

2015 Federal Election Candidate Questionnaire: **Climate and the Environment**

This questionnaire is being sent to all candidates in the upcoming federal election. Please keep your

responses to each question to a maximum of 200 words. Responses will be limited to the 200-word
maximum per question when they are released. Please email your response to
jon.macneill@conservationcouncil.ca no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 2.

Candidate's Name:

Candidate's Political Party:

Climate

- 1. Scientists say we need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 80 cent of 1990 levels by 2050 to avoid catastrophic climate change. What is your party's 2050 GHG reduction target and how will you achieve it?
- 2. Many leading economists and policy institutions say putting a price on carbon is an effective way to reduce the pollution causing climate change. Will your party put a price on carbon?
- 3. This December, world governments will attend the United Nations' international climate conference to establish a legally-binding and universal agreement on climate action. This is an opportunity for Canada to play an influential role in global environmental affairs. What commitments does your party propose we announce in Paris to move us quickly to a low-carbon economy?
- 4. Burning coal to produce electricity is the single largest source of carbon pollution in N.B. Ontario recently phased out coal. Will your party support a phase-out of coal in N.B.?

Energy

- 5. Investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency and other green technologies will create jobs and reduce the pollution causing climate change. Will your party commit to increasing investments in energy efficiency programming and renewable energy generation?
- 6. Many Canadians and organizations are concerned the National Energy Board has become a biased regulator that isn't making decisions in the best interest of all Canadians. Will your party commit to reviewing and amending the NEB process to make it fair and easy for communities and members of the public to provide input?

- 7. Many Canadians and organizations feel the National Energy Board's project review process is flawed because it does not consider the upstream greenhouse gas impacts associated with energy projects. Will your party ensure upstream greenhouse gas emissions are considered in all project reviews undertaken by the National Energy Board?
- 8. Both Ontario and Quebec have pursued independent provincial examinations of TransCanada's proposed Energy East Pipeline. Will your party encourage the government of New Brunswick to conduct an independent Environmental Impact Assessment of the Energy East proposal in N.B.?
- 9. TransCanada's Energy East Pipeline is one of several port expansion or shipping projects currently being proposed that would bring significantly more supertankers into the Bay of Fundy. Will your party give a mandate to Fisheries and Oceans Canada to do an assessment of marine traffic noise in the Bay of Fundy in order to determine existing impacts on marine mammals and determine tipping points of noise that would increase impacts on marine mammals in the Bay of Fundy?

Nature and the environment

- 10. Recent years have seen many of Canada's environmental laws weakened or repealed. Will your party restore or strengthen the *Fisheries Act*, the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, and the *Species At Risk Act*?
- 11. The World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) recently classified glyphosate as a probable cancer-causing agent. In 2001, Quebec replaced the use of herbicides in its public forest with thinning crews of men and women working in the woods. Will your party require Health Canada to ban glyphosate for silvicultural treatments in Canada's public forests?
- 12. Business leaders, commercial and recreational fishing associations, scientists, lawyers and environmentalists called on the federal government to not pass the Aquaculture Activities Regulations, stressing they would reduce oversight of the aquaculture industry and increase access to highly toxic pesticides for use in the ocean. Would your party repeal or amend the Aquaculture Activities Regulations to increase enforcement and oversight and limit access to toxic pesticides?
- 13. In the past, Canada's support for public science and science funding was the envy of many developed nations. Will your party commit to increasing support for public science and restoring science funding to Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans?
- 14. Water is a special resource in that it crosses provincial and federal boundaries, presenting unique challenges for those responsible for the health of our rivers and waterways. Does your party support the development of a national water strategy?

- 15. Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) are an important tool for evaluating proposed policies, programs or projects with an eye toward minimizing the negative health impacts and maximizing the positive health impacts. Will your party include an HIA as a requirement of all Environmental Impact Assessments?
- 16. Families and food service industries are becoming more concerned about where and how their food is grown and processed. Will your party increase investments in the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food's buy local and local food initiatives?