



Examining political platforms through a green building lens

Early into the election cycle, CaGBC released five recommendations in a letter to each party leader. Below, we've listed each of the recommendations, and validated whether their election platforms address them. The following table quotes the three major parties' platforms, with the page number for ease of reference.

CAGBC Recommendations	Liberal Party of Canada – costed platform (Platform PDF Format)	Conservative Party of Canada – costed platform (Platform PDF Format)	New Democratic Party – platform not costed (Platform PDF Format)	Green Party Platform (PDF Version) platform not costed
<p>Develop a Canadian « Buy Clean » approach that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports innovative, low-carbon construction technologies and practices; • Requires low-carbon and “made in Canada” construction material thresholds; and, • Ensures eligible firms demonstrate low-carbon development, design, and experience. 	<p>Introduce a new Buy Clean Strategy to support and prioritize the use of made-in-Canada low-carbon products in public and private infrastructure projects.” See p.56</p> <p>“Provide support and incentives for domestic procurement of Canadian clean technology. By partnering with other levels of government and existing large companies, we can help emerging Canadian clean technology firms secure customers here in Canada.</p> <p>Advance green industrial strategies and continue investing funds from the Net Zero Accelerator in strategic opportunities and make sure that Canada claims more than our fair share of growing clean growth opportunities. See p.45</p>	<p>“Canada’s Conservatives will ensure that our infrastructure spending benefits Canadian workers by requiring that equipment and materials for federally funded infrastructure projects be purchased from Canadian companies or those from countries with which we have agreed to mutually allow our workers to supply each other’s infrastructure projects.” See p. 22</p>	<p>“Because products produced by Canadian workers have some of the lowest carbon emissions in the world, we will require the use of Canadian made steel, aluminum, cement and wood products for infrastructure projects across the country.” See p. 47</p> <p>“We will boost clean tech research and manufacturing with new funding, incentives, and Buy Canadian procurement of environmentally friendly technologies.: See p. 47</p>	<p>“A green government will implement a national Buy Clean strategy to increase government procurement of Canadian low-carbon technologies” See p.20</p> <p>“Promote green procurement practices (procuring goods and services that have a reduced environmental impact), as recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme.” See p. 9</p>

	<p>Create open-access climate toolkits (...) Building on our existing climate lens requirement for federally funded infrastructure projects, these toolkits will offer resiliency assessment methodologies, opportunities for incorporating low-carbon technologies and building materials, and carbon-emission calculation guidelines. See p48</p> <p>“Create a Low-Carbon Building Materials Innovation Hub to work directly with entrepreneurs, municipalities, provinces and territories, and Indigenous governments to ensure Canadian innovations are best positioned to succeed.” See p.54</p>			
<p>Achieve net-zero emissions for buildings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring zero carbon buildings as the standard for all new construction by 2030; • Investing \$10 to \$15 billion a year in partnership with the provinces to start a national retrofit 	<p>“Launch a National Net-zero Emissions Building Strategy, which will chart a path to net-zero emissions from buildings by 2050 with ambitious milestones along the way. “ See p.54</p> <p>“Accelerate the development of the national net-zero emissions model building code for 2025 adoption.” See p.54</p> <p>Accelerate the transition from fossil fuel-based heating systems to</p>	<p>“Provide a regulatory and financial framework that will facilitate Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC). This is a model that involves the private sector in financing and implementing retrofits and then being paid back through savings. Our program will be modelled after the SOFIAC program in Quebec.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will work with provinces and territories to promote ESPC for government and publicly- funded institutional buildings, including a “2030 Bonus” that will provide an 	<p>We will set a target of retrofitting all buildings in Canada by 2050 – beginning with upgrades to all buildings built before 2020 in the next 20 years. See p. 48</p> <p>Helping families make energy efficient improvements to their homes through low-interest loans help save families almost \$900 or more per year on home energy costs. See p33</p> <p>“We’ll improve the National Building</p>	<p>“Create and implement a national green retrofit of existing residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings</p> <p>Support agencies and institutions working to create innovative, efficient, and cost-effective programs to carry out green retrofits in different areas and for different communities, thereby creating local jobs and reducing emissions</p>

<p>strategy that sets specific objectives and milestones for the refurbishment of existing buildings to be zero carbon; and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with provinces to establish a pathway for a near-zero carbon intensity energy distribution grid across Canada by 2050. 	<p>electrification through incentives and standards, including investing \$250 million to help low-income Canadians get off home-heating oil.</p> <p>Require EnerGuide labeling of homes at the time of sale.</p> <p>Launch a community-led net-zero homes initiative that supports projects that pursue multiple concurrent retrofits in a community or neighbourhood, to reduce overall costs. This initiative will be modeled on the Dutch “Energiesprong” program.” See p.54</p> <p>“Introduce a Clean Electricity Standard that will set Canada on a path to cut more emissions by 2030 and to achieve a 100% net-zero emitting electricity system by 2035.</p> <p>Create a Pan-Canadian Grid Council to promote infrastructure investments, smart grids, grid integration, and electricity sector innovation with the goal of making Canada the most reliable, cost effective, and carbon-free electricity producer in the world.” See p. 44</p>	<p>additional benefit for those buildings that complete their retrofits prior to 2030.</p> <p>Develop a Net Zero Foundations program to begin putting in place the building blocks required to meet our net zero goals. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to develop the building codes and standards necessary to support net zero goals for both new builds and retrofits; (...) Improving certification standards; and Developing initiatives to pilot new technologies and solutions that will lower the cost and speed up the pace of retrofits, particularly residential retrofits. <p>Work with provinces, territories, and applicable utilities to put in place a Residential Building Retrofit Initiative that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an “efficiency concierge” service for homeowners that acts as a one-stop-shop to access programs and information; and <p>Apply lessons learned from technology pilots and from government, institutional and commercial retrofits, to a residential context.</p> <p>“Strengthening Canada’s Grid: a plan to build a cleaner, more resilient grid that is</p>	<p>Code to ensure that by 2025 every new building built in Canada is net-zero [energy¹].” See p. 48</p> <p>“We will set a target of net carbon-free electricity by 2030, and move to 100% non-emitting electricity by 2040.” See p. 43</p>	<p>Change the national building code to require that all new construction and major renovations to older buildings meet net-zero standards by 2030</p> <p>Undertake a green retrofit of all federal government buildings, including government agencies.” See p.11</p>
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¹ Note from CaGBC: Net-Zero means net-zero energy in NDP platform, confirmed by email.

		adaptable to regional conditions and priorities. This will include strategies for developing and expanding smart grids, improving interties, increasing the use of mass storage, and developing and deploying new clean energy technology such as nuclear, hydrogen and renewables. See p. 22		
<p>Prioritize investment in workforce capacity that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses the one million jobs needed in the green building sector to meet our climate change goals, focusing on upskilling and reskilling incumbent workers and recruiting younger people and those from underrepresented groups. 	<p>“Double the Union Training and Innovation program to \$50 million a year to support more apprenticeship training opportunities and additional partnerships in the Red Seal trades across Canada, and target more participation from women, Indigenous people, newcomers, persons with disabilities, and Black and racialized Canadians.”²</p> <p>Move forward on our plan to establish a new Apprenticeship Service which will connect 55,000 first-year apprentices in Red Seal trades with opportunities at small and medium-sized employers.” See p.31³</p> <p>“Make it easier for women and vulnerable groups to access training by requiring businesses supported through the Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program to include wrap-</p>	<p>Create 1 million jobs across the economy.</p> <p>“Developing curriculum for trade schools and institutes that support building design and construction.” See p. 42</p> <p>“Double the Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit for the next three years to help create more places for apprentices.” See p. 12, 22</p> <p>“Invest \$250 million over two years to create the Canada Job Training Fund. The Fund will provide grants to organizations including employers, apprenticeship training delivery agents, unions, post-secondary institutions, and community organizations for projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give laid-off workers immediate access to training, Reach out to traditionally underrepresented groups, Support the talent needs of small 	<p>Create 1 million jobs across the economy.</p> <p>“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.” See p. 33</p> <p>“To get there, we’ll change EI rules to allow workers who quit their job to go to school to qualify for EI benefits, so that families can count on some income support during that period of transition back to school. We’ll also expand options for workers in designated sectors and regions to take EI funded training in advance of losing a job while at the same time promoting investment to ensure that regional economies are creating good</p>	<p>“Introduce laws that incentivize green investment and the creation of green jobs (such as in sustainable transport and energy efficiency), and that disincentivize 6 unsustainable investments (such as by raising taxes on environmentally harmful goods and services).” See p. 8</p> <p>“Support agencies and institutions working to create innovative, efficient, and cost-effective programs to carry out green retrofits in different areas and for different communities, thereby creating local jobs and reducing emissions.” See p.9</p> <p>“Fund new and innovative value-added forestry-based manufacturing facilities in rural Canada to create jobs and keep profits from our resources in Canada. Work with</p>

² Announced in Budget 2021

³ Announced in Budget 2021

	<p>around supports. This could include transportation to and from the training program, computers, food, referral to counselling, housing, and legal support, support in finding child care, and mentoring or coaching.” See p.32⁴</p> <p>Move forward with Just Transition Legislation, guided by the feedback we receive from workers, unions, Indigenous peoples, communities, and provinces and territories. See p. 46⁵</p> <p>“Enhance investments in the Forest Industry Transformation program, working with partners to create jobs in the forest-based economy and bring forward new innovations in sustainable, low-carbon building materials.” See p.45</p> <p>“</p> <p>Launch a Clean Jobs Training Centre to help industrial, skill and trade workers across sectors to upgrade or gain new skills to be on the leading edge of zero carbon industry.” See p. 46</p>	<p>businesses, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Otherwise help workers get the training they need - focusing on areas where there are shortages of skilled workers. <p>See p. 12, 22</p> <p>“Create the Working Canadian Training Loan to provide low interest loans of up to \$10,000 to people who want to upgrade their skills.” See p. 12, 22</p> <p>“The construction mobility tax credit will allow workers to subtract up to \$4,000 per year of temporary relocation expenses (moving, temporary lodging) from taxable income. This will make it easier for Canadian workers to go to where the work is.” See p. 22</p>	<p>jobs that support families and communities. See p. 33</p> <p>“...includes providing dedicated employment support combining access to expanded EI benefits, re-training and job placement services, ensuring companies retain and redeploy their workers when in transition... See p. 47</p> <p>“We’ll work closely with the provinces to establish national training priorities and create a new Workers Development and Opportunities Fund to expand training options beyond people who qualify for EI. This fund will be provincially directed, with dedicated support for marginalized workers, those in transitioning sectors and for efforts to improve literacy and essential skills.” See p. 33</p> <p>“We will partner with provinces, territories, First Nations and municipalities to deliver reliable public infrastructure funding that puts people – not profit – first. By using Community Benefit Agreements, we will guarantee that good jobs, training, apprenticeships</p>	<p>provinces, territories, and municipalities to make sure that timber, pulp, and paper manufacturing is environmentally and economically sustainable in rural Canada.” See p.34</p>
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⁴ Announced in Budget 2021

⁵ Consultation for a Just Transition Act started early August

			and support for local businesses are part of every infrastructure project.” See p. 85	
Address health and safety with federal infrastructure investments and programs by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting green building through certifications and standards to achieve better ventilation, access to daylight, and improved indoor air quality which are preventative measures for any future health crisis. 	<p>“Provide \$100 million to the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative with \$70 million of this funding directed to a new pillar focused on increasing air quality and indoor ventilation. “</p> <p>“Introduce a tax credit for small businesses to make it easier for them to invest in better ventilation”</p>	<p>“Supporting the development and testing of new infection control products/ biomaterials, safe and high-performance architectural designs, airflow systems, and isolation facilities for the control of infectious diseases during regular times, and ensure Canada has the rapid response capabilities – including issuing science-based public health guidelines for front line workers and essentials services - during outbreaks and pandemics. Never again should essential workers be left to their own devices or our economy simply be allowed to collapse.” See p.31</p>	<p>“Targeted supports would be provided to low-income households and to renters. Supporting retrofits to improve indoor air quality will also help prevent further waves of COVID-19.” See p. 33</p>	
Include early action on social sustainability and reconciliation by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leveraging green building to address social sustainability needs, especially around Canada’s reconciliation efforts and the importance of appropriate housing. 	<p>1.4 million (new and retrofitted) homes See p.12</p> <p>“Permanently increase funding to the National Housing Co-investment fund by a total of \$2.7 billion over 4 years, more than double its current allocation.” See p. 28</p> <p>“Invest a further \$2 billion in Indigenous housing for First Nations,</p>	<p>1 million unit/homes (new and retrofitted) in 3 years</p> <p>“Work with Indigenous groups, provinces, territories, and trade organizations to identify opportunities to increase access for Indigenous workers and youth to apprenticeship programs.</p> <p>As part of our investment in jobs training, invest in trades training programs designed in partnership with the private sector, Indigenous organizations, and</p>	<p>“That’s why a New Democrat government will create at least 500,000 units of quality, affordable housing in the next ten years, with half of that done within five years. This will be achieved with the right mix of effective measures that work in partnership with provinces and municipalities, build capacity for social, community, and affordable housing providers, to provide rental support for co-ops, and meet environmental energy efficiency</p>	<p>Invest in construction and operation of 50,000 supportive housing units over 10 years.</p> <p>Build and acquire a minimum of 300,000 units of deeply affordable non-market, co-op and non-profit housing over a decade.</p> <p>Create a Canada Co-op Housing Strategy and update the mechanisms for financing co-op housing, in partnership with CMHC, co-op societies, credit unions and other</p>

	<p>Inuit, and Métis Nation, with over half of the funding available by the upcoming summer construction period.” See p. 59</p> <p>Co-develop a new Indigenous Urban, Rural, and Northern Housing Strategy with Indigenous partners and organizations that will be a stand-alone companion to the National Housing Strategy, supported by a \$300 million initial investment.” See p. 59</p> <p>”Co-develop and fund Canada’s first-ever National Indigenous Housing Centre, through which Indigenous people will fully oversee federal Indigenous housing programs once fully realized.” See p. 59</p>	<p>provincial/territorial governments to maximize opportunities for employment.” See p. 60</p> <p>”Continue the Conservative commitment to Reconciliation with Canada’s Indigenous Peoples by enacting a “For Indigenous, By Indigenous” strategy – long called for by Indigenous housing advocates, who have been ignored by this Liberal government; empowering Indigenous Peoples with the autonomy to meet their own housing needs.” See p. 28</p> <p>”Enhance the viability of using Community Land Trusts for affordable housing by creating an incentive for corporations and private landowners to donate property to Land Trusts for the development of affordable housing.” See p. 28</p>	<p>goals.” See p. 11</p> <p>”Energy efficiency and sustainable building practices will be at the core of our national housing strategy.” See p.48</p> <p>”New Democrats will address the Indigenous housing crisis and put an end to chronic overcrowding and long-wait lists by working with Indigenous communities to implement co-developed, fully funded Indigenous National Housing Strategy within our first 100 days in office. This innovative, ground-up strategy will mean sustainable and dedicated funding to meet the needs of Indigenous peoples, whether in urban, rural or remote communities.” See p. 75</p> <p>”We believe that the federal government must immediately step up to tackle the mold crisis affecting tens of thousands of homes, and provide support for First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples to ensure that their homes are safe and healthy. We will also ensure that Indigenous communities have the resources to make homes greener and more energy efficient, working to keep the benefits of good</p>	<p>lenders. Restore quality, energy efficient housing for seniors, people with special needs and low-income families, by providing financing to non-profit housing organizations, cooperatives, and social housing to build and restore quality and affordable housing. See p41</p> <p>Guided by First Nations, Inuit and Metis Nation, develop inclusive and culturally appropriate Urban Indigenous Housing Strategies Change the legislation that prevents Indigenous organizations from accessing financing through CMHC to invest in self-determined housing needs.</p> <p>Allocate funding towards urban Indigenous housing providers. Develop and implement an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy.</p> <p>Leverage federal lands and real property for transfer to off-reserve Indigenous organizations to create housing and economic development opportunities.</p> <p>Assist urban and rural Indigenous people in identifying emergency accommodations and affordable housing options for youth, Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and vulnerable populations.</p>
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			jobs, training and investment close to home." See p. 75	Invest in construction and operation of 50,000 supportive housing units over 10 years." See p. 42
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