf to secure fair wages, benefits and better protections against workplace hazards, discrimination and harassment. Economic dignity is the centrepiece of Ontario Liberal Party's platform, *A Place to Grow*. Being able to organize and collectively bargain are critical Charter protected rights that allow people to work with dignity. An Ontario Liberal government will amend the Labour Relations Act and Employment Standards Act to make it easier for workers in the private sector to form unions.

2. What will your party do to create a living wage for all workers in the province?

○ An Ontario Liberal government will raise the minimum wage to \$16/hour effective January 1, 2023 and then consult broadly with workers, business owners and other relevant stakeholders including labor unions to create a dynamic, regionally-adjusted living wage structure recognizing that the cost of living is not the same across the province.

○ We will also introduce a portable benefits plan that will help any worker without access to workplace benefits to cover the cost of medicines, dental care, mental health care and vision care as well as other relevant additional services.

3. Will your party repeal Bill 124, and what actions will you take to protect free collective bargaining in the province of Ontario?"

○ Yes, we will repeal Bill 124 and parts of Bill 106 that undermine labor unions and collective agreements. We will freely negotiate with public sector workers in good faith and ensure that their Charter-protected rights are honoured.

Economics

4. According to opinion polls, a large majority of Ontarians support greater funding for social services like health care, childcare and education. Will your party commit to ensuring these programs are properly funded? What will you do to end tax dodging by the super rich and create a more progressive taxation system where corporations and the very wealthy pay more in taxes.

○ To make life more affordable, we will remove the provincial portion of the HST off of any prepared food that costs \$20 or less. We will pay for the policy by implementing a 1% surtax on highly-profitable companies operating in Ontario who earn more than \$1 billion a year. We will also introduce a new tax bracket for the 0.2% of Ontarians whose taxable income is over \$500,000 per year, which would be taxed at a rate of 15.16% – up 2% from the current rate.



- We will increase funding for our public health care system by \$3.5 billion annually, investing in a homecare guarantee, 20% increase in hospital capacity, ending for-profit long-term care, and a significant investment in mental health and addictions.
- We will increase funding for public education by \$2.7 billion annually to cap class sizes in all grades at 20 and hire new 5,000 special education professionals. We will introduce an optional Grade 13. We will eliminate interest on the provincial portion of OSAP loans and reverse Ford's cuts to OSAP.
- Our childcare plan will reduce the cost of childcare to \$10/day - including before and after school care - creating 30,000 new jobs for early childhood educators and saving parents \$10,000/year.

5. Will your party commit to fully returning Hydro One back to full public ownership and democratic control?

- We will renew the Ontario Electricity Rebate to keep hydro rates more affordable, which will continue to be independently regulated by the Ontario Energy Board. We will also reverse the cuts made by the Ford government to energy conservation programs as well as offer households grants up to \$3,000 annually to perform renovations and retrofits in their own homes so that they can be more energy efficient.

6. What actions will your party do to help eliminate speculation and real estate bubbles, and will you commit to building affordable public, social and cooperative housing that working people can afford?

- Our government will implement an empty homes tax of 5% of assessed value on non-Canadian owners and 2% for Canadian owners with vacant residential units in all urban areas – and any revenue raised will be spent on affordable housing.
- We will also work with our federal partners to ban new non-resident ownership in Ontario's housing market for at least the next four years.
- There are an estimated 250,000 new homes approved for construction that have not yet been built. We can't let land ready for new homes sit empty. To discourage delays, we'll introduce a new 'use it or lose it' levy on speculators with serviced land and approved building permits.
- We'll introduce meaningful legislation to stop money laundering especially as it relates to the housing market.
- We'll create a publicly accessible beneficial homeownership registry which will help crack down on bad actors, including for preconstruction condo sales to ensure condo flippers pay appropriate taxes.
- We are going to establish the Ontario Home Building Corporation, tasking it to work with local communities, not-for-profit housing partners and developers to build and maintain 138,000 affordable homes of all types, either as a primary financing source or builder. Within



these 138,000 deeply affordable homes – 78,000 will be social and community housing, 22,000 will be for Indigenous people and 38,000 will be supportive homes with wraparound services to prevent chronic homelessness.

- Any homes sold by the Corporation will be available only to first-time home buyers, and any proceeds will go directly back into creating more affordable homes.
- We will provide municipal and not-for-profit partners with \$360 million annual funding for operating social, community and supportive housing as well as \$100 million annually to apply a Housing First approach through emergency shelters.

Health Care

7. What policies will your party implement to ensure that health care in the province remains under public control and is accessible to everyone?

- The Conservative playbook has always been the same – starve public services with cuts, then call on the private sector to fix it. We’re seeing the same approach now with their calls for for-profit private hospitals to address the surgery backlog. Ontario Liberals believe in public health care. We’ll support the creation of not-for-profit surgery centres managed by local hospitals to more sustainably maintain higher surgical volumes.
- We will create 3,000 additional beds in hospitals, redevelop existing or build new hospitals across the province and establish 15 new community health centres.
- We will ensure access to primary care within 24 hours across the province. To do so, we will hire 100,000 healthcare workers and make the accreditation process for internationally trained medical graduates more efficient. We will also create 450 new medical school seats and residency spaces as well as increase enrolment in nursing programs by 10% resulting 2,000 additional nursing graduates being able to join the workforce.
- We will invest \$1 billion over the next 2 years to clear the surgical backlog empowering hospitals to operate significantly above pre-pandemic volumes and expand operating room, MRI and CT operations – including into evenings and weekends.
- We will invest \$3 billion over four years in mental healthcare and train 3,000 new mental healthcare workers to make mental healthcare more accessible.

8 Will your party commit to creating a publicly administered, universal home care system in Ontario?

- We’ll guarantee homecare for any senior who needs it. We’ll do so by increasing the annual budget for home and community care by over \$2 billion through 10% annual increases with a focus on front-line non-profit care, resulting in 400,000 more seniors able to get not-for-profit home care by 2026.



- We will make Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit permanent so that seniors can renovate their homes to make them safer and accessible allowing them to stay at home longer and age with dignity.
- We will create 15,000 assisted living spaces – including small, accessible and community based residential services – as well as “hub and spoke” care that provides a comprehensive continuum of care.
- We will end for-profit long-term care by 2028 by no longer renewing licenses for for-profit long-term care homes, as well as by negotiating and financing the transfer of existing homes to not-for-profit entities and municipalities.
- We will create 30,000 new long-term care spaces to be operated under not-for-profit model and redevelop 28,000 existing LTC spaces. We'll provide capital, operating and governance support to non-profit groups that want to build long-term care homes, with an emphasis on building smaller homes that reflect their communities, rather than institutional warehouses.
- We'll give funds to non-profit long-term care homes to provide at least an average of four hours of direct care per day, as well as provide pharmacy services, high-speed wi-fi, air conditioning and other standards of excellent care.

9. Will your party commit to creating a universal Pharmacare program in the province that will guarantee coverage for all Ontarians?

- We will advocate with our federal partners for a national pharmacare plan. In the meantime, we'll ensure all Ontarians have access to prescription drug coverage by enrolling anyone without an employer benefits plan in our new portable benefits plan – including self-employed, gig, contract and creative workers. Anyone not captured by the portable benefits plan will receive drug coverage through OHIP+ or the Ontario Drug Benefit program.
- We'll also cover out-of-pocket costs of medications to prevent and treat HIV, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and antiretroviral therapy , as well as oral chemotherapy while reducing the time it takes for new cancer drugs to be listed.
- We'll work with federal partners to lower out-of-pocket costs for drugs for rare diseases while ensuring all private benefit plans cover all of the drugs in Ontario's public drugs formulary.

Education

10. What specific policies will your party implement to hire more teachers and reduce class sizes in primary and secondary schools in Ontario?

- We will put a hard cap on class sizes in all grades at 20 students. We will hire 10,000 new teachers and build 200 new schools as well as redevelop 4,500 existing schools to facilitate this.



- We will cut unnecessary red tape that prevents teachers from other provinces or internationally trained teachers from getting accredited in Ontario.
- We will reconvene the Education Partnership Table that will help parents, teachers and other stakeholders to find a platform to discuss additional ways we can strengthen our public education system.

11. What will your party do to lower tuition fees and reduce student debt?

- We will eliminate interest on the provincial portion of OSAP loans and reverse Ford's cuts to OSAP funding to provide students with more grants instead of forcing them to take on more debt.
- We will keep tuition of post-secondary institutions stable and provide them with \$1 billion in additional operating grants so that they can continue to provide our students with high-quality education without cutting back on academic programs/supports.
- Students who enroll into high-demand skills trade programs will receive \$2,000 grants to encourage them to pursue this career path as well as to support them with their cost of education.
- We will forgive the student debt of any healthcare frontline worker who served during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Environment

12. What policies will your party implement to reduce climate change and protect the environment, and how will you pay for them?

- An Ontario Liberal government will cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. After extensive consultations and modeling, we have a robust, costed and accounted plan to reach this deep and attainable goal. We will achieve this reduction by investing \$9 billion over the next four years into a clean economy plan and require industrial and manufacturing sectors to cut their emissions further by strengthening the Emissions Performance Standards in line with our 2030 target.
- We will cut current methane levels in half and implement a methane performance standard for Ontario's natural gas. We will also transition as quickly as possible to a fully clean energy supply while maintaining reliability and affordability, including by banning new natural gas plants, and phasing out our reliance on gas for baseload power.
- We will update the Ontario Building Code to ensure that all new buildings and renovations are built to leading energy-efficiency and climate resiliency standards by 2025, and provide people and small businesses with interest-free loans and grants to make high-performance energy and climate-resiliency retrofits.
- We will introduce a rebate of up to \$8,000 on the purchase or lease of a non-luxury electric vehicle and \$1,500 for charging equipment, mandate that at least 60% of all new passenger vehicles sold in Ontario are zero-emission by 2030 and 100% by 2035 and introduce a \$500 rebate for e-bikes.



- We will plant 800 million trees over the next 8 years, invest \$250 million annually to restore and expand natural infrastructure such as wetlands as well as to support communities in becoming more resilient to extreme weather.

13. One of the best ways to reduce our carbon footprint on the environment is public transportation. What will you do to make public transportation throughout the province more affordable and accessible to Ontarians?

- Riding on transit creates so many wins for Ontario. It gets cars off the road, moves a greater number of people around the province and can be a more affordable alternative to driving. We want to save people money and move more people on transit – especially right now, as ridership is still a fraction of pre-pandemic levels.
- We're going to cut public transit fares to \$1.00 per ride and \$40 for monthly passes until January 2024. This fare rate will be applied to all public transit in Ontario – including municipal, GO and Ontario Northland transit, with the province fully replacing transit systems' lost revenue. This measure will get an estimated 400,000 car trips off the road each day on top of making transit trips more affordable.
- An Ontario Liberal government will make a record-level investment in building new public transit infrastructure, improving the frequency of transit services, and maintaining existing transit infrastructure in a state of good repair. We will increase operating funding for municipal transit by \$375 million annually.