

Ontario 2018 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 ¹	Liberal
Energy/ Electricity	<p>Close Pickering nuclear facility at end of life in 2018, and initiate decommissioning.</p> <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,</p>	<p>Close the Pickering Nuclear station in 2018.</p> <p>Replace high cost nuclear power with low cost water power from Quebec.</p> <p>Invest \$1.1 billion per year into a Green Building and Business Program.</p> <p>Independent public review of the costs and availability of all energy</p>	<p>Begin decommissioning of Pickering nuclear station “when its licence expires in August 2018”²</p> <p>Cancel Fair Hydro Plan and Cut hydro bills by 30% (no details, not costed in platform).</p> <p>Return Hydro One to public ownership</p> <p>Eliminate time-of-use pricing.</p>	<p>Terminate rate-based financing for conservation.</p> <p>Cancel energy contracts that are in the pre-construction phase (not clear if this applies to Darlington and Bruce refurbishments that have not been started) and re-negotiate other energy contracts</p> <p>Declare a moratorium on</p>	<p>Fair Hydro Plan. (25% rate reduction but removing HST, extending financing period for capital investments).</p> <p>Bruce and Darlington Refurbishments and Pickering “life-extension” at centre of Long-Term Energy Plan.</p> <p>Expand natural gas access in northern Ontario.</p>

	<p>natural gas, hydro-imports from Quebec).</p> <p>Enhance conservation strategies.</p> <p>Phase-out Fair Hydro Plan and replace with strategy that targets support on constituencies disproportionately affected by high hydro prices (e.g. low-income, rural)</p>	<p>sources to make the best choices for Ontario's energy needs.</p> <p>Develop plan for 100% renewable energy system.</p> <p>Increase funding for electricity support program.</p>	<p>Rural delivery charges same as urban.</p> <p>Support for low-income consumers.</p> <p>"Will end oversupply" (no details on how - Response to Ontario Clean Air Alliance questionnaire³: "It is crucial that energy planning decisions be based on evidence and independent cost/benefit/risk analyses that consider alternatives to new megaprojects, such as conservation and clean energy imports from Quebec."</p>	<p>new energy contracts.</p> <p>Use Hydro One dividends to reduce hydro bills.</p> <p>Fire Hydro One CEO and the entire board.</p> <p>"Scrap" <i>Green Energy Act</i> (key FIT program was terminated by Liberals in 2014).</p>	
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			<p>invest \$100 million in natural gas expansion to rural Ontario.</p> <p>Return full, independent oversight of Hydro One to the eight independent offices.</p>		
Climate Change	<p>Expand Climate Change Action Plan to reflect impacts of \$50/tonne carbon price by 2022.</p> <p>Establish mechanisms to ensure cap and trade revenues are invested in cost-effective carbon reduction initiatives.</p>	<p>No direct reference in platform.</p> <p>Implicit in energy efficiency, electricity and transit strategies.</p>	<p>Maintain cap and trade.</p> <p>Allocate 25% of revenues to lower-income, rural, and northern households, and trade-exposed industries</p> <p>Dedication of \$50 million in cap and trade revenue to home retrofit program.</p>	<p>Eliminate cap and trade.</p> <p>Challenge federal carbon pricing system.</p> <p>Cut provincial gas tax 10 cents/litre.</p>	<p>Implemented cap and trade.</p> <p>Developed climate change action plan.</p> <p>*Incentives for EVs, low-carbon trucks and buses, active transportation</p> <p>*GreenON Energy efficiency retrofit rebates for buildings</p> <p>*Strengthen EE provision of building code</p>

	Develop a comprehensive climate change impacts and adaptation strategy.		“Stability and transparency” to gasoline prices		Will establish CC resiliency organization; will develop provincial adaptation strategy.
Urban Infrastructure, Land-use and Sustainability	<p>Pursue new 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</p>	<p>Permanent protection for prime farmland and source water areas.</p> <p>\$1 to \$1.5 billion per year for transit over projections in the 2018 budget.</p> <p>Fund 50% of the operating costs of municipal transit systems.</p> <p>Establish a dedicated long-term fund for municipal</p>	<p>Work with farmers and municipal leaders to protect Ontario’s farmland from encroachment by land speculators.</p> <p>Cover 50% of transit operating costs.</p> <p>Transit expansion in GTA.</p> <p>Support replacement of the OMB with the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). Will direct LPAT to</p>	<p>Cut provincial gas tax 10 cents/litre.</p> <p>Reported to have discussed removal of land from Greenbelt with developers. Subsequently vowed to keep Greenbelt “in its entirety.”</p> <p>Invest in highway expansion “across the province” including GTA West corridor.</p>	<p>Major Transit investments in GTA; Building and upgrading highways in Southwestern, Central, Northern and Eastern Ontario.</p> <p>“Continue to grow the Greenbelt.”</p>

	<p>expansion limits into south Simcoe county and other regions subject to growth pressures.</p> <p>Enforce Places to Grow and Greenbelt policies.</p> <p>Tie infrastructure funding to development of complete, transit supportive, communities.</p> <p>No outward expansion of GTA highway network.</p>	<p>walking and cycling infrastructure, investing \$2.17 billion over 4 years on safe streets and roads.</p> <p>References to road pricing, parking levies, land value capture, increased gas tax in fiscal plan.</p>	<p>apply policy, not make it.</p>	<p>Expand GO service.</p> <p>“Upload” responsibility for subway infrastructure, \$5 billion in new subway funding (Sheppard Loop; downtown relief, Yonge extension).</p>	
<p>Sustainable Food and Agriculture</p>	<p>Provincial Food Strategy including support for farms, local</p>	<p>\$200 million over 4 years for farm environmental services.</p>	<p>Develop provincial Food strategy, including support for farms, local</p>	<p>Expand Risk Management Program.</p>	<p>Protect supply management.</p>

	<p>food, food curriculum in schools.</p>		<p>food, food curriculum in schools.</p> <p>Defend supply management; remove caps on risk management program.</p>		<p>Improve risk management programs.</p> <p>Protect agricultural interests in trade discussions (NAFTA/CP-TPP)</p>
<p>Natural Resources/The North</p>	<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 fees for aggregates,</p>	<p>Reference to increasing mining and aggregate royalties in fiscal plan.</p>	<p>“Will spend \$1 billion to get the Ring of Fire moving, now.”</p> <p>Will fight to bring smelting and ferro-chrome processing to Northern Ontario.</p> <p>Collaborate with northern communities and First Nations to quickly begin building the infrastructure that will allow</p>	<p>Resource revenue sharing with Northern municipalities and First Nations.</p>	<p>\$1 billion Ring of Fire infrastructure investment</p>

	mining, and water-taking.		development projects to proceed Northern rail strategy.		
Air/Water/Waste	<p>Address cumulative effects of multiple air pollution sources in single location (e.g. Chemical Valley, Hamilton)</p> <p>Address nutrient runoff, sewage and stormwater management; enhance source water protection.</p> <p>Review industrial water pollution control regime (MISA).</p>		<p>“Aggressive” targets on air and water pollution; studies of Hamilton and Sarnia pollution.</p> <p>Clean up English-Wabigoon River System.</p> <p>Ensure Source Water Protection Plans are implemented.</p> <p>Provincial water strategy including inventories of water use and return.</p>	<p>Protect and preserve waterways and support and enforce air quality programs.</p> <p>Hire more conservation officers and increase policing of major polluters.</p> <p>Emissions reduction fund to invest in new technologies.</p>	<p>\$200 million for source water protection and great lakes.</p> <p>Extend moratorium on new or expanded water bottling.</p> <p>On-line and on-label labelling of toxic substances in key consumer products.</p> <p>Standardize sewage treatment by-pass reporting.</p> <p>Divert food and organic waste from landfill.</p>

	Establish effective extended producer responsibility regime for HHW and blue box materials.				Implement 2016 <i>Waste-Free Ontario Act</i> restructuring recycling/diversion systems
Nature/ Biodiversity/ Protected Areas	Remove <i>Endangered Species Act</i> exemptions for resource sectors. See above re: boreal development.		Expand existing parks and create new ones. End loss of provincially significant wetlands. Develop provincial forest strategy; ensure sector meets highest environmental and sustainability standards		Work towards 17% protected areas target. Halt wetland loss by 2025 and net gain by 2030.
Economic Strategy	Develop strategy for clean technology sectors.	Clean Jobs Strategy: Redirect the \$3.1 billion/yr in existing business support	\$180 billion/10 year infrastructure plan. Economic cluster strategy (specific	Cut corporate income taxes from 11.5% to 10.5% to bring businesses back to Ontario	Sectoral focus on advanced manufacturing, information and communications technology, life sciences,

		<p>programs in the right direction, targeting cleantech innovation, advanced manufacturing and bio-products. Stop subsidizing businesses that pollute and instead provide incentives to work towards clean products. Change government procurement rules to support low carbon products and services.</p>	<p>sectoral focus not identified)</p> <p>Discontinue public-private partnerships.</p> <p>Jobs and prosperity fund for manufacturing sector.</p>	<p>Cut red tape and regulations.⁴</p> <p>One window approvals guaranteed within one year.</p> <p>Support regional development funds.</p>	<p>cleantech, forestry and food and beverages.</p> <p>Focus on film, television, digital media.</p>
Governance	<p>Apply <i>Environmental Bill of Rights</i> notice and comment requirements</p>		<p>Update Environmental Bill of Rights to restore accountability, transparency,</p>		

	<p>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>and public participation whenever the environment is affected.</p> <p>Eliminate costs for Freedom of Information requests</p> <p>.</p>		
Reconciliation with indigenous communities	<p>Establishment of government to government relationship. Continue to resolve</p>	<p>References to sharing of resource revenues with First Nations</p>	<p>Work with First Nations leaders to sign a cooperative, government-to-government accord</p>		<p>Remediation of English-Wabigoon River system (Grassy Narrows)</p>

	<p>outstanding land claims.</p> <p>Implementation of TRC recommendations relevant to province.</p> <p>Resource revenue sharing.</p>		<p>Implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission</p> <p>Replace the Far North Act</p> <p>Implement resource revenue sharing</p> <p>Invest in the First Nations Health Action Plan</p> <p>Invest \$28 million for urgent repairs and capital upgrades at Friendship Centres, plus an ongoing investment of \$91 million over six years into 28 Friendship Centres</p> <p>Exempt First Nations</p>		<p>Complete the Wataynikaneya Power Grid Connection Project, connecting 16 remote northern First Nation communities to the grid.</p> <p>Ring of Fire Infrastructure.</p> <p>Continue to work with Canada and First Nations to resolve land claims.</p>
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¹ No Platform released, https://www.ontariopc.ca/clean_up_the_hydro_mess_petition

² Not in platform. Response to Ontario Clean Air Alliance questionnaire. <http://www.cleanairalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ndp-response.pdf>

³ <http://www.cleanairalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ndp-response.pdf>

⁴ No platform. See https://www.ontariopc.ca/create_good_jobs.