

# CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION



# 08

## **POLICY FLOOR RESOLUTIONS**

### **PROTECTING CANADA'S HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**TO BE DISCUSSED IN ROOMS 3 & 4 SOUTH, GROUND FLOOR ON  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2008**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**RESOLUTION P-101**

42. Environmental Principles

- i) In order to have a strong economy and maintain good health, Canada must have strong, coordinated and achievable environmental policies. A Conservative Government believes responsible exploration, development, conservation and renewal of our environment is vital to our continued well-being as a nation and as individuals. A Conservative Government will ensure that the sometimes competing values of preserving the environment and creating jobs are maintained in proper balance.
- ii) A Conservative Government will:
  - a) initiate a review of all environment and energy initiatives, including the Kyoto Accord;
  - b) adopt a new approach for an environmental strategy at the international level;
  - c) create a program to heighten public awareness to the economic benefits of environmental solutions minimizing the wasting of resources; and
  - d) establish a program of tax credits to promote environmental solutions in the areas of transportation and entrepreneurial

**Climate Change in the North**

PROPOSED BY YUKON, NWT, NUNAVUT

**iii) The Conservative Party believes the federal and territorial governments should make joint investments to study and address climate change adaptation in the North.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-102**

## 43. Clean Air

A Conservative Government will legislate caps on smog causing pollutants like nitrogen oxide (NOx), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and volatile organic compounds (VOC's). We will negotiate power plant and smokestack emissions limits with the United States and the northern border states. Within Canada we will also investigate a cap-and-trade system that will allow firms to generate credits by reducing smog-causing pollutants.

**California Emissions**

## PROPOSED BY CHAMBLY-BORDUAS

A Conservative Government will legislate caps on smog causing pollutants like nitrogen oxide (NOx), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and volatile organic compounds (VOC's). We will negotiate power plant and smokestack emissions limits with the United States and the northern border states. Within Canada we will also investigate a cap-and-trade system that will allow firms to generate credits by reducing smog-causing pollutants.

**The Conservative Party believes the government should impose the current California emission standards for all new Canadian automobiles.**

## **RESOLUTION P-103**

### 44. Alternative Energy and Transitional Fuels

The Conservative Party believes in promotion of alternative energy (such as wind, solar, geothermal) and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel, ethanol, natural gas) to help develop hydrogen as a fuel. The expense of assuring the security of traditional fuel sources and concerns over pollution makes the use of these energy sources necessary.

### **Alternative Energy**

PROPOSED BY NORTH VANCOUVER

~~The Conservative Party believes in promotion of alternative energy (such as wind, solar, geothermal) and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel, ethanol, natural gas) to help develop hydrogen as a fuel. The expense of assuring the security of traditional fuel sources and concerns over pollution makes the use of these energy sources necessary.~~

**The Conservative Party believes in the development of a diversified and secure energy supply for the future use of Canadians and protection of the natural environment.**

**We will promote the development of alternative energy sources (such as wind, solar, geothermal) and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel, ethanol, natural gas) and continue to support the development of hydrogen as a fuel.**

**The Conservative Party believes the government should encourage the development of these alternatives through tax reduction based incentives which promote research, innovation and development of alternative energy sources.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-104****44. Alternative Energy and Transitional Fuels**

The Conservative Party believes in promotion of alternative energy (such as wind, solar, geothermal) and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel, ethanol, natural gas) to help develop hydrogen as a fuel. The expense of assuring the security of traditional fuel sources and concerns over pollution makes the use of these energy sources necessary.

**Energy from Garbage****PROPOSED BY REPENTIGNY**

The Conservative Party believes in promotion of alternative energy (such as wind, solar, geothermal) and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel, ethanol, natural gas) to help develop hydrogen as a fuel. The expense of assuring the security of traditional fuel sources and concerns over pollution makes the use of these energy sources necessary.

**The Conservative Party believes the government should work with the provinces and territories to promote the development of ecological recycling plants, using incinerators that capture waste gas and transform it into energy.**

## **RESOLUTION P-105**

### 46. Offshore Oil and Gas Development

A Conservative Government will promote exploration and environmental assessment of offshore natural resources on both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts, in cooperation with the provinces, affected First Nations, private industry and other relevant scientific and environmental groups. We will ensure that companies follow best practices and the precautionary principle to mitigate environmental risk, allow for arms-length regulatory processes to ensure safe and environmentally responsible practices prior to development of these natural resources, and consider the potential of these natural resources before designating new Marine Protected Areas.

### **Offshore Oil**

PROPOSED BY NORTH VANCOUVER

**To capture economic, social and net environmental benefits**, a Conservative Government will promote exploration and **development** ~~environmental assessment~~ of offshore natural resources ~~on both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts~~ **in Canadian waters including the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic**, in cooperation with the provinces **and territories**, affected First Nations, private industry and other relevant business, scientific and environmental groups.

We will ensure that companies follow best practices and the precautionary principles to mitigate environmental risk, allow for arms-length regulatory processes to ensure safe and environmentally responsible practices ~~prior to development~~ **in the exploration for and development** of these natural resources, **and consider the potential of these natural resources** before designating new Marine Protected Areas.

**The Conservative Party supports ensuring that accurate and complete information on the risks and benefits of such developments is made available to the public.**

**RESOLUTION P-106**

51. Health Care

...

iv) We will work with the provinces and territories in the development of national quality indicators and objectives.

**Healthcare**

PROPOSED BY EDMONTON EAST

iv) We will work with the provinces and territories in the development of national quality indicators and objectives; **and to encourage the provinces and territories to further experiment with different means of delivering universal health care utilizing both the public and private health sectors.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-107****52. Medicare Audit**

A Conservative Government will conduct a social audit, under the existing office of the Chief Actuary, to help Canadians and their governments determine how well their medicare is working. The audit would include actuarial advice on program design and health care financing issues.

**Medicare Audit**

PROPOSED BY BRANDON SOURIS

Delete all.

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-108**

## 53. Public Health

The Conservative Party supports the creation of a Canada Public Health Agency and the appointment of a Chief Public Health Officer of Canada. We recognize the importance of wellness promotion and disease prevention in enhancing the health of Canadians and contributing to the sustainability of our health care system.

**Public Health**

PROPOSED BY CENTRAL NOVA AND PRINCE GEORGE – PEACE RIVER

Delete all

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-109**

## 53. Public Health

The Conservative Party supports the creation of a Canada Public Health Agency and the appointment of a Chief Public Health Officer of Canada. We recognize the importance of wellness promotion and disease prevention in enhancing the health of Canadians and contributing to the sustainability of our health care system.

**Substance Abuse**

PROPOSED BY ABITIBI – BAIE-JAMES – NUNAVIK – EEYOU

The Conservative Party supports the creation of a Canada Public Health Agency and the appointment of a Chief Public Health Officer of Canada. We recognize the importance of wellness promotion and disease prevention in enhancing the health of Canadians and contributing to the sustainability of our health care system.

**The Conservative Party supports enlarging the focus of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse program to include drug addicts between 25 and 35 years of age**

**RESOLUTION P-110**

53. Public Health

The Conservative Party supports the creation of a Canada Public Health Agency and the appointment of a Chief Public Health Officer of Canada. We recognize the importance of wellness promotion and disease prevention in enhancing the health of Canadians and contributing to the sustainability of our health care system.

**At Risk Workers**

PROPOSED BY NORTHUMBERLAND QUINTE WEST

The Conservative Party supports the creation of a Canada Public Health Agency and the appointment of a Chief Public Health Officer of Canada. We recognize the importance of wellness promotion and disease prevention in enhancing the health of Canadians and contributing to the sustainability of our health care system.

**The Conservative Party believes the government should work with the provinces and territories to get a nationwide agreement to amend labour codes to provide "at risk" workers such as prison guards, law enforcement officials, and health care workers, and their physician or other medical professionals, the right to know when they have been exposed to infectious diseases. This right will transcend the privacy rights of the infected individual, and will be analogous to workers' rights with respect to hazardous materials exposure.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-111****54. Health Sciences Research, Development and Innovation**

- i) The Conservative Party recognizes the importance of health sciences research in enhancing the health of Canadians and as a dynamic economic sector in its own right. A Conservative Government will foster an environment that encourages health sciences research and development of new health care technologies in part through the provision of an adequate level of federal funding.
- ii) A Conservative Government will be open to innovations which would reduce waiting lists, improve the quality of care, and ensure better coordination and information sharing in the delivery of health. A Conservative Government will not be afraid to implement new advances so that all Canadians can benefit from a modern effective health system tailored to meet their needs.

**Complementary Health**

PROPOSED BY NANAIMO-ALBERNI

**iii) The Conservative Party supports the government amending the Canada Health Act to permit the funding complementary health services which demonstrably improve people's health.**

**RESOLUTION P-112**

NEW

**Fighting Illegal Drugs**

PROPOSED BY FLEETWOOD PORT-KELLS

**Fighting Illegal Drugs**

**The Conservative Party believes that when a marijuana grow operation or drug lab is found on a property, the property will be subject to seizure. In order for the property owner to recover the property they must prove that it was not acquired through the proceeds of crime.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-113**

## 77. Dangerous Offenders

- i) A Conservative Government believes that government has an obligation to strengthen Canadians' confidence in our legal system's ability to judge dangerous offenders appropriately so that dangerous offenders will not be released until they are no longer a threat to society.
- ii) Anyone convicted of three offences causing death or serious harm against the person shall be automatically designated as a dangerous offender. This would not preclude the Crown from pursuing dangerous offender status for any other offender deemed to fit the criteria.

**Dangerous Offender Status**

PROPOSED BY DELTA RICHMOND EAST

**(iii) The Conservative Party believes that the government should seek Dangerous Offender Status (and mandatory life sentences) for any person convicted of a third serious violent offence, criminal organization offence, terrorism offence or serious drug trafficking offence.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-114**

## 79. Sentencing

A Conservative Government will:

- i) institute mandatory minimum sentences for violent and repeat offenders;
- ii) require that sentences for multiple convictions be served consecutively;
- iii) eliminate statutory (automatic) release;
- iv) Reform the National Parole Board including increased input from the community and victims in National Parole Board decisions; and
- v) require applicants for parole to demonstrate to the National Parole Board that they have been rehabilitated.

**Faint Hope Clause**

PROPOSED BY NORTHUMBERLAND QUINTE WEST

**vi) repeal the "Faint Hope Clause", thus removing the possibility of parole before 25 years for those sentenced to life in prison.**

**RESOLUTION P-115**

NEW

**Victims of Violent Crimes**

PROPOSED BY SHERBROOKE

**Victims of Violent Crimes**

**The Conservative Party believes the government should create legislation to enable victims of serious violent crimes and their spouses to take a limited leave of absence and to be eligible to receive partial employment insurance coverage.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-116****81. Firearms**

A Conservative Government will repeal Canada's costly gun registry legislation and work with the provinces and territories on cost-effective gun control programs designed to keep guns out of the hands of criminals while respecting the rights of law-abiding Canadians to own and use firearms responsibly. Measures will include: mandatory minimum sentences for the criminal use of firearms; strict monitoring of high-risk individuals; crackdown on the smuggling; safe storage provisions; firearms safety training; a certification screening system for all those wishing to acquire firearms legally; and putting more law enforcement on our streets.

**Firearms Background Checks**

PROPOSED BY ESQUIMALT JUAN DE FUCA

**The Conservative Party believes the government should work with the provinces and territories on developing the most effective mechanisms for doing background checks on potential firearms owners.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-117**

## 83. Young Offenders

- i) A Conservative Government will introduce measures to hold young lawbreakers accountable to their victims and the larger community. A Conservative Government will introduce measures to ensure that violent or serious repeat offenders 14 and over are tried as adults.
- ii) A Conservative Government will work with the provinces and territories to put in place early identification and intervention strategies for youth at risk. The justice system for young people will provide effective punishment that deters criminal behaviour and instils a sense of responsibility in young offenders for their behaviour; and gives young people better opportunities for rehabilitation.

**Young Offender Rehab**

PROPOSED BY GUELPH

**iii) The Conservative Party believes the government should work with the provinces and territories, and interested employers to put in place a Youth Correctional Rehabilitation Program. The program will recognize that poverty is one of the major roots of crime and that stable employment can be the most effective solution to break the cycle of poverty. The program will offer youth a voluntary opportunity for rehabilitation in which life skills are taught, enabling them to successfully enter the workforce through participating employers.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-118**

## 105 Foreign Affairs Principles

- i) The Conservative Party supports a foreign policy that protects Canada's sovereignty and independence, promotes our national interests (political, economic and strategic), contributes to collective security and defence, promotes democratic principles and human rights, and assists in international development.
- ii) A Conservative Government will recognize the importance of an ethical dimension in foreign policy and will advance the values broadly supported by Canadians.
- iii) A Conservative Government will coordinate Canada's international relations, trade and foreign aid policies to advance the country's economic interests while promoting human rights and individual freedom.
- iv) A Conservative Government will integrate our foreign policy with policies on trade and national defence.

**Foreign Policy Social Values**

## PROPOSED BY OTTAWA-VANIER

- iii) A Conservative Government will coordinate Canada's international relations, trade and foreign aid policies to advance the country's economic interests **and social values**, while promoting human rights and individual freedom.

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-119**

## 105 Foreign Affairs Principles

- i) The Conservative Party supports a foreign policy that protects Canada's sovereignty and independence, promotes our national interests (political, economic and strategic), contributes to collective security and defence, promotes democratic principles and human rights, and assists in international development.
- ii) A Conservative Government will recognize the importance of an ethical dimension in foreign policy and will advance the values broadly supported by Canadians.
- iii) A Conservative Government will coordinate Canada's international relations, trade and foreign aid policies to advance the country's economic interests while promoting human rights and individual freedom.
- iv) A Conservative Government will integrate our foreign policy with policies on trade and national defence.

**Human Trafficking**

PROPOSED BY CAUCUS MEMBER(S)

**v) The Conservative Party believes the government should take strong action to combat human trafficking and should take a lead in developing international agreements and protocols against human trafficking.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-120****109 Canada First Defence Policy**

The purpose of Conservative defence policy is to better defend the national interest – the security of the Canadian nation and the economic prosperity of the Canadian people – in accord with the values of Canadians. In all that we do in the area of defence policy, we will apply this basic measure of the national interest, and advance a “Canada First” Defence policy.

- i) The roles and missions supported by the Conservative Party are first, sovereignty protection, domestic defence, and North American shared defence. Conservatives will also support international peace and security missions as well as humanitarian assistance.
- ii) The Conservative Party supports a multi-role, combat capable maritime, land and air force as the appropriate requirement to meet the goals of a “Canada First” Defence Policy. Fundamental capability requirements are national surveillance and control, counter terrorism, air and sea deployability, as well as logistics supportability.
- iii) To achieve these capability requirements, the Conservative Party believes that Canada’s national defence must be more effective and efficient. This includes commitments to provide: improved security of our territory, more front line personnel with less administration; a more efficient and properly funded national procurement process; increased investments in infrastructure with a specific care to married quarters and base housing; a more efficient training and recruitment process; a reduction in rank structure overhead, and an increase in Parliamentary oversight over national defence matters.
- iv) To achieve the goals of a “Canada First” Defence Policy, the Conservative Party believes the regular force strength of the Canadian Forces must be steadily increased to at least 75,000 personnel, along with simultaneous increases in reserve personnel levels.
- v) To support and maintain Canada’s military today as well as cover the costs of an increased force, the Conservative Party believes in immediately injecting significant funds into the Department’s budget, to address the shortfalls in capital, personnel, operating and maintenance activities. To implement our policy, annual increases will follow throughout the mandate.
- vi) The Conservative Party supports the longer term goal of increasing the defence budget base to ensure that Canada can advance its national interests, at levels comparable to Canada’s NATO European allies. A Conservative Government will increase defence spending to the NATO European average as a percentage of G.D.P. A Conservative Government will also guarantee a stable defence budget so that the Department of National Defence can spend funds on its most urgent operational and equipment priorities.
- vii) The Conservative Party supports:
  - a) Canada’s participation in negotiation of a North American Missile Defence System on the clear understanding that any agreement must serve Canada’s interest;
  - b) NORAD as a viable aerospace defence organization to counter threats to North America;
  - c) Canada’s continued cooperation between Canada and the United States with respect to military activities in defence of North America;
  - d) Canada’s continued sovereign and independent command of all armed forces operations within Canadian territory; and
  - e) Immediate moves to increase equipment and resources to exercise Canada’s sovereignty in the Arctic.
- viii) The Conservative Party believes that a viable Canadian Defence Industry contributes to our national security and our industrial productivity, through such sectors as shipbuilding, aerospace, electronics, and land systems among others. Defence procurement will, subject to availability, quality and cost, support Canadian industry that can meet military requirements. The Conservative Party also believes that it is essential to ensure Canadian defence industry has access to the United States defence procurement market.

**Coast Guard**

PROPOSED BY BURNABY

**ix) The Conservative Party believes that the Canadian Coast Guard should be transferred from Fisheries and Oceans Canada to the Department of National Defence. The Conservative Party believes the government should ensure proper funding so that the Canadian Coast Guard can properly achieve its objective of ensuring the safety of people and vessels navigating Canadian waters.**

**RESOLUTION P-121**

109 Canada First Defence Policy

The purpose of Conservative defence policy is to better defend the national interest – the security of the Canadian nation and the economic prosperity of the Canadian people – in accord with the values of Canadians. In all that we do in the area of defence policy, we will apply this basic measure of the national interest, and advance a “Canada First” Defence policy.

...

v) To support and maintain Canada's military today as well as cover the costs of an increased force, the Conservative Party believes in immediately injecting significant funds into the Department's budget, to address the shortfalls in capital, personnel, operating and maintenance activities. To implement our policy, annual increases will follow throughout the mandate.

...

**Support for Children of Military**

PROPOSED BY MACLEOD

**v) (a)** To support and maintain Canada's military today as well as cover the costs of an increased force, the Conservative Party believes in immediately injecting significant funds into the Departments budget, to address the shortfalls in capital, personnel, operating and maintenance activities. To implement our policy, annual increases will follow throughout the mandate.

**(b) All military personnel's children will receive four years of free post-secondary tuition in Canada in the event that one of their parents dies while serving.**

**Policy Floor Resolutions - Conservative Convention 2008****RESOLUTION P-122****110. Veterans**

- i) A Conservative Government will treat all veterans with respect and will create a Veteran's Bill of Rights to ensure that all disputes involving veterans are treated quickly, fairly and with the presumption in favour of the rights of the veteran.
- ii) A Conservative Government will ensure the veterans of Canada's wars and peacekeeping operations receive their veterans' benefits and health care in a timely fashion.
- iii) A Conservative Government will conduct a complete review of the veterans' hospitals to ensure that the needs of veterans are being met.
- iv) The Conservative Party would immediately disband the Veterans Review and Appeal Board (VRAB) and replace the membership with qualified medical and military members who are capable of adjudicating appeals on an informed basis rather than a political basis. The VRAB would be housed in offices separate from VA offices and be in locations as set out in the VA Regional offices (major centres).
- v) The Conservative Party would immediately enlist the services of an Ombudsman with a mandate similar to that of the National Defence Ombudsman.
- vi) The Conservative Party would immediately extend Veterans Independence Program services to the widows of all Second World War and Korean War veterans regardless of when the Veteran died or how long they had been receiving the benefit before they passed away.
- vii) The Conservative Party would examine measures to ensure that National military treasures are retained in Canada as a part of our Canadian heritage.
- viii) The Conservative Party would immediately institute a complete overhaul of Veterans Affairs Canada bringing it online with the needs of today's veterans of conflict and peacekeeping missions. This would include instituting a standard of delivery of services, i.e., reviews, payment of services, etc.

**Veterans Principles**

PROPOSED BY CAUCUS MEMBER(S)

**The Conservative Party believes the government should be committed to providing the best possible services and benefits for veterans and their families, in recognition of their service to Canada. The Conservative Party is also committed to keeping the memory of Canadian veterans' achievements and sacrifices alive through the promotion of public awareness and memorials.**

- i) A Conservative Government will treat all veterans with respect and will create a Veteran's Bill of Rights to ensure that all disputes involving veterans are treated quickly, fairly and with the presumption in favour of the rights of the veteran