

## Ontario 2014 Election: Key Environment and Energy Issues – What Needs to Happen vs. the Party Platforms

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Issue	What Needs to Happen	Green Party	NDP	PC	Liberal
<b>Energy/ Electricity</b>	<p>Defer nuclear refurbishments pending completion of an independent, external, public review of likely costs and costs of alternatives (i.e. conservation, renewables and storage, natural gas, hydro-imports from Quebec).</p> <p>Phase out Clean Energy Benefit.</p> <p>Implement meaningful</p>	<p>Cancel nuclear refurbishments , replace with water imports from Quebec and conservation (\$1billion/yr home energy retrofits).</p>	<p>Merge OPA, OPG, IESO and Hydro One (re-create Ontario Hydro)</p> <p>Cap Hydro CEO salaries</p> <p>HST and debt retirement charge off hydro bills</p> <p>Revolving load fund for energy efficiency retrofits and solar panels.</p> <p>Improve export prices through trading</p>	<p>Stop subsidies for wind and solar, focus on nuclear and hydro imports and “cheap and abundant natural gas”</p> <p>Nuclear key source of basic energy supply</p> <p>Cancel FIT program</p> <p>Future wind and solar projects subject to demand assessments, competitive bidding and local approval</p>	<p>Bruce and Darlington Refurbishments</p> <p>“Continue” investment in renewable energy</p> <p>Energy conservation for ratepayers</p> <p>Northern transmission projects</p> <p>Expand natural gas access</p> <p>Reduce electricity costs by 15 per cent for large users and 20% for</p>

	<p>'conservation first' strategy.</p> <p>Continue microFIT program and FIT program for community, farm and aboriginal based renewable energy projects.</p>			<p>Trade agreements with other provinces</p> <p>Voluntary choice for Renewables</p> <p>End all electric vehicle subsidies</p> <p>Phase out provincial power subsidy/ clean energy benefit</p> <p>"Monetize" Hydro one and OPG</p> <p>Promote LDC Consolidation</p> <p>New power rate for manufacturing and resource industries pegged to</p>	<p>conservation minded large users</p>
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				competing jurisdictions (not actual costs)	
<b>Climate Change</b>	<p>Participate in Western Climate Initiative Cap and Trade system with Quebec.</p> <p>Introduce a carbon price as per BC, Alberta and Quebec. Invest revenues in transit and climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Develop a comprehensive climate change impacts and adaptation strategy.</p>				<p>Better transit and buildings</p> <p>Clear plan for 2020 target</p> <p>Bio-diesel for trucks, trains,</p> <p>“More coal” reduction (i.e. alternative fuels?)</p>
<b>Urban</b>	Pursue new	\$3 billion/yr in	\$29 billion for	Provincial	\$15 billion for

<p><b>Sustainability/ Transit</b></p>	<p>revenue tools for transit investments (e.g. carbon charges, congestion charges, gas taxes, parking fees)</p> <p>Provide permanent protection for prime farmland and source water areas.</p> <p>Expand the GTA Greenbelt and settlement area expansion limits into south Simcoe county and other regions subject to growth pressures.</p> <p>Enforce Places to Grow and Greenbelt</p>	<p>congestion charges, gas taxes, parking fees for transit.</p> <p>Permanent protection for class 1 farmland and source water areas.</p>	<p>transit and transportation over 10 years</p>	<p>control of all GTA highways and rail (i.e. TTC subways and LRTs to Metrolinx)</p> <p>Cities should decide for themselves where their future growth will go”</p> <p>Make suburbs “complete communities;” downtowns “better places to live” (Thin on specifics</p>	<p>GTA transit</p> <p>\$2.5 billion in highways -407 to 115/35 -Highway 7 K-W-Guelph -“Expand” 427</p> <p>Encourage smarter growth</p> <p>Expand outer boundary of greenbelt</p> <p>Invest in and promote local food</p>
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	<p>policies.</p> <p>Tie infrastructure funding to development of complete, transit supportive, communities.</p> <p>No outward expansion of GTA highway network.</p>				
<b>Natural Resources/The North</b>	<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment of Ring of Fire and boreal development.</p> <p>Focus on value-added economic activities, not just extraction and commodity exports.</p> <p>Increase royalties and</p>	<p>Increase royalties and fees for aggregates, mining, and water-taking.</p>	<p>Invest in Ring of fire infrastructure</p>	<p>Repeal <i>Far North Act</i> to encourage Ring of fire</p>	<p>\$1 billion Ring of fire infrastructure investment</p> <p>Agriculture in the North</p>

	fees for aggregates, mining, and water-taking.				
<b>Air/Water/Waste</b>	<p>Address cumulative effects of multiple air pollution sources in single location</p> <p>Address nutrient runoff, sewage and stormwater management</p> <p>Review industrial water pollution control regime (MISA).</p> <p>Establish effective extended producer responsibility regime for HHW and blue box materials.</p>		Environmental assessment of proposed oil pipelines across Ontario		<p>Financial incentives for reducing agriculture nutrient runoff</p> <p>Improve sewage and stormwater management</p> <p>Ottawa River action plan</p> <p>\$30 million for clean water technology.</p>

<b>Nature/ Biodiversity/ Protected Areas</b>	Remove <i>Endangered Species Act</i> exemptions for resource sectors.  See above re: boreal development.			Focus Conservation authorities on balancing “needs of our economy and our environment”	Protect pollinators and bees (mitigation strategies not regulation)
<b>Economic Strategy</b>	Introduce carbon price and revenue reallocation.  Focus on clean technology sectors.	Reverse corporate tax cuts and use revenues to reduce EHT for small business		Reduce regulatory burden  Replace business subsidies with general corporate tax cut  Promote free trade	Strong emphasis on education and infrastructure.  Focus on key sectors: manufacturing; computing; life sciences; start- ups
<b>Governance</b>	Adopt anti- SLAPP legislation  Apply <i>Environmental Bill of Rights</i> notice and comment	“Closing loopholes” re: SLAPPs, OMB, Endangered Species Act, Aggregate Resources Act.		Reduce regulatory burden by 1/3 in three years (principle idea for promoting “quality of life”) 129,000 regulations)	Reduce number of agencies by 30 per cent  Program review to save \$2.25 billion over three years.

	<p>requirements to 'registered' activities.</p> <p>Review roles of delegated administrative authorities as safety regulators (TSSA, ESA).</p> <p>Review regulatory policy to ensure protection of public health, safety and the environment.</p> <p>Environmental justice assessments of major initiatives and undertakings.</p>			<p>Ministry of Finance to cost new regulations.</p> <p>Reduce government spending/ Balance budget by 2017.</p> <p>Reduce public sector by 100,000; no cuts to health care or police.</p>	<p>Financial accountability officer</p>
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