

ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

POLICY BOOK

Adopted by Provincial Council on June 15, 2024



POLICY BOOK

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1. Agriculture & Food

1.1. Agricultural Regulations

1.1.1. Agriculture

Formerly: 1.1.1

To ensure the viability of agriculture in the province, the Ontario NDP program to preserve the province's farming industry has the improvement of farm incomes as a top priority.

An Ontario NDP government would speedily enact an effective farm income insurance plan that would incorporate:

- A formal role for farmers' general and commodity organizations in the development of, and the determination of, the terms and conditions of any plan requested by a group of producers;
- Comprehensive coverage for all Ontario commodities which will provide full support up to the negotiated stabilization level, irrespective of the actions of the federal government;
- A provision for full current costs of production to be reflected in the final stabilization price or prices under the plan.

The Ontario NDP would support the legitimate activities of marketing boards that give farmers the collective strength they need to reduce corporate power in the food system and stabilize farm incomes as well as prices to consumers.

Public regulation of production, marketing, and income plans would be designed and administered to ensure the survival of the efficient family farm.

An Ontario NDP government would, through legislative action, reserve for farming all Class 1, 2, and 3 land (lands capable of sustained production of common cultivated crops), and special crop lands.

As recommended by the Ontario Association of Rural Municipalities in 1976, any alternative use of foodland would be permitted only when unanimous consent has been granted by the local planning authorities and councils and by the provincial planning authorities – including the Minister of Agriculture – with an appeal to a provincial land tribunal when consent for non-agricultural use has been refused.

The ARDA land acquisition program would be expanded to permit purchase, for immediate leasing or sale, of all agricultural land which is voluntarily offered.

Implement a code of practice to protect farmers from harassment associated with rural non-farm use.

Tax farmland on the basis of its use as productive farmland.

The Ontario NDP would ensure that the results of government-producer initiatives are not lost in the corporate maze between farmgate and checkout counter by reviewing the retail prices of all foods produced under government-approved income or marketing plans and by outlawing predatory pricing practices.

The development of farmer and consumer co-ops in the food processing, distribution and retail sector would be encouraged through government loans and loan guarantees.

The Ontario NDP would slow the rise in farm operating costs through:

- Increased research into less energy-intensive cultivation practices,
- The development of standardization in the farm machinery industry,
- The enforcement of fair business practices on farm suppliers by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

The Ontario NDP would act to halt the deterioration of our diets by significantly increasing funding for nutrition education at all levels of the provincial education system, by enforcing the sale of nutritious foods in school cafeterias and, where necessary, implement school food programs.

Convention 1978; Convention 1980 (reaffirmed); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

1.1.2. Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs

Formerly: 1.1.4

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reaffirm its commitment to the preservation of the family farm as the foundation of its agriculture and rural affairs policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to promote the viability of agriculture and rural communities in the province, the Ontario NDP endorse a program with the following components:

Self-sufficiency in Agricultural Produce and Food Processing

- The Ontario NDP reaffirms its commitment to policies which promote self-sufficiency in agricultural production and food processing by

encouraging the development of new export and domestic markets for Ontario products (replaces 1.1.3).

- Reaffirms its long-standing policy that Ontario's good foodlands be preserved for agricultural production (replaces 1.2.5 and 1.2.2).
- Supports and encourages the development of niche markets and of value-added activities on the farm.
- Supports and encourages the promotion of farmers' markets.
- Supports the consumption of Ontario products and, as a means of enhancing that objective, recommends that the government take the lead in promoting product labelling by country or province of origin.

Orderly Marketing

- Reaffirms its support for the orderly marketing of farm products and the role of the supply management system and other marketing boards (replaces 1.1.2(2) and 12.1.1(2)).

Farm Finance

- Supports expanding the operations of the Agricultural Commodity Corporation (ACC) in order to encourage the banks to provide more credit on less restrictive terms (replaces 12.1.4);
- Reaffirms its support for options that allow farmers to obtain credit independent of vertically-integrated corporate suppliers (replaces 12.1.1(7));
- Encourages innovative community-based solutions to farm finance, and financing development of rural communities, through programs such as FarmPlus;
- Reaffirms its policy that crop insurance remain in place as an essential farm program, and supports improvements, such as extending crop insurance coverage of partial as well as complete crop loss, etc. (replaces 12.1.1(8)); and
- Supports a whole-farm safety net program that treats all farmers fairly.

Rural community economic development

- Recognizes the role of communities in defining their economic priorities, and the role of government in facilitating the creation of employment in rural areas;

- Further encourages the ethanol industry, which adds value to agricultural products, creates jobs in rural Ontario, and protects the environment;
- Recommends that all tax policy changes take into account the needs and concerns of rural Ontario and of farmers.

Environment

- Encourages and supports agricultural practices which enhance the environment and which will, in turn, help promote continuing viable rural communities (replaces 12.1.9).

Convention 1994; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

1.1.3. Agricultural Regulations

Formerly: 1.5.9

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus will establish a committee to consult with farmers, farm workers and consumers to examine agriculture and food processing and distribution regulations in order to rationalize, simplify and clarify those regulations to ensure that goals for them are clear, processes to meet the requirements that are logical and reasonable, and systems that will ensure that regulatory requirements are met.

Convention 2009; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

1.2. Financial Programs

1.2.1. Restore Food Safety; Rebuild the Public Service

Formerly: 1.4.9

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP actively campaign and seek to implement:

- Government support of small and medium sized enterprises to assist them in meeting food safety and environmental standards;
- A rural strategy to encourage the growth of small and medium sized local production and processing enterprises, to protect farm land, and to rebuild public transportation, water and sewage systems;
- The government to rebuild a public service and reverse the contracting out and privatization of public protection programs.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

1.3. Nutrition and Food Safety

1.3.1. Food Safety First

Formerly: 1.3.8

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP actively campaign for and seek to implement:

- Pressure on the Federal government to immediately reverse the cuts to the food safety public service and to ensure appropriate government oversight of our food supply.
- Provide financial support for small and medium sized enterprises to assist them in meeting any new food safety standards.

Convention 2009; Convention 2019

1.3.2. Food and Water Strategy for Ontario

Formerly: 1.3.9

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will work with farmers, fishers, indigenous people, inner city organizers, entrepreneurs, public health leaders, academics, cooks, gardeners, and others to develop a comprehensive food and water strategy that serves the public interest and puts access to nutritious food and clean water first in Ontario.

Convention 2017

1.3.3. Nutrition in Schools

Formerly: Final paragraph of 1.1.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would act to halt the deterioration of our diets by significantly increasing funding for nutrition education at all levels of the provincial education system, by enforcing the sale of nutritious foods in school cafeterias and, where necessary, implement school food programs.

Convention 1978; Convention 1980 (reaffirmed); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

1.4. Research & Technology

1.4.1. Clean Milk, Milk Products, and Beef

Formerly: 1.3.6

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP support the imposition of a total ban on the use of rBGH in Canada and the imposition of a ban on the importation of rBGH milk, and rBGH milk and meat products.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

1.4.2. Clean, Healthy, Food

Formerly: 1.3.7

BE IT RESOLVED that all genetically engineered food be labelled and identified clearly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Agriculture cease and desist from accepting further funds from the Biotech Industry.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

2. ARTS, CULTURE, INFORMATION, AND COMMUNICATIONS

2.1. Film & Television

2.1.1. The Ontario Motion Picture Industry

Formerly: 2.2.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP supports the establishment of a public film agency to promote the development of an indigenous, popular and economically viable film industry and that this agency would be responsible for:

- Licensing all exhibitors, distributors and producers of commercial motion pictures;
- Administering a film classification system;
- Conducting research and advising the government on film policy;

- Negotiating on behalf of the government with private corporations, associations and other governments to further its mandate;
- Dispersing revenue raised from the box office levy according to discretionary, and non-discretionary formulas to further its mandate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP supports the establishment of a box office levy which would be a small percentage of the ticket price of every film exhibited in Ontario and that levy revenue would be collected by a public film agency which would:

- Return a portion of the levy according to an automatic formula to each theatre or screen for every week it exhibits a Canadian film during the year;
- Return to the Canadian film-maker double the levy earned by each Canadian film exhibited in Ontario according to an automatic formula up to a ceiling which would be each film's production cost;
- Disperse the remainder of the levy at the agency's discretion to cover the cost of administration and further its mandate.

Convention 1976; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

2.2. Artist as a Profession

2.2.1. Status of the Artist

Formerly: 2.2.12

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP prevail upon the government to commit itself to guaranteeing artists and other workers in the cultural sector the same socio-economic benefits, fair treatment and legal rights received by other workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP prevail upon the government to recognize the particular needs of independent artists and acknowledge its responsibility to fully support those artists and cultural industries through Status of the Artist legislation, which would include:

- Access to labour relations services
- Tax status
- Access to social benefits

- Collective bargaining
- Health and safety benefits
- Safe work
- Job training and employment
- Access to affordable housing and work space

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

2.3. Heritage

2.3.1. Conservation of Historic Buildings

Formerly: 14.1.3

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would:

- Recognize the concept that the owner of a property of historic and/or architectural significance has a responsibility to the community to retain and maintain his property as part of our cultural heritage. Similarly, the community has the responsibility to assist the owner in this work;
- Develop strong legislation regarding the designation of properties and districts of historic and architectural significance, and develop legislation to control and/ or prevent demolition and alteration of buildings that have been designated as having such significance;
- Support incentives for the private restoration and maintenance of historic properties. Such incentives might include tax write-offs for the cost of rehabilitation or a freeze on property taxes at the pre-rehabilitation rate;
- Encourage historic conservation by making any grants to the owners of older homes contingent upon their agreeing to retain the original design of the buildings;
- Develop reasonable building codes for older buildings, recognizing that the construction of many older buildings is often superior to modern construction techniques, although not necessarily within modern building code regulations;

- Assist municipalities in developing municipal property standards that are relevant to older buildings, and in training municipal property standards officers to assess the requirements of older buildings;
- Encourage Ontario Housing Corporation to acquire older housing as well as vacant property in older residential areas for rent-geared-to-income housing;
- Provide grants to municipalities to assist them in historic conservation when, for example, buildings must be expropriated to prevent their demolition, or when municipalities must upgrade services in older areas;
- Develop a programme of grants and low-interest loans, similar to the OHR Programme for homeowners, for owners of commercial properties in selected downtowns of Ontario cities and towns;
- Consult with historic conservation organizations regarding areas in which special consideration should be given to history and tradition before undertaking major government development projects (e.g., highways, hydro corridors);
- Urge the federal government to prepare a national register of historic buildings and to develop legislation to prevent the demolition of these buildings.

The Ontario NDP will implement this policy in cooperation with the many groups and organizations throughout Ontario committed to the conservation of historic buildings.

All properties of the Crown will be placed under the purview of The Heritage Act.

Convention 1978; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

2.4. Sport

2.4.1. Slots at Racetrack

Formerly: 4.1.27

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP advocate the SARP be re-instituted to provide much needed stability to the horseracing industry and rural Ontario and that government should engage stakeholders in coming up with a fair and transparent process of revenue sharing for horsepeople and racetrack operators.

2.5. Libraries

2.5.1. Northern Library Services

Formerly: 2.4.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP members of the Legislature urge the Provincial Government to commit the necessary funds and personnel to:

- Ensure that the people of Northern Ontario have adequate access to library services, and
- Provide mechanisms for linking local libraries in cooperative groupings to maximize the access to the available resources (such as the present Regional Library System).
- Where warranted, offer library services equally in French and English.
- Encourage Indigenous peoples to improve their own cultural resources (for example, the Ojibwa Cree Resource Centre in Timmins).

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3. ECONOMY

3.1. Economic Growth

3.1.1. Economic Growth

Formerly: 4.1.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reiterate and stress its fundamental policy that real progress can come about only by a more equal distribution of the gross national product, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we use all means at our disposal to get across to the public:

- The urgent necessity of planned and selective growth,
- That we protect and conserve our national resources, and

- More important than economic growth is a more equal distribution of the national product.

Provincial Council, December 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.1.2. Community-based Economic Development

Formerly: 4.1.7

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP adopt as a component of its economic policy the encouragement of community-based economic development. Such encouragement may include:

- Funding and technical support for municipalities to develop community-based, public-participatory economic planning.
- Legislation and funding to encourage municipalities to develop “enterprise incubators” that are self-managed and publicly accountable.
- Legislation to encourage democratic management practices in all enterprises
- .

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.1.3. Small Business Strategy

Formerly: 4.1.15

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP government provide the resources and environment necessary for small business to grow and flourish:

Increase existing financial investment and incentive program opportunities for small business to participate in receiving funding and assistance.

- Broaden the ability for small business to access start-up and working capital funding for small business under specific guidelines.
- Review the practices of current private sector banking institutions regarding unfair or discriminatory loan policies and service charges that have a detrimental effect on small business.
- Simplify the process necessary for small business to access government ministries and agencies to obtain information, file required forms and

reports and participate in business development and job creation programs.

- Provide incentives, grants, loans for the purpose of research, development and training that is specifically designed to make small business more competitive.

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.1.4. Businesses Leaving Ontario

Formerly: 4.1.25

BE IT RESOLVED that a future Ontario NDP government will encourage and support the development of a policy where clear guidelines are established for businesses wishing to leave the province within 10 years of receiving government incentives. All loan and development monies must be returned to the government program before assets or profits can be removed from the province when the company leaves. A fair loan interest rate should be included in the negotiations and terms for repayment.

Convention 2012

3.1.5. Energy and Jobs

Formerly: 10.5.2

The sale of our raw materials to foreign interests by private resource corporations has been a long standing practice in Ontario. This fails to develop adequately our domestic secondary manufacturing. Economic mismanagement is being aggravated by the present fuel shortages, real or contrived, which are resulting in widespread layoffs. We must take immediate measures to rectify the inadequacies of our past industrial policies.

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will immediately adopt the following program:

Develop an industrial strategy for Ontario based on the fullest processing in Canada of our rich mineral and forest resources being extracted, and an increase in secondary manufacturing based on these resources to replace many of the products now being imported into the country.

As a prerequisite for the above, implement an Ontario energy policy which will bring all energy resources under public control and will aim at the conservation and

best use of our energy resources and the development of new energy sources which will be least harmful to health and the environment.

Put job creation as the top priority in planning the industrial strategy for both Ontario and Canada. To the extent that jobs in industry and commerce fall short of fully employing all those available for work, governments must create new employment opportunities serving community and social needs rather than tolerate a situation which forces large numbers to rely on unemployment insurance or public assistance.

Special measures must be developed for retraining and relocation of workers whose jobs are eliminated by energy conservation programs, before these programs are undertaken. The reduction of planned obsolescence may result in a decrease of the work day or the work week in the entire economy, but must not result in a decrease in the take home pay of the workers.

Provincial Council, December 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.2. Public Ownership

3.2.1. Home Care

Formerly: 10.4.11

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will keep all home care services under public control and administration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will create a permanent professional workforce in home care by ensuring that individuals employed in the home care sector have the right to successor rights.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.3. Taxation & Fiscal Policy

3.3.1. Eliminating Tax Loopholes

Formerly: 4.6.22

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will press for the elimination of the deductibility of labour and environmental fines from taxable corporate income.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.3.2. Corporate Taxes

Formerly: 4.6.25

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work to restore corporate taxes in Ontario to a rate of 14% and enact refundable corporate tax credits that reward companies for on-the-job training, investment in plant and machinery and for creating permanent jobs in Ontario.

Convention 2012

3.3.3. Non-duplication of Corporate Assistance

Formerly: 4.2.8

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will develop and enforce a policy whereby companies who have received government monies may not close that company and re-open a similar company under a different name. All monies and assets owed to the government as return of loan, interest payments and assets must be repaid to the government upon closure of that company.

Convention 2012

3.3.4. Family Caregiver Tax Credit

Formerly: 4.6.26

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP recognizes the tireless, invaluable, and often unrecognized efforts of informal caregivers to support and protect the most vulnerable individuals in our society, including elderly parents, persons living with disabilities, and children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP supports the creation of a family caregiver tax credit.

Convention 2017

3.3.5. Advocacy Groups and Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 4.6.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus press for a tax credit system, based on the political contribution tax credit model, for contributions to persons living with disability consumer advocacy groups.

Where Boards, Committees or Councils oversee the provision of services to, or the development of policy affecting persons living with disability, provision should be made for representation from persons living with disability consumer advocacy groups.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.4. Natural Resources

3.4.1. Secondary Resource Industries

Formerly: 4.1.2

BE IT RESOLVED that all raw materials mined or harvested in Northern Ontario be processed to the greatest degree possible in Northern Ontario; that a Northern Ontario Development Fund be established jointly by the federal and provincial governments to assist existing industries, and that the provincial government establish where necessary its own processing plants in Northern Ontario.

Provincial Council, May 1969; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

3.4.2. Forestry Crisis

Formerly: 4.1.20

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will establish a Northern Forestry Fund with sufficient funding to re-position closed and failing northern mills for future growth.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017

3.4.3. Ring of Fire

Formerly: 6.2.22

THAT The Ontario NDP pursue legislation which ensures that wherever possible all resource processing from the Ring of fire project be carried out in Northern Ontario and in the province of Ontario, to benefit our industries and communities rather than offshore interests. Moving forward, Ring of Fire resource extraction and processing needs a plan that incorporates regional interests, socio-economic development goals, land use planning, infrastructure expansion and Indigenous peoples concerns.

FURTHER, BIRT development in the Ring of Fire must include not merely consultations but consent with First Nations throughout the region and must result in economic and social benefit to their communities.

Convention 2014

3.5. Consumer Protection

3.5.1. Expand the Powers of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario

Formerly: 4.6.28

Be It Resolved that it is the policy of the Ontario NDP that the Finance Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario include the following regulatory powers:

- Regulatory powers to block or place conditions on company takeovers, bankruptcy and insolvency process that are deemed to put pension plans at risk;
- Regulatory powers to ensure that any pension plan is funded at 100% prior to paying any secured creditors;
- Regulatory powers to ensure payment to workers' any termination, severance pay and health benefits owing prior to paying any secured creditors;
- Regulatory powers to ensure prevention of companies from stopping the payment of any retirement benefits during any proceedings under bankruptcy and insolvency processes;
- Regulatory powers to issue punitive fines on company directors and executives in cases of clear wrongdoing; and
- Regulatory powers to claw back directors' and executives' bonuses after a company pension plan[s] collapses.

Convention 2019

4. EDUCATION

4.1. General

4.1.1. Sexual Harassment in Schools

Formerly: 12.4.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP propose to the Ministry of Education that educators involved at all levels including childcare institutions, elementary schools, secondary schools, and postsecondary schools be trained to deal with sexual harassment and assist victims to charge those who violate their rights.

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.1.2. Confronting Anti-Black Racism in Schools

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would immediately require collecting race-based province-wide data using the data standards legislated by the Anti-Racism Act, 2017 to tackle systemic discrimination, anti-Black racism, and worsening mental health outcomes for Black students, education workers, and other staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED an Ontario NDP government would implement an action plan for the training and hiring of Black, Indigenous, and racialized educators for an education workforce which reflects the diversity of Ontario whose jobs and presence will be prioritized and protected from being declared surplus/redundant

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED an Ontario NDP government would implement standards and practices for school boards to provide culturally responsive, trauma-informed support to students and staff impacted by racial violence

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED an Ontario NDP government would require that the Ontario College of Teachers clearly set forth specific standards of practice expected to be understood by every licensed teacher in Ontario, to be able to effectively address anti-Black and systemic racism that causes harm to Black students.

Convention 2022

4.2. Early Childhood Education

4.2.1. Childcare Facilities in Replacement / Renovation Schools

Formerly: 3.2.4

BE IT RESOLVED that the ministries directly responsible for childcare clarify and define their role in and commitment to implementing a long-term policy of either locating a community based childcare centre (for school aged children 3.8 to 12 years) in every school, or having one available to it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these ministries define their role and that of local boards in providing capital funds for the construction of childcare centres in replacement and renovation schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ministries of Education and Community and Social Services work cooperatively with boards of education to ensure that, in areas of identified need, operating subsidies are attached to facilities in replacement and renovation schools.

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.3. Primary & Secondary

4.3.1. School Boards

Formerly: 3.2.9

BE IT RESOLVED that school boards must be given the tools to run excellent community schools by:

- Immediately giving school boards the funds to address pressing needs in our schools by adjusting benchmarks to meet current realities.
- Letting local school boards determine and fund local needs by permitting them 10 per cent powers of taxation.
- Reviewing board amalgamations where problems with delivery of quality education and community services have been identified and develop an immediate plan of action to deal with school and community concerns.
- Making school boards responsible for the ongoing evaluation of teachers

- Reviewing trustee salaries to provide adequate remuneration so that an amended funding formula for trustee compensation reflect the average of current municipal government salary determined by community expectations and relevant job evaluation or equity decisions.

Original policy adoption date unavailable; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.3.2. Full Day Kindergarten

Formerly: 3.2.12

Be It Resolved That the Ontario NDP supports Full Day Kindergarten and will oppose Doug Ford's attacks; and

Be It Further Resolved That the teaching and staffing model should be based on the experiences of educators and the data from experts, and that the Ontario NDP supports the current model of both Early

Childhood Educators and Teachers educating in Full Day Kindergarten classrooms; and

Be It Further Resolved That while the Liberals refused to implement class size caps in Full Day Kindergarten Classrooms, the Ontario NDP will cap Full Day Kindergarten class sizes at 26, end splits with Grade 1, and evaluate these caps to ensure they meet the needs of children and educators.

Convention 2019

4.3.3. Education Funding

Formerly: 3.4.13

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will:

- Create a funding model from the ground up to fund schools and reflect real educational needs.
- Will amend the current funding formula to end the arbitrary distinction between classroom and non-classroom needs and spending to reflect real education needs.
- Update and review all funding formula benchmarks, set too low in 1997, to meet current realities.
- Change the funding formula to accurately reflect the real costs of funding special needs students and eliminate the current individual

Student Assessment (ISA) structure for determining the grant allocations.

- Fund real improvements in our community schools.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that local district school boards be given the power to raise up to an additional 10 percent in funding through local taxation to reflect local community and regional needs;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will scrap the private school tax credit for tuition and invest the savings in our public schools;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will stop contracting out of education services;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will stop the growing trend towards privatization in our education system and undertake an evaluation of the transfer of tax dollars to the private sector away from the classroom and develop a plan to respond to problems identified.

Convention 2002; Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

4.3.4. Public Education Funding

Formerly: 3.4.17

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP opposes the McGuinty government's continued and chronic under-funding of schools in Ontario's four publicly-funded school board systems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP continues to support Ontario's four publicly-funded board systems at this time and oppose any efforts to forcibly amalgamate them.

Be it further resolved that Provincial Council establish a Party task force to examine all public education funding options in Ontario and that that task force report back to Provincial Council within a year of this convention.

Convention 2009; Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

4.3.5. Funding Formula Reform

Formerly: 3.4.22

BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario's NDP call on the Government of Ontario to increase education funding and completely review & overhaul the education funding formula.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following guiding principles be applied for any review:

- Enabling 21st century learning
- Student Well Being
- Supporting rural & northern schools
- Enhancing equity
- Supporting capital expansion & renewal needs
- Overall funding adequacy

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any review specifically examine Education Developer Charges, a re-introduction of the school board mill-rate system, and any further funding mechanisms.

Convention 2019

4.3.6. Health and Phys Ed

Formerly: 3.2.13

Be it resolved that a contemporary Health and Physical Education Curriculum must teach students about the diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression so students see affirmation of their own identities, and understand the breadth of the community around them; and

Be it further resolved that a contemporary Health and Physical Education Curriculum must teach students about the principle of consent, and that they are given the tools to protect themselves from predation, assault, or any form of unwanted behavior; and

Be it further resolved that parents must be given the necessary tools to understand what the curriculum teaches in order to combat misinformation; and

Be it further resolved that Health and Physical Education Curricula should be regularly updated to ensure it meets the evolving needs of students, to address changes in, for example, social media and cyber-bullying.

Convention 2019

4.3.7. Education to Curb Violence

Formerly: 3.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP require the development and implementation of curriculum guidelines that deal with sexual abuse, violence and the roots of violence, as well as sex-role stereotyping, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sexism from all grade levels.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.3.8. Labour History and Workplace Rights for Youth

Formerly: 3.2.6

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP would urge and an Ontario NDP government would mandate:

- The inclusion of labour history in the high school history curriculum;
- The inclusion of labour issues into other social studies curriculum;
- The inclusion of workplace rights and employment standards information among required high school course material.

Convention 2000; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.3.9. Northern Ontario Curriculum

Formerly: 3.4.18

BE IT RESOLVED THAT A Northern Ontario curriculum be taught in public schools, which emphasizes knowledge, skills, and literature, including Indigenous languages, traditions and history which are relevant to Northern Ontario communities.

Convention 2012

4.3.10. Rural Schools

Formerly: 1.6.5

Be It Resolved that the Ontario NDP understands the importance of schools to small and rural communities as a signal that there is a future, and that the Ontario NDP believes Ontarians must call on their government to support the future of their communities;

Be It Further Resolved that that when schools are serving their community, they will not be shut, and we will ensure that rural, remote, and northern communities have access to education.

Convention 2019

4.3.11. Reflecting our Multi-Ethnic Society

Formerly: 3.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Education require that the Faculties of Education select teacher candidates who proportionally reflect our multicultural/multilingual/multiracial/multiethnic society, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Education act to ensure that Boards of Education hire, train and promote staff to proportionally reflect our multicultural/multilingual/multiracial/multiethnic society.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.3.12. Universal Student Nutrition Program

Formerly: 3.4.21

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP supports the implementation of a universal student nutrition program to ensure that all students receive a healthy start to each school day.

Convention 2014

4.3.13 Address public school repair backlog

Be it resolved that a state of good repair standard be established and all schools are funded to ensure that state of good repair; and

Be it resolved that Ontario Students deserve to learn in schools that are in excellent repair; and

Be it further resolved that Educators and Education Workers in Ontario deserve to go to work in schools that are in excellent repair; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP condemns Ontario Liberal governments for failing to address Ontario's school repair backlog, leaving schools where students and workers are too hot in the summer, too cold in the winter, and too often cannot drink the water in the school; and

Be it further resolved that an Ontario NDP government will fix our schools, address the repair backlog while investing in new schools and the maintenance and custodial workers needed to maintain them in a state of good repair.

Convention 2022

4.3.14 Hybrid-Virtual Learning

Be it resolved that that an Ontario NDP government would end the practice of 'hybrid-learning' and prioritize in-person learning in safer, smaller classrooms.

Convention 2022

4.3.15 Rural school funding

Be it resolved that e-learning, when appropriately chosen by students and parents, may provide important options for certain students, but it cannot serve as an excuse to defund or close rural schools or schools in remote communities; and

Be it further resolved that the future development of e-learning must be developed with the input and expertise of education workers, parents and students.

Convention 2022

4.4. Colleges & Universities

4.4.1. Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education

Formerly: 3.3.5

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would provide universities with financial incentives to set up more outreach programs in remote communities (particularly in Northern Ontario) to enable residents of these communities to attend university part-time while keeping their jobs, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would work through the Ministry of Education and with universities and technical colleges to develop an affirmative action program to encourage people from poor or working class backgrounds to attend post-secondary institutions.

Such a program would include:

- The use of textbooks and teaching methods which avoid sex role and class stereotyping, starting in elementary school;
- Provision for more and better individual counselling of students in secondary schools with emphasis on career options and the education needed to achieve career goals;
- An increased role for high-school - post-secondary institution liaison offices;
- The presentation of postsecondary institutions in a more positive light concerning accessibility. Possible means of achieving this aim would include visits to a postsecondary institution by high-school classes and more use of institution facilities for community activities; and
- The encouragement of alternative, non-university training and apprenticeship programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would amend the Employment Standards Act to eliminate 'degree discrimination'; that is, requiring degrees for jobs for which such degrees are superfluous or for which alternative training or work experience are equally relevant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commit itself to the provision of increased funding for more off-campus and job-oriented training opportunities in the small communities of Northern Ontario.

Convention 1982; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.4.2. Post Secondary Tuition

Formerly: 3.3.16

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this convention demand that the Ontario Government immediately reduce tuition fees by 10%;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demand that the Ontario government raise per capita funding of colleges and universities to the national average; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commit to further tuition fee reductions and improvements in student aid;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP opposes income contingent loan repayment schemes and other such mechanisms that will privatize the cost of post secondary education but are promoted as student aid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP would decrease tuition fees by 10% every two years of Government until its eventual elimination.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.4.3. Post-Secondary Tuition

Formerly: 3.3.17

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP opposes the Liberal government's record of permitting Ontario to have the highest average undergraduate and graduate tuition fees in Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reaffirms its support for an immediate tuition freeze as a precursor to further measures to reduce tuition fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reaffirms its commitment to removing interest from student loans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will reduce and eliminate barriers to post-secondary education for Ontarians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will work to eliminate tuition and debt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP recognizes education as a fundamental right.

Convention 2014

4.4.4. Post-Secondary Student Loans

Formerly: 3.3.11

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would ease the eligibility requirements for OSAP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would ensure that the responsibility for the implementation of student loans would not be given to the private sector.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

4.4.5. Labour Education

Formerly: 3.3.7

BE IT RESOLVED That the Ontario NDP support the principle and practice of public funding at Ontario's post-secondary institutions (community colleges and universities) of Centres for Labour Studies as a community service, to meet the educational and leadership development needs of the labour movement, and

That the Ministry of Colleges and Universities establish the necessary financial and administrative structures, both at the Ministry and community level, to facilitate and actively encourage the creation of Centres for Labour Studies throughout the province, and

That local union members, officers, and staffs as well as local labour organizations be encouraged to fully participate in the determination, development and presentation of appropriate courses of study, and that courses offered by centres for Labour Studies be fully accredited leading to a diploma in Labour Studies.

Convention 1976; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

4.4.6. Education of Health Professionals

Formerly: 3.3.6

The team approach which is at the core of the community centre concept demands a common vocabulary and common experiences on the part of various health professionals in order for the team approach to function at its maximum efficiency. In the proposed plan, therefore, the existing type of health education will be altered to provide a common educational background to all health professionals.

We propose that all health professionals including, for example, nurses, social workers, physicians and clinical psychologists, will have a common, integrated two-year basic science course as part of their initial training. The basic sciences here include both the biological and the social sciences. Specialized training will commence only after this initial period.

In the existing health system, many professionals are trained with very little contact with the problems they will actually face in the community. Physicians, for example, are trained almost entirely in hospitals. In the proposed health system, most health professionals will receive a major part of their practical training in the community health centres themselves. This will ensure that these professionals are highly familiar with the actual social and health problems they will meet in the community at large.

Convention 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

4.5. Continuing Education

4.5.1. Literacy Resolution

Formerly: 3.4.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will fight to restore funding to workplace literacy programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will work with representatives from our multicultural communities to ensure literacy and ESL or FSL training are accessible to working families across Ontario.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

4.5.2. Job Training for those Entering the Workforce from Home

Formerly: 3.4.10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP of

Ontario supports the necessity of funding for and help in finding:

- Adequate childcare to allow education training or retraining or apprenticeship.
- Supports to workplace entry or re-entry such as life skills and wardrobe.

- Language training as needed.
- Proper and adequate job training.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

5.1. Environmental Protection

5.1.1. Synthetic Chemical Pesticides & Fertilizers

Formerly: 6.2.10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP urge, and when in government bring about, the phasing out of the landscape/cosmetic use of synthetic chemical pesticides and the immediate development and implementation of a comprehensive education program to demonstrate the efficacy of sustainable lawn and garden maintenance practices.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

5.1.2. Ban/Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracturing

Formerly: 6.2.20

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP support a ban/moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in the Great Lakes Basin.

Convention 2014

5.1.3. Environment Resolution

Formerly: 6.2.6

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work to restore funding, staffing, and district offices of the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Natural Resources, and that environmental standards be strengthened to benefit public health, negating threats of trade agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that job creation and business be implemented which benefit expansion and development of ecologically sustainable technologies;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special environment caucus be formed with labour and environmental groups to develop an environmentally friendly and ecologically sustainable election platform.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5.1.4. Protection of the Great Lakes

Formerly: 6.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would undertake the following actions to reverse the decline of the Great Lakes:

Principles:

Three principles will guide all public policy initiatives regarding the Great Lakes:

1. The lakes and their watersheds are ecosystems and must be managed as ecosystems: different components of ecosystems are interrelated and management must reflect this, for example, water quality cannot be managed in isolation from wetland protection.
2. The ultimate goal must be zero discharge of persistent toxic chemicals, and
3. Pollution must be prevented at its source rather than treated after the fact.

Toxic Chemicals:

Discharges of the critical toxic pollutants named by the International Joint Commission should be banned within five years. Ontario should also promote development of a bi-national toxic management strategy to achieve zero discharge. Ontario will, along with national and state governments, designate Lake Superior as a model for the rest of the Great Lakes system, where no point source of discharge of any persistent toxic substance will be permitted. Approvals for new chemicals should be based on the principle of “guilty until proven innocent”.

Remedial Action Plans:

The 42 worst polluted areas along the Great Lakes, including 17 within Ontario, are the subject of Remedial Action plans to restore the areas’ environmental integrity. A legal basis for Remedial Action plans should be provided, including the means to ensure the compliance by the many responsible agencies.

The plans’ relation and dependence on other programs, especially the Municipal/Industrial Strategy for Abatement and the Soil and Water Environmental

Enhancement Program, requires that these programs be evaluated for their effectiveness in meeting Remedial Action Plan goals.

Coastal Zone Management:

A comprehensive coastal zone management program should be legislated for the Great Lakes to protect the environmental integrity of the lakes' coastlines. The weak Shoreline Management Program instituted by the Liberals was narrowly focused on preventing property loss from erosion and flooding. Ecologically important coastal areas of the Great lakes must be identified and protected. Development must not occur within these important ecological areas or in flood or erosion prone areas. Management of shoreline land use must be undertaken rather than further manipulation of the lake water levels and engineered alterations to shorelines.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.1.5. Niagara Escarpment

Formerly: 6.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP:

Strengthen the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act, and hence the Niagara Escarpment Plan (the Plan) with the aim of protecting the natural environment of the Plan Area from inappropriate development and use;

Ensure that the Act and the Plan would allow the Province to discharge properly its responsibilities as the guardian of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve; and ensure that adequate funds are available to the Ministry of the Environment to adequately monitor compliance with the Plan, and take legal action where appropriate;

Transfer jurisdiction for all matters pertaining to the Niagara Escarpment to the Ministry of the Environment; specifically, transfer responsibility for administration of the Niagara Escarpment Fund for land acquisition and research to the Ministry of the Environment from the Ministry of Culture and Communications;

Include specific rules and regulations in the legislation that will ensure environmental protection considerations are accorded precedence over development considerations;

Endow the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) with stronger control and influence over environment protection, parks, and natural resource management;

Prohibit new pits and quarries and phase out current aggregate mining activities in the Plan Area over the next ten years;

Support the acquisition of a permanent right-of-way for the Bruce Trail along the Niagara Escarpment from Queenston to Tobermory; and

Maintain a healthy and viable agricultural industry along the Niagara Escarpment in line with our agricultural policies.

Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.2. Environmental Regulation

5.2.1. Environment Funding Cutback

Formerly: 6.2.14

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP demand that the Ministry of Environment enforcement and monitoring divisions be given the resources to ensure that environmental rules and regulations are enforced;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP press for the introduction of fees for taking groundwater and surface water, and designate these funds for source water protection;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP press for Source Protection Planning to be central to all land use decisions through the introduction of specific legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP press for the amendment of related environmental and planning legislation and tools i.e. Planning Act, Provincial Policy Statement, Environmental Protection Act, Environmental Assessment Act.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.2.2. Intervener Funding for Environmental Assessments

Formerly: 6.2.16

BE IT RESOLVED that project proponents provide the financing for intervener funding and that this funding be administered by the Attorney General as was the case under the Ontario NDP government.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.2.3. Environmental Assessment for Electricity Supply Plan

Formerly: 6.6.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demands the Ontario government respect the environmental laws of Ontario;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demands that the Ontario government submit any electricity supply mix plan to a full environmental assessment under Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act with a full consideration of environmental issues and comparison of real costs and alternatives.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5.3. Renewable Resources

5.3.1. Ontario Water Strategy

Formerly: 6.2.24

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would create an Ontario Water Strategy that puts public interest ahead of commercial water taking and develop an evidence-based approach to:

- Ensure all Ontarians, including First Nations, have access to clean drinking water.
- Establish sustainable long-term water use planning based on current and future needs.
- Create an inventory of water, including measurement of use and return.
- Establish a transparent and public review of the Permit-to-Take-Water process, especially for bottled water, to ensure permitting provides for long-term stability, public use and good watershed management.

Convention 2017

5.3.2. Logging, Replanting, and Wood Use

Formerly: 6.3.2

BE IT RESOLVED that stricter and more environmentally appropriate laws and regulations be developed and enforced regarding logging and replanting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that where it will facilitate more effective control and development of appropriate timber management, additional multi-use provincial parks be established;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that more studies be promoted into the ways of reducing lumber use by the development of alternatives to present building practices and the wasteful use of timber.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5.4. Energy

5.4.1. Alternate Energy

Formerly: 6.6.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP make a commitment to the alternate energy industry, i.e. solar, wind and water, be supported in equal measure to that of oil, gas and coal, and that consumers have the availability of choices and the benefits accorded from those choices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government invest public funds into research/development for alternative energy sources.

Convention 1998; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.4.2. Nuclear Energy

Formerly: 6.6.4

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP:

- Opposes further nuclear energy projects until such time as the safe disposal of wastes and the safety of the projects themselves can be assured and then only where a definite need for such projects can be clearly demonstrated that cannot be satisfied by non-fossil alternative sources in Ontario or through purchases of hydro -electric power from other jurisdictions in Canada;
- Calls for a stringent safety program to be developed and rigorously applied to those nuclear projects already in operation;
- Would establish and enforce strict criteria for mine abandonment site rehabilitation and waste disposal;

- Opposes the construction of electrical generation facilities solely for the export of electricity and the expansion of the power distribution system to facilitate export sales;
- Opposes power sales to the United States other than to meet emergencies and to dispose of off-peak surpluses;
- Under public ownership of the uranium mining industry, would cancel all export contracts to any country found violating strict non-proliferation safeguards;
- Advocates the establishment of an extensive publicly-financed program for the development of renewable energy resources and of effective energy conservation and efficiency-enhancing measures, with particular emphasis on renewable forms such as solar, wind and biomass;
- Would phase out or shutdown existing facilities when environmentally acceptable alternatives are available and economically viable;
- Would not implement policies leading to a reduction in employment in the nuclear industry unless and until employees to be displaced are guaranteed the opportunity for alternative employment at comparable wages through measures including fully paid retraining, relocation assistance, full compensation for losses in housing values, and pension portability.

Convention 1982; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.4.3. Transportation of Nuclear Fuel

Formerly: 6.2.8

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reject the present plan to transport weapons-grade plutonium through Northern and Eastern Ontario, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP urge the Government of Canada not to transport weapons-grade plutonium through First Nations territories without prior negotiations with, and approval from the First Nations along the specified route, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP urge the Government of Canada to put in place an adequate consultation process open to the public to discuss any further possibility of the transportation of weapons-grade plutonium through Northern and Eastern Ontario.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

5.4.4. Ethanol Production in Rural Communities

Formerly: 6.6.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Government through the Ministry of Energy and Environment take actions to introduce the mandatory introduction of up to 15% blend of ethanol in gasoline to be implemented over a three-year period;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Government be petitioned to support this concept on a country wide policy.

Convention 1994; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.5. Waste Management

5.5.1. Enforcement of MISA Standards

Formerly: 6.4.1

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would act immediately to effectively regulate hazardous waste discharge to sewer systems by amending legislation to impose the same standards on industries discharging into sewers as the MISA program will impose on industries discharging directly to rivers and lakes. This would be done by transferring jurisdiction from the municipal to the provincial level of government.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.5.2. Beverage Containers

Formerly: 6.4.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP's existing policy statement become far more wide-reaching so that it deals with all non-paper food and beverage containers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP not only promote standard container sizes, but that their shape be standardized and limited in variety, and that brand markings and identifiers be removed from the basic containers so that recycled containers can be used by any of the manufacturers dealing in the various categories of products, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that whatever adhesives are used to attach the brand and content labels to containers should be such that these labels can be removed without strong chemical solutions during the washing/resterilizing processes required for recycled containers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a deposit fee be charged on all glass, aluminum, steel and plastic containers, and that this fee be raised as needed to ensure that a near 100% return of containers takes place, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the “Solid Waste Tax” provisions of the preceding policy statement be retained and used as a policy tool to expense non-returnables and non-reusables out of the marketplace.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.5.3. Composting

Formerly: 6.4.4

BE IT RESOLVED that all municipalities within Ontario be required to set up composting centres and collection facilities within their boundaries that are separate and distinct from other waste disposal services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all vegetation waste materials be included in this stream, including wood, brush, leaves, plant materials, even vegetable food waste, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these composting centres not merely be dumps or landfills but dynamic processing centres that will, in an appropriate time period, reach a steady state in terms of volume.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.5.4. Transportation of Solid Waste

Formerly: 6.4.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government prohibit the transportation of solid waste from any region to a disposal site in any other region of the province.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

5.5.5. Nuclear Waste

Formerly: 6.4.8

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will call for the deferral by the federal and Ontario governments of further review and any approval of the Deep Geologic Repository Project environmental assessment for low and intermediate level radioactive waste at the Bruce Nuclear Site until such time as:

- an independent technical body is established, and has completed an evaluation of the state of technical and scientific knowledge with respect to deep geological repositories for nuclear waste and an assessment as to whether Canada's regulatory regime is sufficiently robust to adequately support an environmental assessment and licensing review of proposals for deep geologic repositories;
- there is a full evaluation of alternatives to the proposed deep geologic repository, including alternative sites, alternative designs and alternative methods; and
- residents, stakeholders and rights holders in the Great Lakes Basin - including in potential host communities, neighbouring communities, transportation corridor communities, and the broader Great Lakes community are engaged in a direct and active dialogue facilitated by a trusted third party.

Convention 2017

5.5.6. Oxford County Landfill Project

Formerly: 6.4.7

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP call for a moratorium to be imposed on the Oxford County landfill project as requested by the community petitions until a letter of "Complete Consultation and Accommodation" has been issued as per the Land Use Consultation and Accommodation Policy described by the Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNCR #197-02/06/2009 and #198-02/06/2009, amended February 25, 2010 LAR#802/25/2010) which will protect our water resources for the future.

Convention 2014

5.6. Pollution & Clean-Up

5.6.1. Corporate Remediation

Formerly: 4.1.26

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government create a policy stating that Companies that leave the country must give the government funds sufficient to cover the costs of any remediation or clean up required on the site the company occupied.

Convention 2012

5.6.2. Pollution

Formerly: 6.5.2

BE IT RESOLVED that companies be required to pay the full costs of clean-up of pollution which they create and any damage that such pollution may cause;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that companies be required to develop acceptable plans for reducing any pollution which they may be causing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that inspections for toxic emissions and wastes be increased;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an anti-pollution hotline be established.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5.7. Transition to a Green Economy

5.7.1. Climate Emergency

Formerly: 6.2.25

The Ontario NDP believes Ontario must declare a climate emergency in order to officially recognize climate change as a real threat to our environment, our people and our economy, and develop provincial strategies and an action plan that will mitigate these threats and preserve our province for future generations.

Convention 2019

5.7.2. “Green New Deal” and Listening Tour

Formerly: 6.2.26

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP once in government will implement a Green New Deal that would create thousands of new permanent green jobs for

Ontarians, in order to transition to a zero-carbon economy by no later than 2050, including by building a clean electricity grid with zero-emission sources;

Be it further resolved that a Green New Deal must strengthen the role of communities, cooperatives, racialized people and First Nations, Inuit and Métis in order to increase energy democracy;

Be it further resolved that in collaboration with Provincial Council, the Provincial Executive organize a “Listening Tour”, in which citizens across Ontario have the opportunity to provide input on what a “Green New Deal” would look like in their own communities, and which would begin no later than September 2019 or as soon as feasible after that.

Convention 2019

5.7.3. A Clean Green Energy Future

Formerly: 6.6.12

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will adopt an ambitious energy strategy including:

- Tougher energy efficiency standards for appliances and equipment;
- An improved building code;
- Aggressive demand response initiatives to meet peak period demand;
- An Ontario version of the Manitoba model for energy efficiency financing and leasing to encourage homeowners and businesses to retrofit and undertake other energy efficiency measures;
- Municipal governments, provincial government, and the local distribution companies becoming models of energy efficiency and conservation;
- Expansion of the European model of purchasing small scale renewable power (standard offer contract) as a way of building our renewable electrical industry and supply capacity;

- The development of high-efficiency cogeneration, co-operatively owned generation and publicly owned community generation to take advantage of renewable and high efficiency technologies;
- A greater commitment to waterpower.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

5.7.4. Long-Term Energy Strategy

Formerly: 6.6.15

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will develop an equitable, comprehensive 10-year energy and electricity plan for the Province of Ontario that includes the following policies:

- Make energy efficiency and renewable energy supply a cornerstone of policies to diversify and strengthen the economy and deliver affordable housing to those in need;
- Set specific targets and milestones for implementation of regional and local smart grids and power storage through partnerships with municipalities and support for more community ownership and development of local grids;
- Set specific targets and milestones for expansion of behind-the-meter renewable power generation through innovative net metering and community ownership policies and expanded customer storage capacity;
- Reduce natural gas use for base and mid-load power generation and replace it with hydro power.
- Ensure full transparency for all power supply contracts, regardless of energy source.

Convention 2017

5.7.5. Zero-Emissions Vehicle Strategy

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP is proud of the ambitious and exciting goal of implementing a Zero-Emissions Vehicle Strategy that will ensure 100% of vehicles sold in Ontario are Zero-Emissions by 2035; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP supports Ontario Autoworkers and an Ontario NDP government will work with labour, business and other levels of governments to ensure the Zero-Emissions Vehicle revolution creates new jobs in parts, assembly, and technology that are here in Ontario, and that the Zero-Emissions mandate creates new, good, career-oriented, unionized auto jobs in Ontario now and for generations.

Convention 2022

6. GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

6.1. Government Accountability

6.1.1. Restore Auditor General Oversight

Formerly: 5.1.24

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP commit to restoring the Auditor General's oversight of government advertising.

Convention 2017

6.2. Democratic Reform

6.2.1. Dialogue for Change on Electoral Reform

Formerly: 5.1.0

Through dialogue for change, the Ontario NDP will:

1. Articulate a vision of democracy that enlists the support and participation of citizens by listening to them and responding to their concerns. Our vision is based on the equality of all citizens and the belief that the rights of citizens and the common good are more important than money, corporations and private interests.
2. Change the electoral system to give citizens more voice and greater control by moving to a system of mixed-member proportional representation.
3. Restore open and accountable government for Ontario by:
 - Requiring new significant minimum time for debate and consultation on major new legislation.

- Significantly expanding public access to internal government documents.
 - Guaranteeing public hearings, with adequate notice, on major initiatives.
 - Ensure adequate funding to the office of the Ombudsman, the Ontario Human Rights Commission, Freedom of Information, the Pay Equity Commission, as well as the intervenor funding to ensure citizens' groups are represented when governments consider new initiatives, and restore the mandate of the Human Rights Commission to take cases of discrimination to the Human Rights Tribunal.
 - Restoring fairness, diversity and equity in all government appointments by continuously removing barriers.
4. Reject unequivocally government by referendum. Politicians are elected to sort through complex issues after meaningful consultation with the public. The use of referenda by the Province will be limited to changes to how we are governed or constitutional change. Any referenda must be governed by strict spending limits and an independent commission to frame the question. Referenda must never violate rights and freedoms guaranteed in the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Charter.
 5. Strengthen local democracy by:
 - Legislating reasonable autonomy for municipalities, so the provincial government could not make major changes to municipal boundaries and responsibilities without substantial public input and consultation.
 - Introducing a province-wide system of tax credits for donations to municipal campaigns.
 - Conduct a review of all amalgamations imposed by the Ontario government, and work with local communities to restore local democratic control and accountability that meets the needs of the communities involved.
 6. Use new ways such as constituent assemblies, town halls, and Internet exchange to listen to citizens and involve them in democratic debate.
 7. Help the voluntary sector contribute to the well-being of communities.
 8. Place high priority on fighting poverty, which impedes full citizen participation in our democracy.
 9. Apply democratic reform to the corporate world, as well as to government. The Ontario NDP must keep working with social democrats around the world to develop and implement tools to challenge and channel the power of global capital and assert local control of our economy.

10. Introduce an Ontario Charter of Social Rights which sets the social rights that ought to be enjoyed by all Ontarians, including rights to housing, education, health care, and an adequate income. Develop a mechanism for enforcing these rights.
11. Ensure that an eligible voter who is not on the voter's list will be able to swear in at the polling station and vote in a provincial election.
12. Bring fairness to the elections process by implementing public financing of campaigns, banning corporate donations to political parties, allowing political tax credit receipting for leadership campaigns, and restoring door-to-door enumeration.

Convention 2009; Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

6.2.2. Proportional Representation

Formerly: 5.1.23 (duplicate)

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP reaffirms its endorsement of a system of proportional representation for Ontario and be it further resolved that the proposed system of voting incorporate the following characteristics:

- Preservation of the traditional link between voter and MPP by keeping constituency seats;
- Two votes: one for a local constituency candidate and one for a Party's list of candidates;
- Party lists to be developed and applied at a regional rather than provincial level;
- Restoration and enhancement of democracy through the provision of additional seats in the Legislature;
- Additional seats to be filled from Party Lists so as to offset disproportionality between the constituency elections and the popular Party vote.
- Voters to have the option of either endorsing the party's regional list, or casting a personal vote for a candidate within the regional list.

Convention 2014

6.2.3. Election Finances

Formerly: 5.1.19

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will reaffirm its partnership with the labour movement, and amend the Ontario Elections Act to place strict restrictions and lower ceilings on election (individual, labour affiliate and corporate) donations and spending at the provincial level and the local level.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all donations are banned from numbered companies.

Convention 2002; Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

6.2.4. Leave of Absence

Formerly: 5.1.3

BE IT RESOLVED that persons wishing to run for public office be granted a paid leave of absence by law to both campaign and service as an elected representative if elected, without pay, for the duration of the term of office.

Provincial Council, February 1969; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

6.2.5. Return to the Enumeration Voter Registration Process

Formerly: 5.1.20

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP petition the Government of Ontario and Elections Ontario to abandon the Permanent Voters' List and return to the enumeration voter-registration process for the next Ontario General Election.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

6.2.6. Youth Political Engagement

Formerly: 5.1.25

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP will, upon forming government, rewrite the civics curriculum such that one week be given to each provincial political party to teach their history, values, past, or future platform or anything related, as they see fit; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP will, upon forming government, lower the voting age to 14; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP will, upon forming government, direct the Ministry of Education to make field trips to polls on or before election day a mandatory policy of each school board.

Convention 2019

7. HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

7.1. Public Delivery of Health Care

7.1.1. A New Democratic Vision of Health for a New Millennium

Formerly: 7.0.0

The Ontario NDP will:

1. Stop creeping privatization in our health care system by expanding and defending public health care. For-profit, corporate health care has been shown by research to lead to higher costs without improving quality or access for the population. The best solutions and innovations lie within the public healthcare system. This means an end to further privatization, user fees or premiums, and contracting out of health services. This means reversing the Ontario government's privatization in home care, in hospitals and elsewhere and the offloading of caregiving responsibility to individuals and primary family caregivers. This also means an end to public-private partnerships (P3's) in health care, which have repeatedly been shown to increase costs and risks to governments. This means expanding the coverage provided by OHIP to services that have been de-listed and other medically necessary services. This means upholding the principles of the Canada Health Act: accessibility, universality, comprehensiveness, portability, public administration and funding - and that a provincial pharmacare program will be implemented within 18 months of the election of an Ontario NDP government, whereby no Ontarian will pay more than \$100 annually for drugs necessary for their well-being and that a provincial dental care program will be implemented within 18 months of the election of an Ontario NDP government, for all children under 18, all seniors, and all low income Ontarians.
2. Improve the health system's coordination, integration and sharing of information. Medical professionals of all levels and disciplines and institutions

should put individual patients, and their medical histories, at the centre of the system. Our health system should coordinate delivery of care and respite services, especially during the transition into and out of acute care facilities, and be accountable for recording and reporting of outcomes, including readmission rates and other adverse events. This would include funding and otherwise facilitating an electronic health record to allow for secure communication, to minimize duplication, and as part of an ongoing patient safety culture.

3. Guarantee proper funding for home care and nursing homes so that patients have real choice about the kind of long-term care that meets their needs for safe, compassionate care promoting their quality of life, which would include a range of supports for patients and family caregivers.
4. Adequately fund and rebuild, as necessary, a full range of institutional and community mental health services.
5. Engage in real health planning that is democratic and in tune with the needs of communities. Coordinated, community-led health planning should include all sectors of the health care system and be accountable to all members of the community.
6. Recognize the importance of every health care worker as a valued member of a multi-disciplinary caregiving team. This means providing multiple entry points to the health care system and an end to de-skilling health care workers and driving down their wages. It also means employing more nurses, nurse practitioners and other health care workers while maintaining fair wages and working to fully utilize the skills for which they have been trained.
7. Deliver a Health Bill of Rights. Health care is a social right and a Bill of Rights will provide a legislated mechanism to ensure the health system delivers timely treatment, accountability, safety, confidentiality, service, and adherence to the principles of the Canada Health Act.
8. Work with doctors and communities to introduce more progressive and accountable alternatives to fee-for-service methods of payment. These could include community health centres, globally-funded group practices, salary, or other alternate payment plans on a public, non-profit basis.
9. Improve the health of individuals and communities by recognizing the role of and taking preventative, positive action on “determinants of health,” the social, economic, behavioral and environmental factors that have a powerful impact on health status, including jobs, schools, child care, nutrition, income support, affordable housing, and the environment. Health promotion and protection work such as education, sanitation and public nutrition are key parts of the provincial health care system. This will also include measures to encourage and support healthy living, such as initiatives to reduce tobacco use and the scourge of tobacco-related diseases and encourage healthy diets and active exercise at all ages.

10. Promote the responsible use of medication.
11. Work to increase human and other resources in the health-care system, including enhanced access for under-served areas, in order to provide timely care. Waiting times are a symptom of problems in a complex adaptive system. While the solutions will need to be multi-factorial, including some efficiencies, innovations and coordination in practices, the principal requirement is an increase in system capacity (to correct the shortages created by the closure of acute care beds during hospital restructuring without putting the necessary community supports in place). This increase in capacity will also be vital to the availability of “surge capacity” to deal with regular fluctuations in need as well as crises (e.g., SARS or pandemic influenza). Necessary steps include a strategy to correct the shortage in health care providers (including but not limited to doctors and nurses) by recruitment, retention, and a long-term plan for self-sufficiency.
12. Enforce standards for the protection of public health and provincially fund the services required to meet those standards.
13. Expand support for and the use of complementary and holistic therapies that are proven to be safe and effective. This means exploring issues of expanding public funding and expanded regulation where appropriate.
14. Support efforts to increase the rate of organ and tissue donation by strong support of relevant health care services, public education, research, legislation, living donor support and specific donor compensation programs.
15. Recognize and support clinical and systems research to advance medical knowledge. This includes research into “knowledge translation” to encourage evidence-based practice and promote the transfer of high-quality research into effective changes in health policy and clinical practice.
16. Ensure that all Ontarians have the right to a primary care physician or a nurse practitioner in a timely manner either through a family physician or a community health centre.

Convention 2017 (amended)

7.1.2. Financing the System

Formerly: 7.2.3

The right to health services is as basic in a democracy as the right to education or to vote. Experience has proved that the only way to provide these health services for all who need them is through a plan to which all contribute according to their means and upon which all can draw in time of need. Consequently, an Ontario NDP government would progressively abolish health care premiums, financing the entire cost of health services by means of the graduated income tax. Health

workers would be remunerated in accordance with a schedule determined by negotiation with the provincial government. In a health care system based on community clinics and the team approach, the fee for service method payment would become progressively an anachronism and would gradually disappear. But since the establishment of the community centres would be on a pilot basis and would take time to implement, the present system of family physicians paid on a fee-for-service basis would remain, although incentives would be provided concurrently for physicians to enter the community centres. Eventually the balance would shift decisively, perhaps entirely, to community health and social services centres.

While regional health council and local clinics would determine community health priorities, control of the amount of provincial resources allocated to the health system, and the guidelines for distribution of these resources within the system, must be a function of the province.

Convention 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.1.3. Replacing LHINs

Formerly: 7.2.23

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Ontario NDP support the elimination of the LHINs and create accountable regional planning bodies with principled clear mandates based on equity and access to health care for all Ontario citizens.

Convention 2012

7.1.4. Preventing Privatization of Health Care Services

Formerly: 7.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would enact legislation to prevent the privatization of hospitals and other health care services.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.1.5. OHIP Billing Practices

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 3)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That in the short term, the practice of OHIP continuing to pay doctors who opt out and allowing extra billing be prohibited;
- That over the long term, the fee-for-service system be replaced by other methods of payment for health services, such as salary and capitation.

7.1.6. OFL Campaign for Accountability in Home Care

Formerly: 10.2.16

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work with the OFL and its allies, to press the provincial government to eliminate the competitive bidding process, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work with the OFL, affiliates, labour councils and the Ontario Health Coalition in a campaign to have labour and community health activists elected to CCAC Boards of Directors across Ontario, while they exist.

Convention 2000; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.2. Community Health Services

7.2.1. Community-Based Health Services

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 2 & Part 7)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That the level of funding of health care be increased with an emphasis on the provision of home care and other community-based services;
- That the cost-sharing method of financing health care be returned;
- That a governmental task force be established to undertake a critical examination of the availability of chronic care beds, nursing homes, and other services for those receiving long-term care.
- That medical outpatient clinics, community health centres, be open 24 hours a day;
- That these centres be conveniently located in each neighbourhood.

7.2.2. The Community Health and Social Services Centre

Formerly: 7.2.2

The Ontario NDP government would move with all speed to introduce community health and social services centres in selected localities on a pilot evaluative project basis, in order to integrate the health and social services. The community health and social services centre would be a basic unit of the integrated health and social services systems.

Definition: The community centre is a facility providing comprehensive ambulatory health and social services care to the individuals in the specified geographic area by a team of professionals and volunteer staff, and linked with other health and social services institutions providing more specialized services, i.e. hospitals.

Comprehensive health care can be defined as care which includes four essential elements: health education; preventative care; diagnosis and treatment; and functional rehabilitation and recovery. Recognition of the social element as a component of a total health picture necessitates inclusion of family, social and welfare benefits as an essential part of the services offered at the community centre.

Services: The services provided would include actual health care, diagnostic and treatment both medical and dental, special family, school, mental, dental, and industrial health programs, health education, counselling, day care, homemakers, visiting nurses, supervision of home care, legal aid, social and welfare services. Additionally, the services centre would provide basic radiological, laboratory and pharmaceutical services.

The large scale retraining, rehabilitation and employment problems have to be dealt with outside the centre and in more specialized settings. The individuals who need hospitalization would naturally be transferred to a hospital since the community centre would not have any beds - not even so-called holding overnight beds. The many functions of the family physician, the out-patient departments of both medical and mental hospitals, and the welfare services now provided by special centres would naturally move to the centre in an effort to provide health and social services in a comprehensive fashion.

The team: The community centre would be organized on a team basis. The team would include nurses, social workers, welfare workers, counsellors, physicians, lab technicians, volunteers and other staff, depending upon the size and/or extent of the services provided by the centre. The physician would be a member of the team, providing the more technical expertise, but would not be necessarily the primary care worker. It is estimated that the bulk of the problems that would need to be dealt with by the centre would involve social and emotional problems and

consequently the predominance of the staff would come from other than medical disciplines: possibly with the nurse-practitioner as the primary care worker. The team would be organized around the needs of the patient and in some cases, indeed, the leader of the team may be a physician: in other cases, it may be a counsellor. This multi-disciplinary team would work together in critical review to provide adequate quality control.

Size of the Catchment Area: The size of the population served would vary greatly. In a rural area it would be smaller because of the size of the area, and vary from 5,000 to 20,000 people. In an urban area it may range from 10,000 to 20,000 people. In a rural area the accessibility must be the determining factor with regard to the size, while in an urban area efficiency and comprehensiveness would be the determining factors.

Control Mechanisms: The director of the centre, who should in the majority of cases be a trained administrator, should be responsible to the community board. Staff would also elect representatives to the board.

The community centre is an integral part of an integrated health and social services system. The system would be divided into regions with their own regional boards, which in turn would be responsible to the central planning body.

Health Education: The centre would be a setting for continuous education of the centre staff, a major vehicle for the training of health and social services professionals, especially physicians, and also for the coordination of the various health education programs for the community and the schools.

Co-operative Group Health Centres: The Convention goes on record in support of efforts now under way to establish consumer controlled, co-operative group health centres, including the increased activities of the Canadian Labour Congress.

Convention 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.2.3. Equitable Health Care Services

Formerly: 7.3.12

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP is committed to redressing this inequitable allocation of resources and services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government undertake as a top priority to establish a cross-province network of publicly funded community clinics and clinics for persons capable of giving birth/pregnancy, providing a full range of preventive and acute health care services in a system of public non-profit clinics;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that immediate equity be established with regard to the financing and support of health care research;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that abortion services and birth control counselling be an integral part of health care services available to all Ontario residents.

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.2.4 Collect Race-based data for health

BE IT RESOLVED that race-based data health data should be collected and analyzed in order to direct anti-racist health program delivery and spending; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while health care race-based data has been a focus of experts, Ontario must continue consultations on what services areas could deliver more equitable and better services through the collection of carefully collected race-based data; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government should consult with data experts, privacy professionals, equity experts and leaders from racialized communities to develop tactics for data collection that instills confidence in racialized communities, and provides the data necessary to develop anti-racist, equity focussed public sector service delivery and spending.

Convention 2022

7.3. Healthcare Practitioners

7.3.1. Physician Shortage and Access to Health Care

Formerly: 7.3.17

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will:

- Initiate a comprehensive health human resources strategy to address our need for doctors, nurses, international medical graduates and other health professionals.
- Invest in spaces, scholarships, academic teaching and research posts, and other incentives to encourage the practice of family medicine among students, interns and residents.

- Improve access to a broad range of health professionals, especially in underserved areas, and recognize families and spouses in recruitment and retention programmes for underserved areas.
- Increase access to primary health care, promote innovative group practice and reduce wait times by opening more Community Health Centres across the province.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

7.3.2. Nurse Practitioners

Formerly: 7.1.10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP urge the Ministry of Colleges and universities to develop an educational program at the graduate level for nurse practitioners with a clinical specialization in primary health care.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.3.3. Women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people as Healthcare Practitioners

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 1)

Be it resolve an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That more women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people be trained as doctors, using the guidelines outlined in the education policy, points 1 to 5;
- That medical education be reorganized to allow the trainee to participate in family and community life;
- That the role of para-professionals be expanded to reflect their skills and training;
- That medical education be restructured so that credit towards medical education be given to the education, training, and experience of paraprofessionals;
- That the hierarchy in health care, with the doctor at the apex, be replaced by a team approach which recognizes the contribution of all its members.

Convention 1980; Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.4. Supportive & Long-Term Care

7.4.1. Improved Long-Term Care

Formerly: 7.6.7

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP will fight to bring in a minimum standard of care of four hours of hands-on care per long-term care resident per day; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP will fight for better access to long-term care and the reduction of wait times.

Convention 2014

7.4.2. Supporting Higher Standards of Care in Long-Term Care Facilities

Formerly: 7.2.21

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP speak out forcefully and demand the Government set out strict guidelines that long-term care facilities must follow including increasing the number of nursing care hours for each resident to a minimum of 3.5 hours per day, and providing stable funding to ensure quality care for all Ontario residents of long-term care facilities.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.4.3. Attendant Care

Formerly: 9.4.33

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care mandates that boards of directors or governing bodies of organizations which provide attendant care services to persons living with disabilities and which receive funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, shall endeavor to have representation and where appropriate to increase the current number of members or directors who are persons living with disabilities.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.4.4. Support for Seniors at Home

Formerly: 7.6.5

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would institute a program of in-home supports for seniors so that they can continue to live independently and in their own communities.

Convention 2012

7.4.5. Expansion of Supportive Care for Seniors

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 8)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That government expenditure for home care programs be expanded;
- That homes for the aged, nursing homes, and other institutional services for senior citizens be developed in accordance with need to ensure that health care dollars are being properly spent;
- That programs be developed to ensure that senior citizens in the community are not forgotten and neglected;
- That meals-on-wheels programs be expanded to ensure that senior citizens are adequately nourished.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.4.6. Five Day Homecare Guarantee

Formerly: 7.6.6

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP recognizes that the Liberal government's home care "target" is insufficient and does not meet the needs of all Ontarians requiring home care, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP supports a five-day home care guarantee to ensure patients receive the care they need at home within five days of approval, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will make the necessary investments to ensure that all Ontarians requiring home care are able to receive services within five days of their approval.

Convention 2014

7.4.7. Ban fees charged to seniors waiting for nursing homes

Formerly: 7.6.4

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would ensure that the practice of charging hospital fees to seniors awaiting nursing home spaces, which violates the rights and dignity of vulnerable seniors and their families, is immediately ended.

Convention 2012

7.4.8. Participation Lodge Financial Audit

Formerly: 7.1.12

Be it Resolved that the Ontario NDP ask the Southwest Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to conduct a financial audit of Participation Lodge in Holland Centre to protect clients with physical and developmental disabilities who depend on these services to live independently and with dignity in the community.

Convention 2014

7.4.9 Public Long-Term Care

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP believes Long-Term Care is health care, and should be treated on par with health care; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP calls for the end of for-profit Long-Term Care to ensure that every long-term care dollar is invested in care and in people, and not in dividends and profits.

Convention 2022

7.5. End-of-Life Care

7.5.1. Physician-Assisted Death

Formerly: 7.1.14

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP advocate for and support provincial legislation based upon the Supreme Court's ruling on physician-assisted death, including safeguards against abuse, that would allow for physician-assisted death for a competent adult person who [1] clearly consents to the termination of life and [2] has a grievous and irremediable medical condition [including an illness, disease or disability] that causes enduring suffering that is intolerable to the individual in the circumstances of his or her condition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT children and youth under the age of eighteen will not be deemed appropriate to receive physician-assisted death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT only willing physicians will be permitted to offer physician-assisted dying to appropriate competent adult patients who have made the choice to die without pressure from others.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT any such legislation establish universal, comprehensive and fully-funded palliative cares, pharma care and homecare in every region of Ontario.

Convention 2017

7.6. Mental Health Care

7.6.1. Community Based Mental Health Services

Formerly: 12.2.8

1. The government of Ontario has policies in support of the so -called de-institutionalization of individuals in Ontario institutions. These policies have not been reflected in increased budgetary allocations to community programming and in fact have only resulted in cutbacks to institutional services and the wholesale dumping of patients from Ontario's psychiatric facilities into unwilling, ill-prepared and un-serviced communities. The government of Ontario has not ensured "as of right zoning" for all Ontario citizens, nor has it assumed its rightful responsibility in ensuring decent housing, an adequate standards of living and other essential services to individuals that have received psychiatric treatment.

2. The Ontario NDP decry these budgetary cutbacks under the guise of improved and community based services. We recognize the right of all Ontario citizens including those who have received psychiatric treatment, to receive services in their own communities and whenever possible, without the dislocation suffered through institutions, and to a comprehensive system of community based aftercare services in recognition of the sometimes long-term support needs of individuals who have undergone psychiatric treatment.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP be committed to a co-ordinated system of community based aftercare services for persons who have received (or require) psychiatric treatment including the designation of responsibility to a single unified Ministry of Community and Social Services and Health, for the provision of administrative co-ordination of the existing and future community care services.

Regionally elected boards shall be responsible for the co-ordination of such services within each service region while delivery of service shall be done locally and shall include:

Housing:

The development of a range of housing services in recognition of the varying support needs of this population, and that such housing should be provided by the voluntary non-profit sector with funding to include at least a portion of the capital costs of providing such shelter. As long as private profit-based boarding and lodging homes continue to be a part of such a system,

The Ontario NDP recognizes the need to provide funding to local departments of public health to improve the standards of operation in such facilities and encourage the municipalities to:

- Consider the licensing of a special category of boarding and lodging homes which cater to such adults;
- To establish for that category whatever additional personal care and physical facility municipal standards may be necessary.
- That such boarding homes not be seen as long-term community housing alternatives in view of their profit operation and emphasis on custodial care.
- That these funds allocated under the HSC Act also be made available to the non-profit sector for development of high support and cooperative residences.

Education, Vocational Training and Job Placement:

The Ontario NDP recognizes the importance of work and the right of all individuals to meaningful employment at a fair wage and would thus:

- Make training stipends and subsidies available from Vocational Rehabilitation Services more accessible to enable ex-patients to enter regular (generic) vocational training and educational programs.
- Provide start-up funding for sheltered businesses run by the voluntary non-profit sector, and consumer co-operatives on the same basis as for other business enterprises.

Social Recreation:

- That funds for pursuit of social and recreational activities be considered as an equal necessity along with accommodation, food and clothing when considering of increasing income maintenance allowances.
- Consistent with the above, that a range of services be developed with an emphasis on the inclusion of the ex-psychiatric patient in generic services.

Self Help and Advocacy Programs:

- Recognizing the right of all people to control over their own lives, the Ontario NDP supports the development of self-help groups and other groups whose function is to advocate for social changes and recognizes the place of such groups in any community care system.

Crisis Services:

- The development of mobile crisis services available to people in their own homes in an effort to prevent hospitalization and encourage the development of small community-based crisis facilities to serve as alternatives to hospitalizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the delivery of all mental health services should be under the auspices of democratically elected community boards and that the composition of such boards shall include consumers of service, workers in the institutions, neighbourhood people, etc. Specifically, that all Ontario

Mental Health Centres be removed from the control of the Ontario Ministry of Health and be placed under control of the above described community boards. All other mental health services shall be operated in like fashion under the auspices of local community boards of Health and Social Services.

3. The Ontario NDP recognizes the need to develop broad based mental health initiatives intended to prevent an individual's entry to the psychiatric care system. Consistent with this, the Ontario NDP will undertake to ensure an adequate standard of living and employment for all citizens, and to provide programs aimed at reducing stress in the workplace, promotion of those cultural and recreational and social activities which strengthen community and familial ties.

We will also promote health education programs to improve community knowledge and awareness and other such programs whose focus is positive health rather than illness.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.6.2 Moving Mental Health into Medicare

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would support including mental health care as OHIP-covered service.

Convention 2022

7.6.3 Youth Mental Health Services

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP commit to ensuring all children and youth in Ontario are able to access timely and comprehensive mental health care, including community psychotherapy and counseling, which is free at the point of use and accessible in rural and remote communities AND

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP will commit to providing culturally competent mental health care to racialized, Indigenous, 2SLGBTQ+, and disabled youth and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP commits to ensuring children and youth are able to access mental health care services within 30 days of referral.

Convention 2022

7.7. Reproductive Services

7.7.1. Family Planning and Reproductive Services

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 6)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That birth control programs be available throughout Ontario to provide accurate unbiased information about and access to all methods of birth control, including sterilization, to all people of reproductive age; and that government funding be available for research into safe methods of birth control;
- That abortion services be available on an equal basis to all persons capable of giving birth/pregnancy in Ontario;
- That prenatal nutrition and supplements and education be provided free to all persons that are pregnant;
- That classes be offered to all expectant parents;
- That legislation be enacted to allow the greater use of mid-wives in normal deliveries, both in and out of hospitals;
- That more flexibility be encouraged in the development of childbirth centres, affiliated to hospitals, and in the provision of mobile teams for home deliveries;
- That programs of home care assistance for new parents be established.

7.7.2. Birthing Centres

Formerly: 7.2.24

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP supports the funding of a pilot project of four freestanding birth centres.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will work to ensure that the funding for the centres will provide adequate pay for the mid-wives.

Convention 2012

7.7.3. Right of Persons Capable of Giving Birth/Pregnancy to Full Access

Formerly: 7.3.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reaffirm a person capable of giving birth/pregnancy, the freedom of choice by supporting the right to full access to abortion, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP continue to demand that abortion not be a criminal offence, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demand that the federal government recognize that abortions are a medically required service and therefore should be included in all provincial medicare plans, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demand that the federal government impose a financial penalty on provincial governments that refuse to include abortion as an insured health service under their medicare plans, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP urge the provincial government to establish and fund non-profit clinics providing abortion services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP reaffirm its policy on sex education, family life education and birth control.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.8. Medically Necessary Travel

7.8.1. Underserviced Areas Program

Formerly: 7.3.8

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus at Queen's Park press for changes in the OHIP legislation to cover all costs of transferrals of northern patients for specialized care prescribed by their doctors as well as the cost of return fare home, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus at Queen's Park continue to press for expansion of the Underserviced Area Program in the north, and the setting up of community clinics in northern communities to encourage more general practitioners and medical specialists to practice in Northern Ontario.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.8.2. Medically Necessary Travel Grants

Formerly: 7.3.16

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work towards full funding for the purchase of passage on a scheduled carrier of people for those eligible for medically necessary travel assistance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program be expanded to include accommodation, where, in the opinion of the treating physician the patient is required to remain near the destination hospital for an extended period of time.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

7.9. Expansion of Health Care Coverage

7.9.1. Dental Care

Formerly: 7.5.3

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government establish a program extending basic dental care for those with low income as soon as possible;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that before the end of its first mandate, an Ontario NDP government expand the program beyond basic dental care for those with low income;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that before the end of its first mandate, an Ontario NDP government investigate expanding this program to provide comprehensive and universal dental care for every resident of Ontario.

Convention 2002; Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

7.9.2. Public Health and Preventative Dental Care

Formerly: 7.5.4

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP recognizes the important role of preventive dental care in public health promotion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP strongly opposes the Liberal government's decision to remove preventive dental care for children from the mandate of public health units, as reflected in the Ontario Public Health Standards, effective August 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will restore preventive dental care for children in the Ontario Public Health Standards.

Convention 2017

7.10. Public Health Epidemics & Challenges

7.10.1. AIDS Treatment Strategy

Formerly: 7.3.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will immediately develop an Ontario AIDS/HIV Strategy in close co-operation and consultation with community groups and people living with AIDS and HIV, which shall include:

- Comprehensive plans to improve prevention, deliver first-rate treatment, fund therapies, coordinate services, and improve funding for social service and community groups;
- Equal access to prevention, care and treatment regardless of race, income, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or location within the province;
- Recognition of the crucial role of community based organizations, guaranteeing their ongoing funding,
- particularly in those communities just beginning to develop AIDS programs;

Addressing the special educational needs of communities until now neglected by public AIDS initiatives: women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons, Indigenous, Black, People of Colour, immigrant communities, rural communities, youth injection drug users, homeless people, minority language groups, people living with disabilities and others; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario AIDS/HIV Strategy shall include the following concrete steps to save lives:

- Development of a comprehensive HIV treatment funding policy which provides equal access to promising treatments, both conventional and complementary, as determined by the Ontario AIDS Advisory Committee;
- Establishment by the Ministry of Health of an HIV Standard of Care Unit which shall include people living with AIDS and HIV and primary care physicians with HIV experience, to continuously educate doctors and

patients about accelerated care options and the specifics of the epidemic within various communities, to upgrade hospital standards of care province-wide, and to review the mandates and location of HIV clinics;

- Improvement of doctors' compensation for HIV patients to reflect the increased work necessary in the treatment of HIV and provide assistance to these doctors in dealing with the increased paperwork involved in such practices;
- Providing anonymous testing facilities across the province and ensuring the strict confidentiality of other diagnostic tests and medical records;
- Appointment of a new Chief Medical Officer of Health willing to work with community groups to prevent HIV transmission and provide treatment to those who are infected;
- Adjustment of welfare rates to at least above poverty level;
- Dramatic increases in the availability of non-profit housing including subsidized units for people living with AIDS/HIV;
- Expansion of access to Welfare Drug Benefit cards to those below the poverty level and to those whose drug expenses would force them below the poverty level;
- Expansion of the drug formulary to include all promising HIV drugs, nutritional supplements and complementary therapies;
- Provision of educational programs, condoms, lubricant, dental dams and clean needles within provincial prisons and psychiatric institutions and provision of access to proven and experimental therapies, access to HIV physicians from outside the institution and training in HIV treatment for institution staff;
- A commitment by the Ontario government to involve people living with AIDS/HIV who are accountable to their various communities to all boards and committees involved in AIDS/ HIV policy including immediate appointment of more people living with AIDS/HIV to the Ontario AIDS Advisory Committee;
- Provision of supportive housing services for people living with AIDS/HIV who require assistance in re-housing after a housing crisis;
- Provision of accessible HIV-informed daycare to children of parents who are HIV+ or have AIDS free of charge including recognition that some

children are also HIV+ or have AIDS and accessible support services for all caregivers of HIV+ children;

- Provision of a co-ordinated system of support services and counselling including health care workers and visiting homemakers to allow people to live with AIDS/HIV within their homes for longer periods;
- Provision of family housing recognizing that families are affected by AIDS/HIV;
- Establishment of uniform standards of care and education to combat homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia and access to health care options in the hostel system;
- A commitment by the government to uphold all the reproductive options of persons capable of giving birth/pregnancy, with AIDS and HIV;
- Development of information programs, prevention, education, treatment and research initiatives which include, or are specific to, women's (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse person's experience of AIDS/HIV;
- Clear recognition of lesbians, trans women, two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people as a part of women's communities in designing and implementing AIDS/HIV strategies;
- A commitment to funding the Ontario Human Rights Commission at a level that will ensure initiatives in areas relating to AIDS/HIV.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

7.10.2. Opioid Crisis

Formerly: 7.1.15

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP recognizes that Ontario is experiencing an opioid overdose epidemic, and that the Ontario NDP commits to supporting a provincial strategy based evidence, consultations with frontline workers and people experiencing opioid addiction, and data in order to fight addiction, ensure people have access to mental health resources, and save lives.

Convention 2019

7.10.3. Over-Prescription of Psychotropic Drugs to Women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 4)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

- That funding to related support centres be extended;
- That pharmacare programs include educational projects for both consumers and doctors around the appropriate use of psychotropic drugs;
- That pharmaceutical producing companies be brought under government control.

Convention 2019

7.10.4. Over-Referral of Surgery for Women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people

Formerly: 7.1.3 (Part 5)

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would ensure:

That surgical review committees be mandatory, in order to prevent gender-based, social biases by physicians from resulting in the over-referral of “elective” surgical solutions for women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse people; and

That these committees be required to be based outside any one institution, in order to eliminate favours.

Convention 2019

7.10.5 Overdose Prevention Sites

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government would approve overdose prevention sites in cities with pending applications, while allowing additional cities to apply for sites, so harm reduction workers can continue to supervise consumption, prevent overdoses and deaths by overdose, and direct people to appropriate services.

Convention 2022

8. HOUSING

8.1. Affordable Housing

8.1.1. Affordable Housing

Formerly: 8.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP demand the establishment of an affordable housing strategy that will:

- Provide inexpensive land for low-cost housing projects and not for speculators.
- Curtail destructive rezoning and conversion of rental accommodation.
- Support and fund public, cooperative and private non-profit housing producers.
- Ensure that subsidization and “joint venture” approaches to private development maximize the creation of affordable housing units.
- Limit rent increases to annual universal fixed amounts justified according to comprehensible rules.
- Substantially increase the availability of emergency shelter and services to help shelter residents achieve and maintain long-term housing relationships.
- Gear income maintenance and rent subsidization programs to the real needs of tenants, not to bare subsistence requirements and not for the benefit of developers/speculators.
- Ensure that a wide range of supportive housing alternatives exist for discharged psychiatric patients and other persons and families with special needs.
- Involve housing users and appropriate community groups including women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons, cooperatives, seniors, union, anti-poverty, tenants, legal aid, ethnic and social service organizations in the planning, implementation and monitoring of alternative and affordable housing programs at the neighborhood, municipal, regional and provincial levels.
- Ensure that standards are established and maintained to promote the quality of life in affordable housing.

- Ensure that environmental concerns are addressed in the provision of affordable housing.
- Enact legislation requiring municipalities to increase the supply of land for affordable housing.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

8.1.2. Housing and Homelessness

Formerly: 8.2.9

Is a modification, improvement, revision or update to Resolution 8.1.4 Co-operative Non-Profit Housing

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP in government will take initiatives, with the cooperation of the municipalities, and the federal government to create affordable and accessible cooperative and social housing,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP must have both long term and short-term policies for creating affordable and accessible cooperative housing for all people who need it,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that until the above goals are implemented, there shall be rent controls to make housing affordable in Ontario.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

8.1.3. Rent Supplements and Shelter Allowances

Formerly: 8.3.1

An Ontario NDP government will direct financial resources primarily to the provision of cooperative, non-profit and public housing which, in the long run, will be a better use of such funds than subsidizing individuals for accommodation in the private sector, and more in keeping with the general thrust of this housing policy. Accordingly, an Ontario NDP government would use Rent Supplements as a complement to a non-profit housing programme.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

8.1.4 For Indigenous, by Indigenous Housing Strategy

Be it resolved that Ontario must have a For Indigenous folks, By Indigenous folks housing strategy; and

Be it further resolved that an Ontario NDP government will work with Indigenous communities, the federal government and Indigenous-led housing providers to support this strategy, and ensure an adequate supply of safe, affordable and culturally-appropriate urban and rural housing, with appropriate where-needed government support.

Convention 2022

8.2. Tenants' Rights

8.2.1. Development Without Displacement

Formerly: 8.2.11

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP in government will amend the official planning act to stipulate that new developments cannot displace existing tenants.

Convention 2019

8.2.2. Rent Control

Formerly: 8.3.11

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will immediately reintroduce amendments to the residential tenancies Act to eliminate the post1991 loophole; officially designate privately rented condos as rental units under the act, and establish real, effective rent control.

Convention 2017

8.3. Co-Operative Housing

8.3.1. Cooperative and Non-profit Housing

Formerly: 8.1.4

A major goal of an Ontario NDP government will be to provide affordable housing that allows for collective ownership and control, supported by an attitude of

government that assures the possibility of success for such ventures. However, it is recognized that in certain situations cooperative housing may neither be appropriate nor feasible, and in these cases non-profit rental accommodation owned either publicly by the Province or a municipality, or privately by a non-profit organization such as a church, service club or union, shall be encouraged. To this end, an Ontario NDP government will:

Recognize and fulfill the responsibility of government to ensure that cooperative and non-profit housing units are developed in sufficient quantities to be a real housing alternative for the people of Ontario;

Offer long-term, low-interest mortgages, public land, technical and organizational assistance and training to community-based organizations, trade unions, churches, service clubs, municipalities and other such groups and agencies for the development of cooperative and non-profit housing;

Assist cooperatives and non-profit corporations to obtain financing by having the Ontario Mortgage and Development Corporation:

- Guarantee interim financing loans required during the development of projects; and
- Participate in underwriting risk capital funding utilized to purchase land and finance up-front costs;
- Supplement federal financial incentives for cooperative housing with provincial funds so as to increase the number of new units created under such programs;
- Provide funding incentives to encourage the acquisition, rehabilitation and, where applicable, the conversion of older buildings for cooperative or non-profit housing;
- Ensure that cooperative or non-profit housing units comprise a substantial portion of all housing starts in major urban centres;
- Encourage the provision of cooperative and non-profit housing outside major urban centres in accordance with local needs;
- Encourage the development of socially-integrated cooperative and non-profit housing projects;
- Encourage municipal involvement in the planning and development of cooperative and non-profit housing;
- Establish a department of cooperative education within an appropriate government ministry in order to provide training and educational

materials to members of cooperatives, emphasizing the redefinition of traditional attitudes towards power and leadership in the context of cooperation;

- Provide financial assistance to cooperative resource groups providing technical assistance to housing cooperatives in the development and management of their projects;

Encourage the conversion of both publicly-owned and privately-owned rental housing into housing cooperatives in preference to alternatives which would greatly increase the cost of occupancy, such as speculative re-sale or conversion to condominium, with existing tenants having the right of first refusal for membership in such cooperatives;

- Recognize the rights of tenants in non-profit rental housing to organize and to participate in all decision-making affecting their homes;
- Provide rent-geared-to-income assistance to low-income residents in cooperative and non-profit housing projects; and
- Provide for flexibility in the maximum allowable percentage of rent-geared-to-income units in non-profit and cooperative projects beyond the current 25% for families and 50% for seniors, taking into account local need for assisted housing units, project size and local neighborhood characteristics.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

8.3.2. Provincial Funding for Co-operative Housing

Formerly: 8.2.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus pressure the Ministry of Housing to fund the cooperative sector on a basis equal to the municipal and private non-profit housing sectors.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9. HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUITY

9.1. Fundamental Rights & Freedoms

9.1.1. Political Freedom

Formerly: 9.4.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for legislation to ensure that every eligible voter, except senior civil servants, have the right to stand for every public office without fear of reprisal or discrimination, and have the right to leave of absence to run for office and to serve.

Convention 1966; Convention 1978 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.1.2. Student Bill of Rights

Formerly: 9.4.2

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would enact a Student Bill of Rights containing the following guarantees:

- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of assembly
- Freedom of publication and distribution
- Freedom from arbitrary invasion of privacy,
- Freedom of religion, conscience and thought, and
- Freedom to determine the learning environment best suited to one's needs and including modes of evaluation and progression, in consultation with respective professionals.

Convention 1970; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.1.3. Bill of Rights for Children

Formerly: 9.4.4

A Bill of Rights for Children, and their families, would establish in law the following basic rights:

- The right to food, clothing and housing in order to ensure good health and personal development;
- The right to an environment free from physical abuse, exploitation and degrading treatment;
- The right to health care necessary to promote physical and mental health and to remedy illness;
- The right to reside with parents and siblings except where it is in the best interest of the child for the child to reside elsewhere;
- The right to parental and adult support, guidance and continuity in the child's life;
- The right to an education which will ensure every child the opportunity to reach and exercise their full potential;
- The right to play and recreation;
- The right to have their opinions heard and to be included to the greatest possible extent when any decisions are being made affecting their life;

The right to independent adult counselling and legal assistance in relation to all decisions affecting guardianship, custody or a determination of status;

- The right to a competent interpreter where language or a disability is a barrier in relation to all decisions affecting guardianship, custody, or a determination of status;
- The right to an explanation of all decisions affecting guardianship, custody, or a determination of status;
- The right to be informed of the rights of children and to have them applied and enforced.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.1.4. Ensure religious communities have resources and supports to practice their faith in safety and security

Be it resolved that the fundamental freedom of religion means people should feel free to gather, worship and practice their faith safely; and

Be it further resolved that religious communities should be provided access to resources to ensure their safety and the safety of their places of worship or gathering, including support for security measures.

9.2. Anti-Discrimination

9.2.1. Human Rights in Ontario

Formerly: 9.4.39

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP oppose the McGuinty Liberals Bill 107;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP rejects the Liberals' use of the concept of "direct access" to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal as a form of privatization; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commit itself to genuine improvement in the protection of Ontario's Human Rights by pushing for real reforms such as increased funding for the Ontario Human Rights Commission and Tribunal to reduce backlogs and ensure prompt service, genuine independence for the Ontario Human Rights Commissioner by making the Commission an independent office of the Legislature, and amendments to the Human Rights Code to ensure that all appointees to the Commission and Tribunal have appropriate expertise in Human Rights.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

9.2.2. Racial Equity

Formerly: 9.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP adopt a programme of racial equity and press for its implementation, which would include the following:

That more funding and ethno-racial personnel be allocated to the Ontario Human Rights Commission to be utilized in the main as a compliance unit to enforce the Ontario Human Rights Code to deal with systemic discrimination

That legislation be enacted to establish a programme of contract compliance; this legislation must ensure that every contract entered into with the Ontario government contain clauses to outlaw discrimination and that each prospective contractor fulfill stipulations in regard to the hiring, training and promotion of Black, Indigenous, and racialized people; that this legislation be strictly policed by the Ontario Human Rights Commission;

That affirmative action programmes be implemented which ensure that racialized groups are actively recruited from, trained if necessary and promoted, both within the public service and in private industry;

That more determined and effective educational and publicity campaigns be carried out by the Commission to stress the positive contributions and presence of groups in Ontario.

Convention 1976; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.2.3. Protection of Sikh Article of Faith

Formerly: 9.4.42

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will support the enactment of laws that provide legislated protection to the Sikh community to wear their articles of faith in all public institutions and places.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will encourage legislations that mandates reasonable accommodations to allow the Sikh community the freedom to practice their faith in all public institutions and places.

Convention 2012

9.2.4. Anti-Homophobia, Anti-Biphobia and Transphobia Campaign

Formerly: 9.4.29

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP champion the development and execution of a provincewide public awareness campaign to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.2.5. Commitment to Gender Equity

Formerly: 9.4.37

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will:

- Reaffirm our commitment to full gender equity and commit to creating a society that promotes the physical, social, and economic well-being of all persons;
- Acknowledge that gender-based violence is an equality rights issue and work to eliminate the systemic barriers that perpetuate and often normalize harassment and can lead to sexual violence;

- Acknowledge and work to end the multiple and intersecting violence of racism, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, oppression, and inaccessibility;
- Develop policy and budget decisions through a gender equity lens so that issues are considered intentionally, as part of an ongoing effort to reduce negative impacts and create a more equitable society;
- Actively listen to advocates supporting survivors of violence and ensure that responses to gender-based violence are survivor-led and trauma-informed;
- Increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour;
- Create and maintain affordable housing, not-for-profit child care and employment training programs;
- Provide fair access to survivors of violence and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions, through the
- justice system as well as programs to change violent behaviours;
- Foster survivor’s mental health and well-being by increasing investments in mental health and working to
- end unfair criminalization and psychiatrization
- Commit to funding pay equity adjustments in sectors where there is the most inequity.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (amended)

9.2.6. Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Persons

Formerly: 12.2.13

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work to have “social-economic status” added to the list of particular disadvantaged conditions in the Human Rights Code under which basis an individual cannot be discriminated against.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.3. Multiculturalism

9.3.1. Policies to Preserve Cultural Identity

Formerly: 11.0.0 (Part 1)

The Ontario NDP and an Ontario NDP government shall:

1. Support and fund teaching and learning of Heritage languages, Black Heritage and any other culture programmes where numbers warrant in the Public and Separate school systems
2. Initiate legislation to permit Heritage languages as languages of instruction where numbers warrant.
3. Support and fund research on Heritage languages and ethnic and anti-racist studies, and encouragement and support through appropriate funding of the maintenance and development of languages and ethnic studies programs at the higher education level.
4. Encourage ethno-cultural groups to share their traditions with others.
5. Foster partnership with ethno-cultural community organizations and actively seek out their views and concerns.
6. Ensure equitable access to programs and services by removing barriers of ethnic, racial and linguistic background.
7. Work with groups, associations and individuals who engage themselves in activities leading to information about their history and their contribution to this province.

9.3.2. Multiculturalism as Equality

Formerly: 11.0.0 (Part 4)

The Ontario NDP and, where applicable, an Ontario NDP government shall:

1. Ensure that committees or staff with hiring responsibilities are well versed in human rights and employment equity legislation.
2. Ensure that all application forms, job descriptions, and job contracts are free of discriminatory and exclusionary requirements.
3. Ensure that all personnel policies and collective agreements will include multicultural and equal employment statements.
4. Recognize (in the party and caucus) will recognize knowledge, skills, sensitivity and positive initiatives in race, cultural, and linguistic relations as mandatory qualities when hiring, thus ensuring representation of targeted groups in employee groups.

5. Take measures to rectify any circumstance whereby cultural, racial, or linguistic communities are inadequately represented within an employee group in the party or in caucus,
6. Advertise all vacancies in a diverse media including traditional, ethno-specific and community media.
7. Ensure that multicultural and anti-racist content is integrated into existing ongoing and future training sessions of all staff and politicians.
8. Allow and encourage all staff to attend outside multicultural, anti-racist training sessions.
9. Ensure that multicultural, multiracial and multi-lingual staff will be represented at all levels of the decision making process.
10. Establish a permanent Employment Equity committee, comprised of caucus and community representatives, to implement, monitor, and evaluate employment equity in caucus and ministry hiring with particular regard to the target groups of women (cis and trans), two spirit, nonbinary and gender diverse persons, people living with disabilities, Indigenous, Black and People of Colour, linguistic, and cultural communities.
11. Ensure that persons with responsibilities for hiring shall co-ordinate employment equity practices to include:
 - Keeping an update of all vacancies.
 - Advertisement of job vacancies in the ethnic press indicating that the employer has an employment equity policy addressed to the target groups Establishment of a data bank of persons from racial, linguistic, and cultural communities seeking employment.
 - Maintain a system for recording employment equity hiring.
 - Routinely refer employment equity applicants to others who are hiring staff.
12. Charge MPPs with special responsibilities to recruit and interview persons from the various racial, linguistic, and cultural communities among applicants for any riding positions. Appropriate local targets for constituency staff should be established within the overall provincial goal and the requirements of any collective agreement.
13. Charge all MPPs and those with hiring responsibilities to make a special effort to involve racial, linguistic, and cultural communities in Party events and to provide experience for them in election campaigns.

9.3.3. Multiculturalism as an Educational Philosophy

Formerly: 11.0.0 (Part 3)

The Ontario NDP and an Ontario NDP government shall:

1. Ensure that our commitment to the concept of Multiculturalism is reflected in policies and programs that have to do with dissemination of information regarding Multicultural issues; with education regarding the benefits of Multiculturalism; with promotion of awareness of diverse cultures and their contribution; with increasing interracial understanding and appreciation and with the advancement of the field of Multiculturalism in general.
2. Ensure that appropriate Ministries and Government departments develop policies and procedures that are supportive of the racial, cultural and linguistic diversity in the province and of the issues surrounding Multiculturalism.
3. Ensure that a permanent inter-governmental Provincial Multicultural Policy Committee is established which will monitor co-ordinate and evaluate the on-going implementation of policies of various departments.
4. Ensure that initiatives are taken by Government departments to extend support to organizations, associations, and groups in their multicultural education advocacy role. Such is the role of conferences, series of forums, public education sessions, study teams.
5. Ensure that appropriate resources and budget allocations be assigned for the implementation of multicultural programs, materials and services.
6. Support and facilitate training and continuing education opportunities for practitioners of service providing agencies through program initiatives and budgeting.
7. Establish programs which extend support to publishers, provide opportunities to authors and encourage them to create resources pertaining to Multicultural education.
8. Undertake and sustain continuous collection of data pertaining to the advancement of the field of Multiculturalism.
9. Undertake the initiative for a provincial publication which will present a broad coverage of Multiculturalism, race relations and other related areas in the Province of Ontario.
10. Foster through the education system, teacher awareness, in-service professional development, teaching of heritage languages and preparation of resource materials which promote the all-encompassing concept of Multiculturalism today. Moreover, the government should extend support and encourage research on ethnic studies at the University level.

11. Implement, legislate and provide specific target funding for race relations officers, and grievance processes at secondary and post-secondary institutions.
12. Ensure that no racist research or teaching be supported in any manner by public funds.

9.3.4. Policies to Promote Community Relations

Formerly: 11.0.0 (Part 5)

The Ontario NDP and, where applicable, an Ontario NDP government shall:

1. Publish, when needed, NDP materials and literature in the languages spoken by the communities.
2. Recruit and provide volunteer interpreters in all key meetings for any members whose first language is not English or French, when a need is expressed.
3. Endeavour to have volunteer interpreters on call to interpret and/or translate written documents.
4. Focus on verbal rather than written communications at all meetings not only to facilitate the participation of all members who do not speak English or French but also for members who are not literate in their first language.
5. Assess the visual impact of any displays, reports, brochures, etc., to ensure it reflects the composition of our community and whenever possible, use pictorial representation to facilitate effective communication.
6. Advertise job vacancies, committee opportunity agencies, boards and commissions, programs and events in a variety of ethno-specific and community media.
7. Ensure that outreach efforts will include opportunities and support for members of diverse racial, cultural and linguistic communities to share their concerns and issues.

Provincial Council, March 1992; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.4. Bilingualism

9.4.1. Bilingualism

Formerly: 11.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario be declared an officially bilingual province and without restricting the generality of the foregoing, that education, social services and government information be provided in both languages where requested and

that the Provincial Government be urged to set up facilities for the exchange of high school students between Ontario and Quebec at public expense.”

Provincial Council, May 1969; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

9.4.2. Francophone Culture

Formerly: 11.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP state that these grants are inadequate and therefore ineffective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP is in favour of further grants to expand and extend these programs.

Provincial Council, June 1973; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

10. INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

10.1. Treaty Rights

10.1.1. Indigenous Peoples

Formerly: 11.1.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario government should recognize and respect Indigenous land and treaty rights. These rights include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The right to hunt, fish, trap, and harvest without interference,
- The right to compensation for forest and mineral resources taken by non-Indigenous peoples,
- The right to be exempt from all forms of taxation,
- The right to govern themselves according to their own forms of self-government,
- The right to receive sufficient resources to develop economically and socially according to the wishes of each band,
- The right to establish and control their own schools and educational programs,

- The right to establish their own rules respecting membership in their bands and respecting order on their reserves, and to police themselves through band constables,
- The right to safeguard all Indigenous sacred places and to practice their own religions, cultures and languages,
- The right to be fully involved in the process of revising the Canadian Constitution, and
- The right to be fully consulted and involved in any changes in provincial or federal legislation, regulations, and programs which affect Indigenous peoples,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to redress the injustices of the past and to demonstrate respect for Indigenous peoples rights, the Ontario government should immediately:

- Negotiate settlements for any outstanding Indigenous claims for land and hunting and fishing rights,
- Provide sufficient resources to enable Indigenous peoples to administer their own educational, health, social services, and police programs, and
- Recognize the right of Indigenous peoples to exclusively harvest wild rice throughout Northern Ontario; to be represented on the control boards which regulate the water levels in the lake systems where wild rice grows; to have stabilized water levels at a level which maximizes the production of wild rice in these lakes; and, to be provided with sufficient resources to enable Indigenous peoples to establish a fully integrated wild rice industry, including the harvesting, processing and marketing of wild rice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP support the principle of self-government and autonomy for Ontario's Indigenous communities and that we support policies that will give Indigenous communities the economic tools that will allow them to attain self-government and autonomy.

Convention 1980; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

10.1.2. Drinking Water in First Nations Communities

Formerly: 11.1.9

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an Ontario NDP government will work with First Nations leadership to implement safe drinking water infrastructure throughout Ontario.

Convention 2017

10.1.3 Pass UNDRIP

Be it resolved that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples should apply legally in Ontario; and

Be it further resolved that the Government and indigenous peoples should coordinate a plan that achieves the objectives of the Declaration; and

Be it further resolved that the government should report regularly on progress as part of a collective commitment to reconciliation.

Convention 2022

10.2. Land Rights

10.2.1. First Nations Revenue Sharing

Formerly: 11.1.10

Be It Resolved that the Ontario NDP supports transferring the full revenues from Ontario's mining fees, mining profit tax and the acreage tax, to First Nations.

Convention 2019

10.2.2. First Nations Revenue Sharing Act

Formerly: 11.3.2

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that a clear process be put into place to ensure that First Nations automatically receive tax revenues from mining and logging operations on their lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a clear process also be put into place to ensure a consistent approach to revenue sharing in projects that are in close proximity to First Nations Reserves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus continue to make the passage of the First Nations Revenue Sharing Act a priority.

Convention, 2004 Convention, 2014 (reaffirmed)

10.2.3. Land Users Rights Under the Mining Act

Formerly: 6.2.18

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP demand changes to the archaic Mining Act. Changes must include the addition of consultation and input from all affected local land users (First Nations, Municipalities, Townships and Land Owners Associations); and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT amendments include provision to prevent development on a First Nation's traditional lands without an agreement with that First Nation, and that developments which are approved must benefit First Nations and ensure environmental protection and rehabilitation.

Convention 2009; Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

10.2.4. Kashechewan First Nation

Formerly: 11.1.7

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP calls on the provincial and federal government to allocate the financial and human resources necessary to relocate Kashechewan First Nation to a site chosen in collaboration with the community that better protects the community from flooding.

Convention 2017

10.3. Indigenous Businesses

10.3.1. Indigenous Job Creation

Formerly: 11.1.11

Be It Resolved That the Ontario NDP works with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Leaders to develop a minimum target for procurement of goods and services from First Nations, Inuit and Métis-owned and operated businesses and that these targets grow over time.

Convention 2019

10.3.2. Indigenous Curriculum

Formerly: 11.1.12

Be It Resolved That an essential component in reconciliation with First Nation, Inuit, and Métis people is an education commitment that educates students about the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people of Ontario, about reconciliation and about Indigenous languages; and

Be It Further Resolved That the Doug Ford government must immediately resume Indigenous curriculum writing sessions and share an updated timeline of when this will be completed, and that this be implemented in a timely fashion; and

Be It Further Resolved That we must continually renew Ontario's commitment to reconciliation and our curriculum should regularly reviewed to ensure it meets contemporary needs.

Convention 2019

11. LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

11.1. Employment Standards

11.1.1. Employment Standards for Workers

Formerly: 10.2.29

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Ontario NDP will push to ensure the Employment Standards Act is enforced, and that anyone who works for one entity for more than 6 months, and has an imposed working environment, shall be defined as an employee and will be entitled to a living wage.

Convention 2012

11.1.2. Hiring

Formerly: 10.5.3

Many private employment agencies – the majority of whose clients may be women (cis or trans), two spirit, non-binary or gender diverse persons – have adopted a practice of retaining part of the wages they collected from employers for casual temporary help.

Some of these agencies have signed agreements with employers which often prevent employees from obtaining permanent employment.

Federal employment agencies are doing an inadequate job of finding people satisfactory employment.

We recommend that private hiring agencies and temporary employment agencies be banned. If the federal government fails to meet the needs of people hiring or seeking employment, an Ontario NDP government will set up satisfactory provincial employment agencies.

Convention 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.1.3. Minimum Wage

Formerly: 10.2.30

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP actively campaign for, and seek to legislate, the elimination of distinctions in the minimum wage law based on age or occupation.

Be it further resolved that the Ontario NDP actively campaign for an increase in the minimum wage to a living wage in Ontario, to be reviewed annually, and include a permanent, annual cost of living adjustment for it to keep pace with inflation.

Convention 2014

11.1.4. Minimum Wage

Formerly: 10.2.36

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commit itself in opposition and as the government, to raising the minimum wage to at least \$15 an hour in 2016 dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commit itself in opposition and as the government, from the \$15 starting point, to:

- Tie future minimum wage increases to the inflation rate.
- Tie this minimum wage to ongoing research in aiding government policy decisions.
- Examine the potential for enacting a living wage across Ontario.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the \$15 minimum wage is a flat wage including students, under 18-year-olds, liquor servers, agricultural workers and others who legally earn below the minimum wage.

Convention 2017

11.1.5. 40 Hour Work Week

Formerly: 10.2.22

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commits to implementing a 40-hour workweek in Ontario with overtime thereafter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commits to implementing an effective permit system for additional allowable overtime;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commits to banning overtime “averaging” whereby employers can average overtime over a period of weeks thereby avoiding having to pay workers duly earned overtime pay; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP commits to increasing the number of workplace inspectors so that employers obey all overtime laws.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.1.6. Secure Scheduling

Formerly: 10.2.34

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP supports efforts to amend the Employment Standards Act to include Fair Scheduling provisions as part of a broader effort to reduce precarious working conditions.

Convention 2017

11.1.7. Job Security and Pensions

Formerly: 10.5.12

BE IT RESOLVED that in order to respond to the deep concern of Ontario workers about the impact of technological change on job security and pension rights, the Ontario NDP commits itself to the following program:

- Advance notice and justification of shutdown or major layoffs in plants, offices and other workplaces will be mandatory;

- Employers will be required to provide severance pay for laid-off employees along with compensation to the community for the social costs related to the shutdown;
- Adjustment measures will be jointly planned and implemented by workers and management, and in case of disagreement will be arbitrated by an outside body, as is now the case under the Canada Labour Code;
- The province will provide technical and financial support for employees, co-ops or other local groups seeking to buy out an enterprise threatened by closure and companies will be required to make the operation for sale as a going concern;
- Pension contributions will be vested after no more than two years of service and pension rights will be portable at any age.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.1.8 Paid Sick Days

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP supports efforts to amend the Employment Standards Act to provide a minimum of ten (10) paid sick days for all Ontario workers, with an additional fourteen (14) during a public health emergency.

Convention 2022

11.1.9 Relocation of Industry

Formerly: 10.4.4

BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention of the Ontario NDP press for legislation under the name of Notice of Industrial Closures or some other appropriate title stipulations which require six months notice of such relocation to be given each employee involved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such legislation will require compensation for family moving expenses of employees who wish to avail themselves of such provisions as well as other provisions for all express and implied contracts and benefits of employment and collective bargaining relationships to be continued and maintained.

Provincial Council, May 1969; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.1.10 Vulnerable Groups

Formerly: 10.5.13

BE IT RESOLVED that in order to ensure that women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons, young workers and workers over 45 share fairly in the jobs created by new technology and are not further disadvantaged by technological change, the Ontario NDP commits itself to the following program:

- Special efforts will be made to give people in vulnerable groups access to the new jobs created through the reduction in average working hours;
- Ontario will undertake a concerted campaign to eliminate systemic discrimination against women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons in the labour market, and to break down job ghettos;
- Pay and benefits for the one worker in six who now works part-time will be put on a comparable basis with full-time workers;
- Combined work and education programs beginning in high school will be provided to help young workers gain beginning work experiences;
- Ontario will press for the extension of UIC benefits for workers over 45 to provide them with more opportunity to retrain or find a new job;
- A program of special pensions will be provided for laid off workers over 55 if they cannot find new employment.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2. Collective Bargaining & Union Rights

11.2.1. Collective Bargaining

Formerly: 10.4.2

BE IT RESOLVED that:

- There be strict enforcement of the “good faith bargaining” provision of the Ontario Labour Act, including speeding up procedures under the Act;

- The Ontario NDP Caucus undertake a study of the system of collective bargaining with special emphasis on public sector bargaining to find new ways of enforcing bargaining in “good faith”.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that jurisdiction over injunctions and picketing in labour disputes be transferred to Labour Relations Boards.

Convention 1976; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.2. Collective Bargaining and Dispute Settlement

Formerly: 10.4.1

The statutory procedure for recognition is ineffective. Despite a lengthy certification process, over 40% of certified units never reach a first agreement. This failure rate is unacceptable and makes a mockery of the preamble of the Labour Relations Act, which states that collective bargaining should be encouraged.

Several solutions must be considered.

Extending the duty to bargain in good faith by increasing the penalties for failure to do so, or giving the Board the power to issue a mandatory order to bargain.

Clarifying the union’s right to information so that they can make reasonable demands:

- The right to strike is a fundamental part of our collective bargaining system and should not be restricted. If a group of employees is so crucial to society, they must be assured that their wages and working conditions will be comparable to those doing similar jobs in the highest paying sector of the economy, so that they will have no need to the recourse of a strike.
- Violence and intimidation are adequately covered by the Criminal Code. Employees must have the right to picket peacefully and communicate with consumers, suppliers, and other employers, and persuade them not to do business with the struck firm. In particular, the union should have the right to picket any employer who acts as an ally to the struck employer.
- The parties should have the right to strike or lockout during the term of the collective agreement where an issue is not covered by the collective agreement.
- Under the current arbitration provisions, it usually takes months to reach a decision. Often this is the result of a prolonged dispute over

legal technicalities and appeals to the courts. The Labour Relations Act must be amended to make the arbitrator's decision binding and final and to give them the authority to disregard technical irregularities if they consider it just to do so in the circumstances. This decision should not be reviewable in the courts.

- The Ontario NDP in office would embark on a program of recruiting and training additional arbitrators with experience in labour and management whose fees would be negotiated with the province.
- Professional strikebreaking is destructive to the collective bargaining relationship and should be prohibited.

Convention 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.3. Automatic Card-Based Certification

Formerly: 10.4.10 & 10.4.14

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this convention calls on the government to bring back automatic card-based certification in situations in which management interferes with the right to organize;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP continue to push to extend automatic card-based certification to all workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon forming government, the Ontario NDP introduce changes to the Ontario Labour Relations Act to extend automatic card-based certification to all workers.

Convention 2004 & Convention 2007; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed) & Convention 2017 (reaffirmed); Merged 2021

11.2.4. Contracting Out

Formerly: 10.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP call on the provincial legislature to amend the Ontario Labour Relations Act in two ways:

- To prevent contracting out of work which would normally be carried out by members of a bargaining unit, without the express agreement of the Union.
- To ensure that collective agreements are transferred along with the work of the employees, the definition of "sale of business" should be

expanded to include contracting out and transfers of contracts in determining successor rights.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.5. Right to Strike in Malls

Formerly: 10.4.5

BE IT RESOLVED that:

- We reaffirm our call for legislation to prevent workers being replaced during lockouts and strikes to be introduced by the Ontario Government.
- All shopping malls, plazas and retail companies be declared public places so that organizing efforts by the union and/or picketing will not be impeded in the future.
- Pressure mall owners and their tenants to allow striking workers to picket inside malls.

Convention 1986; Convention 1988 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.6. Sharing Responsibility in the Workplace

Formerly: 10.5.11

BE IT RESOLVED that to ensure that responsibility for the introduction and the control of new technology in the workplace is shared between workers and management rather than exercised unilaterally by employers, to ensure that the choice of technology reflects human concerns, and to ensure that the necessary time is provided and attention is given to retraining and adjustment measures if they are required, the Ontario NDP commits itself to the following program:

- Technological change should be broadly defined and legislation should protect all workers by providing for early notice and detailed information about management proposals for new technology along with the right to a full and regular flow of information for workers about corporate operations and strategy; workers should have full access to the company's books;
- Joint technological change committees should be mandatory in all workplaces and should serve as a permanent forum for information

exchanges and for consultation between workers and management over new technology before it is implemented;

- In addition to providing these rights for all workers, Ontario will provide organized workers with the right to reopen their contracts to bargain over the introduction of new technology, including the right to strike if necessary.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.7. Job Security and Home Care

Formerly: 10.2.15

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP work with the OFL, its affiliates, and the Ontario NDP Caucus to secure successor rights for Home Care workers.

Convention 2000; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.2.8. Labour Relations Act Progressive Amendments

Formerly: 10.2.38

Be It Resolved That the Labour Relations Act be amended as follows:

1. Card check certification for all workers.
2. Employee Lists: Where a union demonstrates it is engaged in a bona fide organizing drive, the employer shall be required to disclose employee lists to the union.
3. Reinstate Workers Prior to First Agreement: Workers disciplined or discharged during an organizing drive, and before a first collective agreement, must be reinstated to their original terms and condition.
4. Public Bodies: Public bodies such as municipalities, school boards, hospitals, universities, and colleges, among others, be deemed to be union-construction employers.
5. Return to Work Rights: Time limitations on when a striking employee can apply to return to work will be removed.
6. Temporary Replacement Workers: Banning the use of Temporary Replacement Workers during a strike or lock out.
7. Interest Arbitration: Adopt measures that provide automatic access to binding first agreement arbitration.

Convention 2019

11.2.9. Cannabis Growers Workers

Formerly: 10.3.25

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that said employees be exempted from the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act and be covered by the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

THEREBY, ensuring the right to negotiate a fair and decent contract and an avenue to ensure participation in the safety of fellow workers.

Convention 2019

11.3. Workplace Health & Safety

11.3.1. Health and Safety Rights

Formerly: 10.3.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Occupational Health & Safety Act be amended to include a worker Bill of Rights to include the right:

- Of all workers to choose representatives to Joint Health & Safety Committees in all Ontario workplaces;
- Of all workers to refuse unsafe work, including the right to group work refusals;
- For workers to shut down a workplace for reasons of health or safety without loss of pay or benefits;
- To full information about hazards in the workplace;
- To mandatory inquests into all workplace fatalities with the right to standing for worker Health & Safety representatives or their union;
- Of worker Health & Safety representatives to get strict enforcement of the Act by ministry officials;
- Of all workers to Health & Safety education in the language spoken in the workplace;
- To full and adequate compensation if unable to work due to injury or illness.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.2. Health and Safety Act Enforcement

Formerly: 10.3.13

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP continue to call upon the government of the day to enforce the Act and send the executives of offending corporations to jail, if necessary, to show that the people of Ontario demand healthy and safe workplaces.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.3. Safety and Health Committees

Formerly: 10.3.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Mining Act be changed to implement the following:

- All plants and mines have a Safety and Health Committee made up of equal numbers of management and employee representatives. That where the plant or mine is unionized, the employees' representatives be selected by the union. Where unorganized, they be elected by the employees.
- That the Committee has joint responsibility for decisions affecting the health of workers.
- That a chairman from both sides be appointed and the position rotated every month.
- That the Committee meet twice a month or as many times as may be necessary.
- That the Committee tour all the plant installation at least once a month.
- That the Committee have access to all monitoring equipment that may be needed for safety and health of the workers.
- That minutes of all meetings be made and a copy given to each member. There should also be a copy given to The Department of Natural Resources, Mines Department.

Convention 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.4. Occupational Health Reports

Formerly: 10.3.5

BE IT RESOLVED that all Occupational Health Reports on the working environments in this province be shared with the workers involved.

Convention 1976; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.5. Reprisals for Work Refusal

Formerly: 10.3.14

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP introduce legislation to tighten the Act in its definition of what a reprisal is or may be, including that refusal to pay and lay off workers during or as a result of a work refusal are clearly examples of reprisals that are taken against workers for exercising their just concerns for a safe and healthy workplace.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.6. Industrial Hearing Loss

Formerly: 10.3.10

BE IT RESOLVED that payment of benefit be made to any worker living with disability, that has suffered any loss of hearing due to being exposed to excessive industrial noise, and be compensated by a pension,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a set figure of decibel reading not be used as a base of formulating a pension, nor that deafness be restricted to both ears before a pension is considered.

Convention 1978; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.7. Frontline Health Care Workers and PTSD

Formerly: 10.3.24

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP will pursue the amendment of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act to extend presumptive PTSD coverage to nurses and other frontline health care workers who regularly provide close assistance to first responders or perform similar duties in stressful and traumatic situations.

Convention 2017

11.3.8. Mining Safety

Formerly: 10.3.2

BE IT RESOLVED that at least one-half of the mine inspectors be hired from the ranks of the mine workers.

Convention 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.9. Dust Reading Stations

Formerly: 10.3.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for the immediate establishment of a dust reading station in Thunder Bay. This will enable the results of the analysis to be made available to the miners in the least time possible.

Convention 1978; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.10. Exit Medicals

Formerly: 10.3.7

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Provincial Council, through the Caucus, request that the Occupational Health and Safety Branch at the Ministry of Labour undertake to conduct exit medicals immediately and that the reports be made available to each person.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Provincial Council, through the Caucus, request that the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour initiate epidemiological studies on all Caland employees, past and present.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.11. Worker's Compensation

Formerly: 10.3.8

BE IT RESOLVED that the Worker's Compensation Act be amended to provide the WCB must pay a temporary total supplement whenever an injured worker is unable to return to gainful employment and continue to pay unless and until they are able to return to work, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Act be amended to provide the WCB must provide rehabilitation services to any injured worker who requires and desires them in order to return to gainful employment.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.12. WSIB

Formerly: 10.3.21

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government take action immediately to save our Workers' Compensation System from total destruction by placing WSIB issues at the top of our agenda, making public the plight of injured and workers living with disability and their families.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP develop a comprehensive and fair policy dealing with the injured workers in consultation with and not limited to such groups as ONIWG and the greater labour movement.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would restore the Workers' Compensation System by basing it on the founding principles articulated by Justice Meredith:

- No Fault
- Non-Adversarial
- Security of Benefits
- Prompt Settlement
- Compensation as long as disability lasts
- Employer pays
- Collective liability
- Independent Agency

Convention 2012

11.3.13. Universal Compensation

Formerly: 12.5.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will implement a universal, fully integrated program of comprehensive social insurance providing for:

Immediate compensation for every injured person irrespective of fault or where the accident occurred – on the highway, at work, or public or private property;

The scheme to be financed by the whole community – from a levy on employers based on wages and salaries paid, from a levy on operators of motor vehicles, and as appropriate, from universal premiums and/or general revenue;

Injured persons to receive compensation both for permanent physical disability and for income losses on an income related basis with regular adjustments in the level of payments to allow for inflation;

Similar compensation to be provided for those incapacitated by illness;

The right of court action based on fault to be abolished;

The Workers' Compensation Act to be repealed and private insurance carriers to be excluded from the field of accident and sickness coverage except for supplementary coverage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP add to this policy a provision that death benefits be paid to surviving dependants so as to ensure a continuing and adequate family income.

Convention 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.14. Pensions (Occupational Hazards)

Formerly: 10.3.16

Moved from 7.4.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for legislation in Ontario to ensure that:

- Strict measures be taken to keep hazardous exposure levels at a bare minimum with an elimination target as the main objective.
- That for all those who were exposed to the said conditions, the pension age be advanced according to the length of exposure he or she was subjected to.
- That a decent rate of pension be provided for survivors of these tragedies who are forced on pension or their spouses and dependants in the event of a fatality.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.3.15. Medical Surveillance of Workers

Formerly: 10.3.4

BE IT RESOLVED that a thorough medical surveillance system, including full x-rays, sputum cytology and adequate lung function tests, are carried out on an annual basis by the Ministry of Health, and that all medical information derived from such testing be given only to the workers and to the union if designated by the worker.

Convention 1976; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.4. Workplace Harassment & Violence

11.4.1. Workplace Violence

Formerly: 10.2.21

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for the passage of the Ontario NDP private member's bill calling for the inclusion of Sexual Harassment under the OHSAA that requires that:

- Immediate action be taken to end harassment in the workplace;
- Investigation of allegations of workplace-related sexual harassment;
- Victims receive protection from physical and financial harm through such measures as removing the harasser from the workplace, reassignment until investigation is complete, and employers taking steps to prevent further occurrences of workplace-related sexual harassment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there be a significant increase in the intake staff of the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal so that victims of sexual harassment can have their complaints investigated within a reasonable time period.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.4.2. Domestic and Sexual Violence Workplace Leave, Accommodation and Training

Formerly: 10.3.23 (duplicate #)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP supports all efforts to amend the Employment Standards Act to require employers to provide up to 10 days of paid leave; reasonable unpaid leave; and reasonable accommodation with respect to

work hours and location of work, to workers who have experienced domestic or sexual violence, or whose children have experienced these forms of violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP supports all efforts to amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to require mandatory workplace training on domestic violence and sexual violence.

Convention 2017

11.4.3. Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act

Formerly: 10.3.20

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Caucus reintroduce private members legislation that would make harassment a hazard under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, ensure community services were funded and proclaim the first week in June as harassment awareness week in Ontario.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

11.5. Employment Equity

11.5.1. Employment and Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 10.2.3

BE IT RESOLVED that:

An Ontario NDP government would ensure that all persons living with disability have access to vocational assessment, counselling and retraining services which will enable them to take their rightful place in the Ontario work force.

An Ontario NDP government would affirm that vocational assessment, counselling and retraining are the responsibility of provincial authorities and would not be delegated to volunteer or private agencies.

The Ontario NDP Caucus immediately press for an inquiry into sheltered workshops in Ontario.

The Ontario NDP affirms that all rights and provisions of the Ontario Labour Code, the Employment Standards Act, and the Occupational Health and Safety Act apply to workers living with disability, including those in sheltered workshops.

An Ontario NDP government would, within its first term of office implement the following Affirmative Action Program for Workers Living with Disability:

The Provincial Government, as an employer will actively support the principle of equal access to employment, training and advancement for all qualified workers. Where specific congenital or acquired disabilities have unduly disadvantaged workers, special measures will be needed to redress such disadvantages. To this end, the Provincial Government, its agencies and crown corporations should serve as a model for and as a resource to other public and private sector employers.

The Ministry of Labour, in conjunction with the Civic Service Commission and the Management Board will be responsible for the development, dissemination, implementation and administration of the program.

Departments, agencies, and crown corporations are to establish their own affirmative action programs for workers living with disability including plans for recruitment, training, targets for hiring and advancement, and the limited goals for implementation of the program. The programs of individual department agencies, and crown corporations will be subject to the annual review and approval of the management board.

Program Guidelines will include:

- A simple physical demands analysis for each job including recommendations for the removal of any barriers or limitations which currently make the job or workplace inaccessible.
- Special recruitment and training programs for entry level positions.
- Series of ongoing educational seminars directed at managerial, supervisory and entry level positions regarding the potential productive capacity of workers living with disability.
- A commitment to make places of employment accessible to workers living with disability, whether or not any are currently on staff.
- Timetables for implementation of the programs including targets for hiring and advancement.
- Progress in meeting targets and in overall development and implementation of the program be made a
- part of the criteria of ongoing assessment of senior management.
- The provision of attendant and intervener services where necessary. The Ministry of Labour, in conjunction with Management Board and the Civil Service Commission,
- Create and maintain a bank of basic technical aids and devices for use by workers living with disability in the workplace.

- Tabulate statistics on an ongoing basis regarding the progress of the program, and these will be tabled in the legislature annually.
- Develop the necessary professional and technical expertise to serve as a consultative resource to the public service and to other employers.
- Utilize the expertise of persons living with disability groups within the community in the development and implementation of the Program.

The Provincial Government will establish a policy of contract compliance which will require that government contracts with firms employing fifty (50) or more workers and where the value of the contract is twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) or more must contain a clause in which the contractor agrees to employ workers living with disability.

All private and public sector employers in the province will be encouraged to establish Affirmative Action Programs similar to that outlined in Section 1. The consultative expertise of the Ministry of Labour, Management Board and the Civil Service Commission will be offered to employers developing such programs.

All employers who employ fifty (50) or more workers will be compelled to

- Develop ongoing series of educational programs for management, supervisory personnel, and coworkers regarding workers living with disability and their potential productive capacity.
- Perform a simple physical demands analysis of all positions. Provincial funds will be made available for the purchase of aids, devices and to make workplace alterations indicated by the demands analysis. The provision of these funds is to be conditional upon setting and meeting recruitment, training, hiring, and advancement targets for workers living with disability.
- Similarly provincial funds (grants, loans and corporate tax credit) will be offered to corporations who develop positive recruitment, hiring and retraining programs to assist in the costs of such programs. Ongoing funding will be tied to the success of the programs.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.6. Workplace Training

11.6.1. Work Integrated Learning

Formerly: 3.3.18

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP recognizes that the Government of Ontario has a responsibility to establish mechanisms to encourage, facilitate and promote paid work-integrated learning opportunities in order to meet the growing demand from students, faculty and post-secondary institutions while providing high quality learning experiences to Ontario's students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will strongly advocate that the Government of Ontario bring together students, post-secondary institutions, employers, labour and other organizations in a provincial Advisory Council on Work-Integrated Learning, mandated to make recommendations to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities on various issues including:

1. How to engage more employers in providing paid work-integrated learning (WIL), and to improve oversight and regulation of unpaid WIL;
2. How to support post-secondary institutions in delivering quality WIL experiences for students;
3. How to ensure that all qualified students who are interested in participating in WIL are able to participate across different faculties and fields of study.

Convention 2014

11.6.2. Job Training, Retraining and Apprenticeship

Formerly: 10.5.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP promote and, as government, implement a hands-on training strategy which will:

- Significantly increase funding for skills development.
- Tie incentives for on-job training to employers' willingness to provide ongoing employment.
- Put an end to discrimination against the unionized sector in on-job training.
- Encourage the entry of women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons into non-traditional fields by providing special support services and allowances including workplace childcare.

- Permit young people to remain in school and to undergo appropriate formal training for as long as their abilities and goals require.
- Make it economically and socially practical for workers to undergo necessary retraining in order to transfer to viable jobs.
- Mandate the participation of unions and community groups in local, regional and provincial level planning and supervision of funded training programs.
- Co-ordinate skills development with federal training strategies and with a provincial job creation strategy.
- Be subject to periodic review involving public participation.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.6.3. Training for a New Society

Formerly: 10.5.9

BE IT RESOLVED that to ensure that every Ontarian can maintain and upgrade their skills or change them if necessary, in order to withstand threats to job security and respond to the opportunities created by technological change, the Ontario NDP commits itself to the following program:

- Training programs should be jointly planned and directed by workers and management;
- Training and learning opportunities should be designed into every job to the maximum extent possible, both in the public and in the private sector;
- Legislation should be passed to allow workers to earn training credits, equivalent to paid time off, to enable them to take temporary leave from their job for upgrading or to acquire new skills;
- Skills and accreditation should be portable rather than being tied to one employer;
- The concept of affirmative action should be extended to ensure that women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons can take training to allow them to move into non-traditional jobs or into non-ghettoized jobs with prospects for promotion.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.6.4. Paying for Training

Formerly: 10.5.10

BE IT RESOLVED that in order to provide the training opportunities that Ontario will need in order to help its people respond to the challenge of rapid technological change the Ontario NDP commits itself to the following program:

- Ontario will establish a Work Futures Training Fund run by government, business and labour that will be responsible for expanding training in industry and for providing a “bank” for training credits in order to make these credits portable;
- A grant-levy system will be created in order to ensure that employers either provide training for their workers or pay others to provide it;
- Ontario will seek to ensure that workers are entitled to take training while on UIC or while receiving social assistance if this appears to contribute to their future employability.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.7. Pensions

11.7.1. Pensions

Formerly: 12.5.8

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP fight for fundamental pension reform in this province that would ensure that all pensions are protected and that any worker who wants a workplace-based pension will have one.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any Ontario NDP “pension reform” package include a universal, defined benefit Ontario Retirement Plan that would have the following features:

- All workers who lack a workplace plan would be enrolled in the Ontario Retirement Plan;
- All employers would have to match the worker contribution to the plan.

Provincial Council, May 2010 (Emergency Resolution); Convention 2012

11.7.2. Pensions Benefits Act Reform

Formerly: 12.5.1

Moved from 7.4.1

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would support the availability of indexed pensions with respect to private section pension plans wherever workers wish this feature, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would amend the provisions of the Pension Benefits Act to prohibit employers from removing “surplus” funds from a pension plan or for reducing their funding obligations.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.7.3. Pension Reform

Formerly: 12.5.6

Is a modification, improvement, revision or update to; Pensions Benefits Act Reform

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP lead a public campaign for fundamental pension reform in this province that would ensure that all pensions are protected and that far more workers are covered by workplace-based pensions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP “pension reform” package include:

- An increase in the monthly benefit protected by the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund to \$2,500;
- The implementation of inflation protection for all pensions;
- Vesting from day 1 of employment;
- An approach to surplus distribution based on the principle that pension surpluses belong to the workers;
- Real employee involvement in the governance of all pension plans;
- Measures to protect part-time and contract workers; and
- Measures that would significantly increase the proportion of workers covered by a workplace-based pension plan by making it easier for employers to establish plans.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.7.4. Task Force on Pensions

Formerly: 12.5.4

Moved from 7.4.4

Economic Dignity for Retired Canadians - Public versus Private Solutions

Canada's pension system manifestly fails to pass the tests of adequacy and equity. More than half of all Canadians over age 65 are compelled to apply for benefits under the welfare tainted Guaranteed Income Supplement.

The attitude of retired Canadians to the Guaranteed Income Supplement is surely apparent from the fact that a significant proportion of those entitled to these income-tested benefits refuse to apply for them.

Successive governments of the economic right have resisted any increase in either the universal, flat benefits paid under the Old Age Security Act or entitlements under the Canada Pension Plan Act. Today, Ontario Conservatives and Liberals have made common cause of their opposition to expanding the public pension plans. The parties of the right, both seek to preserve a market for the private pension industry to peddle its employer-based schemes and tax-sheltered RRSPs.

The private pension industry has grown affluent from its diet of trust charges, management fees and brokerage commissions; it has grown arrogant from its increasing control of the allocation of long term capital in our economy. For elderly Canadians, the continued reliance on the private pension industry means consigning the majority of retired workers to live at or below the poverty line. No solution to the problems of elderly Canadians is possible within the confines of a system dominated by the private pension industry.

The fundamental principle underlying Ontario NDP pension policy is that every individual has the basic right to a secure flow of post-retirement income which will guarantee a decent standard of living.

The Ontario NDP would displace the private pension industry from its dominant role in providing retirement income to workers by radically expanding the public pension system. The policies outlined below are intended to supersede all existing policy resolutions on pensions for retired Canadians.

Creating a National Pension Plan through and Expanded OAS

Canada's public pension system is a hodge-podge of federal legislation, special tax provisions and provincial supplements. Universal, flat benefits are paid to all retired Canadians under the Old Age Security Act. The earnings-related Canada Pension Plan rests on top of the universal, flat benefit foundation. An income tested federal Guaranteed Income Supplement together with various provincial supplements,

such as Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income Supplement, augment these benefits for those retired Canadians at exceptionally low incomes. The Income Tax Act provides for deductions from taxable income for deposits in Registered Retirement Savings Plans and thereby encourages the use of the tax-sheltered devices to plan for retirement. Finally, a fraction of pension income is not taxed regardless of the financial position of the recipient. To this system, the Ontario NDP would first bring order.

The Ontario NDP calls for the creation of a comprehensive National Pension Plan which would consolidate the existing Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan. The National Pension Plan would comprise a Universal Benefit similar in principle to the present Old Age Security flat benefit and a Wage and Salary Replacement Benefit related to employment earnings and contributions, and thus similar in principle to the Canada Pension Plan.

Universal Benefits - A Minimum of Decency

At this time, the universal flat benefit component of our pension system is represented by the Old Age Security benefit. OAS payments are approximately 14% of the Average Industrial Wage. These benefits, as benefit universal benefit, are paid to all Canadians over age 65 regardless of their income or work history. The Liberal Government in Ottawa has allowed this universal, flat benefit to fall relative to the Average Industrial Wage. Because the relative weight of the OAS benefit has fallen, it has been necessary to introduce income tested supplements. The federal Guaranteed Income Supplement and the Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income Supplement raise the OAS floor from 14% to approximately 17% of the Average Industrial Wage. The Ontario NDP regards these income floors as unconscionably low.

The Ontario NDP believes that it is the function of a universal pension benefit to ensure that every retired Canadian can live at a minimum standard of decency without having to draw on welfare tainted supplements.

The National Pension Plan advocated by the Ontario NDP would have a substantial universal, flat benefit component. This universal pension would be 40% of the Average Industrial Wage and would be paid to all retired Canadians in the same manner as the present Old Age Security pension. Benefits would be indexed to increases in the Average Industrial Wage. The means to achieve these objectives is through an expansion of the existing Canada Pension Plan, including the above minimum benefit, amendment of the eligibility requirements to include all persons in Canada, and provision for a future government contribution from general tax revenues to ensure adequate funding for the minimum benefit.

By this measure, the Ontario NDP would eliminate the need for income tested supplements. The income test would be replaced by an adequate minimum pension guaranteed to all retired Canadians as a matter of right.

Pensions related to Employment

The earnings related Canada Pension Plan now rests on the foundation of the universal benefits paid under the Old Age Security Act. At this time, the maximum entitlement under the Canada Pension Plan is approximately 18% of the Average Industrial Wage. Even when the CPP matures, the maximum entitlement will be less than 25% of the Average Industrial Wage. At present, therefore, maximum entitlement under both the Old Age Security Act and the Canada Pension Plan is less than the 40% minimum that the Ontario NDP would establish.

Unlike the Old Age Security Act, which is administered by the federal government, the Canada Pension Plan is controlled by the participating provinces in conjunction with the federal government. Because of its size, Ontario has veto power over all proposals to change the CPP.

Removing the Conservative Party from government in Ontario is a necessary pre-condition for substantive reform of the Canada Pension Plan.

As the government of this province, the Ontario NDP would seek to include in a new National Pension Plan a wage and salary replacement benefit in which the maximum entitlement would be a full 35% of the Average Industrial Wage over and above the universal flat benefit.

Both the existing Canada Pension Plan and most earnings-related plans sponsored by employers provide for wage replacement in proportion to pre-retirement earnings. Long spells of unemployment or under-employment thus penalize a worker even in retirement.

The Ontario NDP would depart from the rule of strict proportionality in determining earnings -related pension benefits by advocating a benefit formula which replaces a progressively greater proportion of preretirement earnings below the Average Industrial Wage.

Normal Retirement

The designation of 65 as the age at which normal pension benefits should commence ignores the compelling moral argument for earlier retirement for workers whose occupations adversely affect their health.

The Ontario NDP believe that a National Pension Plan should make unreduced benefits available to all workers in an occupation where it can be established that there is a reasonable chance that any worker's health could be impaired by

continuing to work past age 60 in that occupation. Such benefits would be integrated with the benefits paid under a universal disability insurance program. Furthermore, provisions would be instituted on a phased basis which would give all persons the freedom to choose early retirement with a corresponding amendment to the benefits received. Financing Pension Reform

The essence of pension finance is the transfer of purchasing power. Financing pension reform is therefore properly understood as an aspect of tax policy. The ideologies of the economic right seek to make the financing of pensions subordinate to the accumulation of capital. Such thinking confuses pension policy with social savings policy.

As the government of Ontario, the Ontario NDP would support the conclusions of the Economic Council of Canada and even the Ontario Royal Commission on Pensions that public pensions are properly financed by taxes on current social income rather than by accumulating large pools of capital.

The Ontario NDP believes that the Universal Benefit under the National Pension Plan should be guaranteed by the federal government from its tax base in the same manner as the Old Age Security pension is financed from the general tax revenues of the federal government.

Furthermore, high income Canadians will be taxed by way of a special surcharge on the Universal Benefit.

The Wage and Salary Replacement Benefit, however, is an earnings related system and should be financed in a manner which reflects employment earnings.

Therefore, the cost of the Wage and Salary Replacement Benefit should be financed in the main through payroll contributions by employers and employees. Because payroll taxes are regressive if the rules of proportionality and ceiling contributions are adhered to, the Ontario NDP advocates a system of payroll contributions such that the percentage of contributions rises with income. The Ontario NDP would also exempt from payroll contributions that portion of income up to 1/3 of the Average Industrial Wage.

The mechanism of taxing current social income to finance current pension benefits is prone to unstable contribution rates since the ratio of pension benefits to social income is not constant. Therefore, that portion of the National Pension Plan which is financed through payroll contributions will typically have contribution rates set at a level to provide some margin. The surpluses which arise from this need for stability in contribution rates will continue to be lent to the provinces in the same manner as surpluses in the present Canada Pension Plan are lent to the provinces. Ontario's Conservative Government deploys these monies with to reference to an industrial strategy.

As the government of Ontario, the Ontario NDP would utilize surplus funds made available through the National Pension Plan to advance the implementation of its progressive social and economic policies, including an industrial strategy for Ontario.

Pension Reform and Women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons

Our present pension system consigns the vast majority of elderly women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons to live on incomes below the poverty line. Many who are now over age 65 have never been in the workforce or have had only a marginal attachment to it. For this reason, even retroactive improvements to the earnings-related Canada Pension Plan would fail to address their unconscionable economic position.

Although an increasing proportion now participate in the labour force, their position in retirement will still compare unfavourable to that of men. There are three reasons for this disparity. First, because a large proportion of those working, tend to leave the workforce to raise small children or to care for elderly or family members living with a disability, careers are interrupted. The Conservative government in Ontario has used its veto power over changes to the Canada Pension Plan to prevent any amendments that would permit a period of withdrawal without loss of future entitlement. Second, only a small minority are covered by the employer-based pension plans marketed by the private pension industry.

And third, the disadvantages in the labour market are reproduced and magnified by the pension system.

The Ontario NDP believes that only a radical expansion of the universal, flat benefit component of our pension system can eliminate the injustice which is imposed on elderly women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons. It is this commitment to a radical expansion of universal, flat benefits which distinguishes the Ontario NDP from many of the advocates of pension reform who would leave them behind or deal with their problems through ad hoc or income tested measures.

As the government of Ontario, the Ontario NDP would advocate rather than veto amendments to the existing Canada Pension Plan which permit any working person to take reasonable time out of the workforce for the purpose of raising small children or caring for elderly or family members living with disabilities without thereby suffering any loss in entitlement to future benefits.

An Ontario NDP government would also amend the Ontario Pensions Benefits Act to require an automatic survivor's benefit of at least 60% of the full benefit unless both spouses waived this provision.

Reform of Employer-based Pension Plans in Ontario

Most public sector workers and approximately 1/3 of private sector workers are covered by employer-based pension plans. These plans are regulated by the Pensions Benefits Act.

While a significant number of workers are thus technically participants in employer-based plans, lengthy service requirements effectively exclude most workers from ever receiving sizeable benefits under such plans.

As the government of Ontario, the Ontario NDP would amend the Pensions Benefits Act to provide:

- Full and immediate vesting and full portability of pension credits;
- To assure full portability, an Ontario NDP government would proclaim those sections of the Pensions Benefits Act which establishes a central pension agency to receive and transfer pension credits;
- A system similar to that in Saskatchewan whereby in a contributory pension plan, the employee's contributions will never pay for more than half of the cost of the deferred benefit;
- That no allowance would be made for the establishment of employer based plans which do not provide for participation by part-time employees in the plan on the same proportionate basis as full-time employees. Furthermore, existing pension plans which presently discriminate against part-time employees shall be required to be amended in order to correct this inequity.

An employer-based pension plan is clearly part of an employee's compensation for work performed. Yet neither the Employment Standards Act nor public sector labour legislation recognizes the principle that pension credits are deferred wages and pension contributions – whether from an employee or an employer – are redirected wages. The Ontario NDP would give recognition to the principle of pension credits as deferred wages through the following measures:

- An Ontario NDP government would amend the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act, the Colleges Collective Bargaining Act, and the Education Relations Act to permit full collective bargaining of pension questions;
- An Ontario NDP government would further amend all collective bargaining legislation to provide that no employer-based pension plan can be amended save and except with the agreement of the employee's legitimate bargaining agent;

- An Ontario NDP government would require full disclosure of all pension plan information to plan members and to their legitimate bargaining agent; such information would include full actuarial and investment data and all correspondence with regulatory authorities;
- An Ontario NDP government would require that all employees have the right through their legitimate bargaining agent to at least equal participation with their employer in the administration of the employment-based pension plan, including the direction of the investment of plan assets.

The present regulations relating to employer-based pension plans permit investment earnings above the rate of returns forecast in the previous actuarial report to be applied to a reduction in employer costs.

Because the Ontario NDP regards the assets of a pension fund as properly the collective property of the participating workers, an Ontario NDP government would require that all investment earnings above a level specified by regulation must be applied to improve present and future pension benefits.

Pension finance is by its nature a long term exercise. For this reason, the promise to pay benefits under private plans must be secured by advance funding. The Ontario NDP regards the current regulatory and statutory safeguards as adequate to ensure that the promise to pay is kept.

In the private sector enterprises are subject to relocations, mergers and dissolutions. It is therefore necessary to make special provisions to protect workers when plans are partially or fully terminated. On a wind-up basis, private pension plans can be deemed solvent provided they are conforming to the requirements under the Pensions Benefits Act. Indeed, on a wind-up basis, many plans have assets in excess of their liabilities.

An Ontario NDP government would therefore amend the Pensions Benefits Act to ensure that when partially or fully terminated plans held assets in excess of their liabilities, the surplus would be used solely to the benefit of terminated employees and holders of active and deferred benefits. Such surpluses would not be returned to the company sponsoring the pension plan.

Pension Reform and Tax Reform

Because pension contributions by individuals are viewed as income set aside, the current principal of taxation is that such contributions may be deducted from income and that subsequent pension benefits in excess of \$1,000.00 will be taxed as regular income.

Because of the progressive character of the income tax system, deductions inherently afford greater tax relief to higher income earners than to lower income earners.

As the government of Ontario, the Ontario NDP would advocate that the system of income tax deductions for pension contributions be replaced by a system of tax credits.

Further, an Ontario NDP government in Ontario would advocate that contributions to RRSPs and deferred profit-sharing plans be subject to the same form of tax credit treatment in place of income tax deductibility.

The Age of Retirement

There is no statute that requires retirement at age 65. However, many employers require retirement at age 65. Trade unions have typically negotiated pension plans which commence normal benefits at age 65; such a practice should not be confused with requiring retirement at age 65.

Those who advocate amendments to the Employment Standards Act or to the Human Rights Code prohibiting employers from requiring employees to retire at age 65 frequently cite the lengthening of working years as a means of reducing the costs of pensions to governments and to employers. In practice, it is not voluntary retirement which is advocated but mandatory work.

The prohibition of mandatory retirement is a conservative response to the demands for a first class pension system.

The Ontario NDP believes that the question of mandatory retirement age cannot be separated from the question of the income which will be available to working people when they retire. When and only when adequate public pensions are available as a matter of right will an Ontario NDP government move to prohibit mandatory retirement.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.7.5. Vesting of Benefits

Formerly: 10.2.33

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP Caucus call upon the Ontario Government to introduce Legislation which will consider retired worker's benefits packages to be vested similar to the vesting of Pension benefits.

Convention 2017

11.7.6. Private Pension Plans

Formerly: 12.5.3

Moved from 7.4.3

BE IT RESOLVED that all funds invested in a private pension plan be considered deferred wages, and any surplus in a private pension plan not be open to withdrawal by the company or the agency involved, but available only to improve the pension plan or to provide additional retirements benefits for the workers.

Convention 1986; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

11.7.7. US Steel Pensions

Formerly: 10.2.31

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will fight hard to protect the jobs and pensions of U.S. Steel's Canadian employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would phase in an increase to the monthly pension benefit guaranteed by the Ontario Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund from \$1,000/month to \$2,500/month.

Convention 2014

11.7.8. The Power of Private and Public Sector Pension Funds

Formerly: 12.5.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP implement an extensive program to redirect the investments of provincial private and public sector pension plans towards the opportunities and needs presented by the general population of Ontario through:

- Legislative amendments to the provincial Pension Benefits Standards Act which would require joint trusteeship of pension plans and funds with equal representation of employees and beneficiaries on all associated administrative committees;
- Establishment of education programs, in conjunction with the Ontario Federation of Labour to assist union members and their representatives with the complicated pension plan rules, procedures, and terminology;
- Implementation of a massive public awareness program to highlight the fundamental role of pension plans in the provincial economy and the significant potential towards which these funds can serve for the general welfare of all Ontarians;
- Continuation of political and public pressure on the federal government to retain the current 20 per cent limit of foreign investment of pension funds.

Convention 1998; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12. LAW ENFORCEMENT & THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

12.1. Access to Justice

12.1.1. Access to Justice System

Formerly: 9.1.4

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP promote and as government, implement an Access to Justice program which will:

- Provide universal access to free legal counsel and mandatory participation of the legal profession in cases where the defence of basic individual rights such as liberty, food, livelihood, shelter, health, physical integrity, education and other fundamental freedoms are at issue.
- Provide funding and other incentives to reorient and improve legal education and services.
- Provide legal services to representative groups, as well as individuals, in disputes involving issues of fundamental importance, which will ensure that vested interests are defended on their merits and not on their financial doubt.

- Ensure the participation of community groups and organizations in the planning and administration of the Access to Justice program.
- Recognize the responsibility of the legal profession to the promotion of access to justice while maintaining its independence in the representation of clients.
- Provide independent arbitration of eligibility for legal assistance.

Convention 1988; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.1.2. 2SLGBTQIA+ Anti-Discrimination Measures

Formerly: 9.4.18

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP strongly urges our government to give immediate consideration to furthering public education on issues of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and related public policy, public administration and public services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP calls upon the government to consider creating an Ontario Court Challenges Program to financially support individuals and groups in bringing legal action to secure their rights under the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms as it applies in Ontario.

Convention 1994; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.1.3. Legal Services and Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 9.1.6

BE IT RESOLVED that

- Provincial Courts of law and legal services provide free sign interpreters for the hearing impaired.
- Deaf and hard of hearing persons be made aware of the availability of and guaranteed free use of a compatible sign language interpreter in provincial and family courts and when dealing with other legal personnel such as police and lawyers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that

- Persons living with disability be guaranteed suitable physical placement and conditions in a courtroom to allow the to understand and participate in the court proceedings.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.1.4. Legal Expenses Insurance

Formerly: 9.1.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP undertake a study of the Legal Expense Insurance industry to determine:

1. The extent to which private, for-profit insurance services promote access to justice;
2. Whether additional regulations should require that insurers include family law in standard insurance packages;
3. Whether the creation of a provincially-mandated non-profit or cooperative LEI provider, similar to the CAW's Legal Services Plan, would best meet the needs of lower-income and middle class families who do not qualify for legal aid.

Convention 2012

12.2. Law Enforcement Accountability

12.2.1. Province-Wide Independent Civilian Investigation Agency

Formerly: 9.2.6

BE IT RESOLVED, pertaining to the establishment and implementation of a province-wide, independent civilian controlled agency to investigate complaints of police misconduct, that:

Part vi of the Police Services Act be amended to alter the structure of the public complaints system, to ensure that current or former police officers do not have the jurisdiction to investigate complaints of police misconduct.

To enlarge the jurisdiction of the Public Complaints Commission, in order to make the commission the body responsible for conducting investigations of all complaints of police misconduct.

The composition of the Commission include the widest and fairest possible representation of the multi-racial and multicultural communities in the province; as

well as representatives from sectors that have traditionally been left out, e.g., labour, persons living with disability, etc.

The Ontario NDP government, in its first term in office, carry out the appropriate amendments to the Police Services Act in order to restore public trust in the public complaints system in the province of Ontario.

Provincial Council, June 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.2.2. Police Relations

Formerly: 9.2.1

BE IT RESOLVED that:

An independent Citizen's Review Board on Police Relations with a staff and budget and legal power shall be established to:

- Investigate and attempt to conciliate all citizens' complaints of misconduct against the police. This power would include a right to access to jails, police stations and police vehicles, and
- Establish, when necessary, a Board of Enquiry, independent of both the Citizens' Review Board and the Police Commission to conduct full and fair public hearings and make findings of facts with respect to unsettled complaints,

The Police Commission be made more responsive to the people by having the majority of the Commissioners appointed from elected offices and confine the power of the Police Commission to the administration of police activities,

The selection and training of police officers be required to include: a) psychological testing b) higher academic standing, and c) courses in sociology.

Police officers be provided with resort to impartial arbitration on all disputes involving discipline and collective bargaining and that the arbitration awards be enforceable expeditiously as Orders of the Court,

A positive civil liberties orientation be promoted throughout police departments,

Regulations be revised to prevent the arming of police on routine patrols,

Police orientation shall be directed towards the protection of people ahead of the protection of property, e.g., the chasing of stolen cars will be prohibited, and

Police officers shall not act as prosecutors.

Convention 1970; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.2.3. Safe Communities

Formerly: 9.4.23

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP is committed to developing a comprehensive program to reduce crime by taking swift and effective action against offenders, reducing the social and economic causes of crime, dispensing justice fairly and efficiently and promoting community policing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this program will include adequate funding for police services to prevent moves towards private policing, adequate funding for the legal system (both civil and criminal), probation and parole officers and maintaining full public ownership and operation of correctional facilities.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

12.2.4. Racial Profiling

Formerly: 9.4.28

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP endorses the recommendation made by the Human Rights Commissioner in their report on racial profiling and commit to seeing them implemented.

Convention 2004; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

12.2.5. Border Authorities

Formerly: 9.6.1

BE IT RESOLVED that all international border crossings in Ontario be required to have a public border authority/commission to ensure that the public interest is the highest priority for all border crossings.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.2.6 Invest in alternative first responders

Be it resolved that police officers are not the best suited first responders to deal with people in non-violent mental health crisis, living with addiction or homelessness or young people struggling in school; and

Be it further resolved that Ontario must invest in alternative first responders to address people in crisis, where there is no public safety component; and

Be it further resolved that this will save money, save lives, and create better outcomes for people.

Convention 2022

12.3. Crime Prevention

12.3.1. Violence in our Communities

Formerly: 14.1.8

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP and Ontario NDP Caucus will focus on violence in our communities. The Ontario NDP shall begin community meetings and consultations with the people of Ontario who have been impacted by the recent incidents of gun and violent crime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP shall focus on the following areas and issues while working on this important community issue:

- Economic strategy that emphasizes jobs for youth in specific areas
- Comprehensive, quality recreation and sports programs and strategies in communities
- Increased funding for ESL, youth counsellors, social workers, guidance and specialty teachers across the Province.
- Revamp safe schools act
- More supportive housing
- The Ontario NDP supports the Four Pillar Approach
- The Ontario NDP supports the decriminalization approach to drugs of the Federal NDP.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

12.4. Correctional Services

12.4.1. Penal Reform

Formerly: 9.3.2

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Modern facilities be provided, staffed by personnel appropriately trained to participate in rehabilitation programmes,

All juvenile offences be stricken from the record when the offender reaches majority,

For all offenders, all records of an offence be erased five years after the expiration of the sentence for the offense, and

The philosophy of the judiciary and police systems be changed from that of punishment and apprehension to protection of citizens' rights and the treatment of anti-social behaviour.

Provincial Council, December 1970; Convention 1986 (amended); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.4.2. Justice—Correctional Policy

Formerly: 9.3.3

Many of the services identified as being appropriate ways to deal with crime are really social services, e.g., counselling services for: probationers, victim-offender reconciliation programs. It is important to ensure coordination and congruence of policies relating to these services with our social service policies in general.

Where social conditions (e.g. related to race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, poverty, or disability) appear to contribute to crime, it is not enough merely to impose sanctions on the offender. The social problems must also be attacked through solutions such as improving support programs and employment opportunities. Improving probation and parole services in isolation does more damage. It labels the offender and furthers the alienation from society,

WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND:

- That no new detention or correctional institutions be built before alternatives to incarceration are fully achieved.

- That emphasis in correctional planning and spending be on delivery of programmes in the community rather than in institution, wherever possible.
- That we seek a thorough overhaul of the federal Criminal Code.
- That we seek the signing of the federal/provincial exchange of services agreement.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.4.3. Corrections Facilities

Formerly: 9.3.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the the Ontario NDP calls for:

- Immediate action to address the overcrowding in Ontario Correctional Facilities.
- The development of a long-term plan to prevent the overcrowding of Correctional Facilities in the future.
- Massive improvements to the deteriorating physical conditions of Correctional Facilities.
- Implementation of strategies to address systemic discrimination and violence faced by workers in correctional facilities.
- Improved training for staff on communicable disease control and identification of gang activity.
- Support to Corrections Workers in fair compensation for difficult and necessary work they do.
- The reinstatement of inmate programs.
- Continuing to meaningfully address the health and safety crisis facing the working conditions of Correctional Workers and living condition of inmates.

Convention 2009; Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

12.5. Justice for Victims

12.5.1. Coroner's Act

Formerly: 7.1.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Coroner's Act of Ontario be amended to make it mandatory to hold an inquest in all deaths of a sudden or violent nature of unknown causes.

Convention 1964; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

12.5.2. Criminal Compensation

Formerly: 9.3.4

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will strive to change criminal compensation laws so that time limits no longer deprive victims of childhood abuse or memory loss from their rights to criminal compensation.

Provincial Council, December 1990; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

13. MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

13.1. Municipal Governance & Regulations

13.1.1. General Land Use Framework

Formerly: 8.1.2

Recognizing that a successful housing program must necessarily be part of an overall planning and development strategy for Ontario, designed to further the social and economic objectives of an Ontario NDP government, the Ontario NDP commits itself to formulating and instituting a comprehensive Provincial Policy Plan which will:

- Serve as a general framework for municipal official plans;
- Provide for balanced development and the rational and equitable distribution of growth throughout the Province;
- Promote public involvement in the planning process;

- Divert urban development away from areas of prime agricultural land of natural beauty, high recreational capability or ecological importance;
- Protect the natural environment and preserve the social, historical and architectural heritage of both urban and rural areas;
- Promote energy conservation and the efficient design and development of urban communities;
- Encourage the rehabilitation and revitalization of older neighborhoods and discourage the unwarranted demolition and redevelopment;
- Be subject to extensive public review and input prior to finalization and, subsequently, to an ongoing review process to ensure continuing relevance; and
- Be implemented by means of coordinated action in the areas of housing, transportation, agriculture, economic development and resource development.

Convention 1984; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

13.1.2. New Property Assessment Model

Formerly: 8.1.13

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP, upon assuming government, will develop a new model of property assessment, based on the recommendations of the Ontario NDP Task Force on Assessment and Property Tax.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

13.1.3. Uploading of Provincially Mandated Programs

Formerly: 14.2.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP, upon assuming government, will phase in the upload of provincially mandated programs such as social assistance, social housing, public health, ambulances, and child care subsidies from local property taxpayers to the Provincial Government.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

13.1.4. Conflict of Interest

Formerly: 14.2.1a

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP government be called upon to initiate a full public enquiry into the relationship between the development industry and local government, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the public enquiry aim to recommend guidelines for full disclosure of the relationship between the development industry and local government.

Convention 1991 (Modifies 14.2.1 - sunset); Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

13.1.5. Elliott Lake Mall Inquiry

Formerly: 14.1.11

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP demands that the government act on Justice Belanger's 71 recommendations without delay, including:

- Implement minimum structural maintenance standards for large-scale buildings across Ontario and require them to regularly be inspected;
- Create a publicly accessible database of structural inspections performed by licensed structural engineers.
- Restore funding to urban search and rescue teams;
- Enhance their training and ensure they can be quickly dispatched to all parts of the province;
- Build partnerships with Ontario mine Rescue, which has 875 trained volunteer rescuers who are all mine employees, to assist future disasters.

Convention 2014

13.1.6 Charter for Cities

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario NDP commits to negotiating with cities and implementing a constitutionally protected charter for cities that will substantially increase their autonomy in governance, land use planning, transportation and other matters.

13.2. Municipal Elections

13.2.1. Amendment of the Municipal Elections Act

Formerly: 5.1.16

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP call strongly for amendments to the Municipal Elections Act to include fully funded recounts upon request by a candidate where the margin of difference is 10 votes or less.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

13.2.2. Municipal By-Elections

Formerly: 5.1.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government amend the Ontario Municipal Act to provide that, where a vacancy occurs on a municipal council or a school board, such vacancy shall be filled by electing a replacement at a byelection, with consideration to equity parity.

Convention 1968; Provincial Council, December 1970; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

13.3. Rural Affairs

13.3.1. A New Urban-Rural Partnership

Formerly: 1.6.4

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will implement economic policies that value the life-support services provided by rural Ontario municipalities, and will create a new urban-rural partnership that gives rural municipalities adequate financial resources to maintain these services for the benefit of all Ontario residents.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14. SOCIAL SERVICES & BENEFITS

14.1. Anti-Poverty Services

14.1.1. Income Security Program

Formerly: 12.2.9

BE IT RESOLVED that as a matter of high priority, an Ontario NDP government will, through redirection of provincial government policy, and through negotiation with the federal government where appropriate, work toward the establishment of one, rational, and effective Income Security Program designed to subsume and replace the existing structure of income maintenance programs wherever possible, and which provides for:

- A program of guaranteed annual income transfer payment benefits adequate to meet the basic living needs of each and every resident of Ontario, participation in which shall be identified as a fundamental and irrefutable right accompanying residence in this province.
- Such transfer payments to be established at a level sufficient to provide recipients a decent, healthy, and full participation in a normal life style such as is enjoyed by the community as a whole, and to be adjusted on a semi-annual basis to conform with changes in the Statistics Canada cost-of-living index.
- Such program to be amalgamated with and based upon the income tax system (as the most progressive form of taxation extant), to be built upon Negative Income Tax principles and to be administered via the income tax collection system modified where necessary to this purpose, and with recipient identification to be established via the Social Insurance Number system.
- Transfer payments to qualified recipients to be made on a monthly basis where necessary and appropriate.
- Entrance to the program to be possible at any time of the year.
- Benefits to be payable, under this program, to residents who ordinarily would not be required to file an income tax return, so long as they are otherwise qualified.

Convention 1978; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.1.2. Anti-Poverty

Formerly: 12.2.12

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will fight for real social assistance reform which will allow all Ontarians to live in dignity and security.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP social assistance reform package contain:

- The complete elimination of the National Child Benefit Clawback;
- An increase in the shelter allowance to 85% of the average rent in the recipient's community; and
- Expanded employment incentives to help people on social assistance move into the workforce.

Convention 2004; Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.1.3. Social Policy Reform

Formerly: 12.4.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP government launch a formal campaign to:

- Counter the myths about those forced to rely on social assistance;
- Educate the public on the true causes of poverty and the social and economic costs of not providing adequate protection for those displaced during economic restructuring and break down the barriers that prevent the poor from participating in the economy.

Convention 1994; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.1.4. Social Assistance

Formerly: 12.6.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP actively advocate for:

- An immediate rate increase of at least 58% for all social assistance recipients along with the creation of an expert panel, which includes people with lived experience, to provide advice on levels of income support required for people to be adequately housed, eat healthy food, meet basic needs and participate in their communities with dignity.

- An immediate tying of future rate increases to the true inflation rate (as poor people experience a higher cost of living).
- Stopping the practice of applying benefit increases only to certain members of the benefit unit.
- Reversal of the decision to cut the Community Start-Up.
- Stopping the practice of eliminating mandatory benefits and replacing them with discretionary benefits, thereby eliminating the right of social assistance recipients to appeal decisions to the Social Benefits Tribunal. Adding the right to appeal to those benefits that have already been changed.
- Responding against any further changes to social assistance that leave people with fewer financial resources, or set up inequities across the province.

Convention 2017

14.1.5 COVID Supports for Vulnerable Citizens

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP advocate for:

- an immediate reinstatement of the \$100 COVID-19 extra benefit per person for all ODSP and OW recipients, automatically added to their income support payment until the Pandemic is declared over.
- an immediate substantial increase to social assistance rates.
- the elimination of clawbacks on earnings by people receiving social assistance unless the official poverty line threshold has been exceeded.
- an increase to the special diet allowance to provide for an amount which supports necessary special diets and which is tied to inflation .
- an increase to the shelter allowance for social assistant recipients based on geographic fair market value to enable them to secure quality, clean, safe, affordable and accessible housing.

Convention 2022

14.2. Disability Services

14.2.1. Rights of Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 12.2.4

In a social system designed by and for the able-bodied, Ontario's persons living with disability face extraordinary and mutually reinforcing problems in transportation, housing, community accessibility and poverty. These four problem areas--create a vicious circle--a "disability syndrome" -- which operates to deny persons living with disability both self-respect and a fair share of a good life.

Statistics on the nature and distribution of disabilities in Ontario do not exist. A comprehensive census must be undertaken. In addition, persons living with disability and their advocates should be encouraged to organize to define existing barriers.

An Ontario NDP government would act in consultation with persons living with disability to break the disability syndrome by simultaneously attacking its four components:

Transportation:

- The province's inter-urban and intra-urban transportation systems must be accessible to persons living with disability.

Housing:

- A set of basic accessibility criteria must be drawn up to apply to all housing in Ontario;
- Financial assistance must be available to persons living with disability for necessary modifications;
- Non-institutional housing options must be available to persons living with disability.

Community Accessibility:

- Basic accessibility criteria must be mandatory in all public places;
- Accessibility criteria must apply to all commercial establishments and places of employment, subject to appeal in special cases;
- Sidewalks, crossings and other facilities of regular pedestrian traffic must be designed for use by persons living with disability.

Income:

- Persons living with disability must be guaranteed a real income above the poverty level, tailored to the real needs of the individual;
- Discrimination in employment on the basis of physical disability unrelated to job tasks must explicitly be banned;
- Vocational rehabilitation services must extend assistance to persons living with disability who are working and provide grants to encourage employers to train on the job and to modify their premises.

Convention 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.2.2. Ontario Disability Support Program

Formerly: 12.2.11

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will continue to fight to have ODSP indexed to the cost of living while in opposition and will index ODSP to the cost of living upon election to government in Ontario.

Convention 2002; Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

14.2.3. Ontario Disability Support Program

Formerly: 9.4.35

BE IT RESOLVED that the citizens determined to be unemployable due to their disability shall be given an enhanced pension and benefits with nominal documentation and verification requirements.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

14.2.4. Removal of the 'Ontario Disability Support Program' Capped Exemption

Formerly: 12.2.10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP advocate that a capped exemption be removed, to be replaced by a gradual, scaled deduction that does not penalize those persons on the Ontario Disability Support Program who seek to enter, or re-enter, the workforce.

Convention 2002; Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

14.2.5. Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 12.2.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the existing public transit be made accessible on a gradual and systematic basis, and that future transportation facilities be built with a view to universal accessibility,

BE IT RESOLVED that alternative methods of transportation be made available at the same cost and hours as public transportation,

BE IT RESOLVED that gradual and systematic renovations be made to existing buildings in the educational system to enable students living with disability to participate on an equal footing with other students in their own communities.

BE IT RESOLVED that all support equipment necessary for the daily existence of persons living with disability such as wheelchairs, prosthetic devices and ambulatory aids be covered by OHIP.

Convention 1980; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.2.6. Health Care and Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 12.2.6

BE IT RESOLVED that

- All hospitals, public and private buildings which designate themselves as medical buildings be required to be made free of architectural barriers.
- The home care program be improved and significantly expanded so that persons living with disability can receive the necessary medical, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, laboratory services, homemaker services, and parental relief services in their homes.
- Positive recruitment and admissions policies be instituted by post-secondary institutions in health professional educational programs, for students living with disability.

Convention 1982; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.2.7. Housing—Persons Living with Disability

Formerly: 12.2.1

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for legislation for these groups of people to let them partake in as full as life as possible:

1. Residential housing built with ramps and other amenities reflecting the needs of persons living with disability at prices they can afford. All business establishments and commercial buildings built with ramps and other amenities reflecting the needs of persons living with disability.
2. Free public transportation for persons living with disability and every effort should be made to make it more readily available to them. And where public transportation is not available or suitable, other forms of transportation should be free to persons living with disability on fixed income.
3. A comprehensive program of education and retraining designed to rehabilitate persons living with disability or in the case of children and young people to enable them to live a regular life.
4. Programs to improve health care for persons living with disability by providing good and proper residential health care and therapeutic services.

Convention 1972; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.2.8. Children Living with Disability

Formerly: 12.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP strive for the establishment of diagnostic clinics to which children appearing with or displaying disabilities may be referred by teachers, such clinics to be included under existing hospital services benefits, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that institutions training pre-school and primary grade teachers expand their curricula to include courses which would equip such teachers to recognize signs of perceptual and learning challenges, and make a referral to the aforementioned clinics as early as possible.

Provincial Council, November 1970; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.3. Refugees & Immigrant Services

14.3.1. Immigrant Rights

Formerly: 9.4.5

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Where there is a large enough population of a particular ethnic group or groups in a region, all academic instruction for newcomers at the elementary level shall be provided in their own language, with English and/or French being phased in slowly over a period of three years so as to maintain their academic level with their Canadian peers.

Where there is a large enough population of a particular ethnic group or groups in a region, the language of that ethnic group shall be taught, with its culture and history as optional subjects for study.

That the educational system and screening process be revised so that no longer will a disproportionate percentage of the children of ethnic or racial groups be channelled into vocational training.

It shall be the policy of the Ontario NDP that every immigrant who comes to Ontario and does not know one of the two official languages (English or French) will be introduced to a full-time course of instruction with pay. The course shall be in English or French and their own language, lasting a period of at least six weeks for the purpose of familiarizing the immigrants with Canada and the community in which they live.

That the trade union movement be encouraged to develop ethno-racial leadership among organized workers and that they extend organizing campaigns into low paid small industries where immigrant workers are exploited.

That an Ontario NDP government in Ontario would pass legislation requiring that in places of work where 10% or more of the workers speak a particular language other than English or French, translations of the collective agreement be made in the workers' own language.

That essential public services be made more accessible to the immigrant populations, through decentralization, strategic geographical distribution within each city, and translation services. And that all provincial programs and services designed to protect the rights of its residents be adequately advertised in the daily press, radio and TV, as well as in ethnic media. This would include the Ontario Human Rights Code, Employment Standards, Consumer Rights, Residential Tenancies Act, Workers' Compensation and all other services pertaining to this area.

That the provincial government take greater responsibility for the funding of programming for ethno-racial immigrant groups community-based information centres and action groups, to strengthen their ability to serve ethnic groups.

That the right to vote be granted to all Permanent Residents at the municipal and provincial level upon attaining their Permanent Resident status and providing that Ontario residency requirements for voting are met. This would follow the examples of countries such as Belgium and Austria.

That the qualification required for government positions and its various institutions be reviewed with the aim of making such jobs accessible to Permanent Residents.

That a subcommittee of the Policy Review Committee be established to deal with immigrants' issues and to devise means by which Party members and riding associations should undertake outreach to and support ethnic communities.

Provincial Council, June 1973; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.3.2. Refugees

Formerly: 12.1.4

BE IT RESOLVED that we recommend the following actions be taken to improve the lot of refugees and rationalize the administration of social services to refugees by the government of Ontario:

1. That a committee be established to hear representations from refugee communities and refugee advocates to develop a comprehensive government strategy for dealing with the needs of refugees. That this committee be given specific guidelines as to its mandate and deadline for its report and a commitment to the implementation of its recommendations.
2. That the Ministry of Education direct all colleges, technical schools and universities in Ontario to allow refugee claimants to study without paying foreign student fees once they have passed their initial screening inquiry and have been granted conditional leave to study by the Ministry of Immigration.
3. That the Ontario Student Assistance Program make full funding available to refugee claimants once they have passed their initial screening inquiry and have been granted conditional leave to study by the Ministry of Immigration.
4. That the government of Ontario should publicize that refugees should not be discriminated against contrary to the Ontario Human Rights Code.
5. That the Ontario Human Rights Commission should investigate the denial of employment to refugees based solely on the fact that they have "no Canadian experience" and lay charges against employers in test cases to establish that this is an unfair and discriminatory practice.

6. That the government of Ontario should lobby the federal government to speed up the refugee determination process in particular as Ontario pays the brunt of the cost of the federal government's slowness in processing refugee claims and applications for landed immigrant status as this impedes refugees in adapting to life in Ontario and becomes a burden for our social services programs.
7. That the government of Ontario should lobby the federal government for a greater contribution to social services programs in recognition of the costs imposed by the federal government in Ontario.
8. That the Ministry of Skills Development develop a special program geared to the needs of refugees.
9. That increased funding be given to English as a Second Language programs and that programs geared towards particularly large refugee groups be initiated rather than having all linguistic groups in classes.
10. That refugees be financially assisted and counselled in establishing new enterprises in the province.
11. That more community centres geared towards refugees, places where refugees can meet and socialize, and housing for refugees be established, particularly in Toronto.
12. That refugees be given a positive role to play in Ontario in particular as they wait for their status to be determined. That programs be established to encourage contact between refugees and Canadians.
13. That African refugees be given an opportunity to be involved in primary and secondary education and that black students, in particular, be given the right to learn about African history, culture, politics and languages with exposure to Africans.
14. That Ontario affirm its historical identity rooted in a tradition that pre-dates the establishment of Canada as a place of sanctuary and equality for refugees.

Convention 1991; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.3.3. Service for Immigrants

Formerly: 9.4.45

BE IT RESOLVED that the province and its provincial bodies commit to provide access to services without fear for immigrants without full status or without full status documents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP recommends the Federal government review its current Immigration and Refugee policies and programs

and identify ways to better assist residents with undocumented status in Canada to regain their full status.

Convention 2014

14.3.4. Social Services for Immigrants

Formerly: 12.1.5

Moved from 7.3.2

BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. Social services be available to immigrants in their own languages.
2. Administration of social services be decentralized, particularly with respect to facilities located in minority areas.
3. Greater effort be made to involve immigrants in the decisions affecting the types of services available to them and the manner in which they are provided.
4. All government institutions in ethnic communities employ persons who speak the language of the community, particular emphasis being placed on medical facilities.
5. All courts of law be required to have available to an immigrant involved in any court case, an interpreter competent in the language of the immigrant.

Provincial Council, December 1974; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.3.5. Multiculturalism as Immigration & Re-Settlement

Formerly: 11.0.0 (Part 2)

The Ontario NDP and an Ontario NDP government shall:

1. Work towards sensitizing personnel in the service-providing agencies to the cultural and linguistic barriers that people may encounter.
2. Be committed to a Child Care system which recognizes the need to educate staff to promote among children tolerance and respect for each other's culture and race, this being the best age where cultural and racial integration can be achieved.
3. Review the process for accreditation of qualifications in professions, trades, and skills, with a view to achieve equity.
4. Improve on the existing programs aimed at the orientation and interfacing of the new immigrant within the Ontario Society.

5. Expand and strengthen existing language training and skills training programs aimed at the new immigrant.
6. Establish programs on a permanent basis, which will provide information and encourage the full utilization of services and institutions by all.
7. Recognize the racial ethno-cultural community agencies as being an integral part of the service system of the province
8. Work towards achieving a greater participation of racial and ethno-cultural groups in community affairs.

14.4. Social Services for Children

14.4.1. Children at Risk

Formerly: 12.3.7

Moved from 7.3.4a

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP is opposed to the current cutbacks in children's services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would establish a universal child care system as a first step in providing preventive services for children and would increase financing of services to children so that a high priority could be given to preventive programs for children still in their homes;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government will make it a priority to restore funding and social services to promote healthy families and the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of children in Ontario.

**Modifies 7.3.4 (formerly 7.3.9) - Funding of Preventive Services for Children; Convention 1996; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)*

14.4.2. Removal of Fees for Out-of-Country Adoptions

Formerly: 12.3.10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will advocate the immediate elimination of all user fees associated with the adoption of children from abroad by Ontario residents.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

14.4.3 \$10 Per Day Childcare

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP is committed to the establishment of high quality universal, affordable, public, non-profit childcare in Ontario at a cost of no more than \$10 per child per day, on average.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP is committed to improving the wages of ECEs and child care workers and will invest in child care system capacity.

Convention 2022

14.5. Gender-Based Violence

14.5.1. Gender-based Violence

Formerly: 9.4.12

BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Ontario NDP press for widespread education campaigns in schools, universities and colleges, workplaces and community organizations to address the increasing societal problem of gender-based violence;

The Ontario NDP call for the expansion of community-based counselling programs, emergency shelters and services to assist persons dealing with societal violence;

The Ontario NDP extend their condolences to family, friends, fellow-students and teachers of the fourteen victims in their hour of need and despair.

Provincial Council, December 1989; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

14.5.2. Gender-based Violence

Formerly: 9.4.36

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will:

- Create a provincial fund to provide immediate and real financial help 24 hours a day, seven days a week for any person leaving a violent relationship. This fund will cover transportation, accommodation, costs associated with setting up a new household, food, clothing and other basic needs.

- Pass the Ontario NDP bill which aims to prevent the harassment of persons in their workplaces by including harassment under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Commit to ending elder abuse in Ontario's communities, health care facilities and long term care homes.
- Address the root causes of gender-based violence by addressing the barriers to gender equality and full participation in society – including poverty, lack of child care and housing, and discrimination.
- Commit to changing the Employment Standards Act to provide job protection for persons who are absent from work for legal and/or medical reasons or for seeking shelter from an abusive relationship.

Convention 2007; Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

14.5.3. Crisis Centres and Domestic Violence

Formerly 12.4.2, 12.4.2a and 12.4.2b

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

The Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to enter consultation with women's groups (including cis and trans, two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons) in developing a comprehensive policy with regards to all people experiencing domestic violence and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons in crisis; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to establish crisis centres in all communities with populations of more than 2,000 or which are more than one hour travel time from an existing crisis centre, especially targeting Northern communities; and

That the Ontario NDP will fund and support crisis centres for survivors of domestic violence, and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons experiencing domestic violence, in their communities; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to establish a toll-free provincial telephone line with complete information regarding shelters, social services, and contacts available for Northern women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to fully fund on a cash-advance basis the costs of transportation to shelters, social services and counselling contacts for people experiencing domestic violence and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons in crisis and their children, including the full cost of accommodation incurred during travel to and from these services without imposing a means test which will disqualify survivors and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons based on the abusive spouse's income; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to advertise the various services available and the toll-free line in all media, through the various public health units and hospitals in the region, and, in conjunction with the federal government through the mailing of such information with government cheques; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to target specific funds for the establishment in Northern Ontario of a program of education about the issue of survivors of domestic violence and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons among law enforcement officials, medical personnel, municipal officials and other persons with broad contact in the community, such as clergy and teachers; and

That a training program be established in Northern communities for community contacts willing to locally provide interim emergency counselling for people experiencing domestic violence and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons in crisis; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to establish crisis shelters specifically targeted for Indigenous women, including two spirit persons and advertise these services throughout the Northern communities, especially the remote communities, in Indigenous languages as well as in Canada's two official languages; and

That the Ontario NDP call upon the provincial government to establish a training and education program for Indigenous community contacts to meet the needs of the female and two spirit Indigenous population in Northern Ontario, including those in remote areas, with careful consideration given to the particular problems they have when trying to deal with abuse; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP advocate strong provincial policies that reduce unnecessary delays in planning and municipal approvals in the

establishment of crisis shelters for people experiencing domestic violence and especially women (cis and trans), two spirit, non-binary and gender diverse persons.

Convention 2017

14.5.4 Funding for Sexual Assault Centres

Be it resolved that the Ontario NDP government commit to adequately fund sexual assault centres to better support survivors and their communities.

Convention 2022

15. TRANSPORTATION

15.1. Sustainable & Safe Transportation

15.1.1. Reducing Dangers to Environmental & Human Health

Formerly: 13.0.0 (Part 1)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government will support the following:

- Development of compact urban form should be encouraged to make the best use of existing transportation infrastructure and preserve natural and agricultural areas.
- New land development in large and medium-sized urban and suburban areas should only be permitted if it is pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit supportive. Development cannot continue to be designed around the automobile as the sole mode of access. Priority should be given to intensifying existing low density developed areas, especially along arterial roads.
- Zoning should promote a mixture of housing, employment, shopping, green space, and recreation to satisfy human needs with a minimum of travel time and cost.
- The integrity of water resources should be maintained as much as possible by avoiding alterations to hydrology and aquatic communities. Remediation of existing problems should be encouraged.
- Walking should be given top priority as a mode of transportation. Pedestrian safety must not be compromised.

- Trains and subways should be designed to allow bicycles to be carried on conveniently. More bicycle lockup facilities should be provided.
- GO Transit and municipal transit systems should provide free parking to pass holders.
- A province wide system of bicycle, hiking and canoe trails should be created. Abandoned railway rights of way can be important parts of the land portion of this network. Linked into other modes of transportation, this system will extend the reach of the more mechanized and polluting parts of the current system.
- Workplace ridesharing programs should be aggressively supported. Van pools should be encouraged.
- Innovative and proven road salt reductions programs should be instituted across the province as applicable to local conditions.
- More natural vegetation that does not obstruct sightlines should be encouraged to grow beside roads. Maintenance costs and herbicide use would be reduced.
- A program of “golden carrot” awards should be established to encourage the development and production of energy efficient transportation systems.
- Provincial road subsidy grants to municipalities should be linked to their progress in developing pedestrian and bicycle facilities and progressive land use policies.
- Anti-idling legislation should be enacted, with a special emphasis on large and commercial vehicles, including municipal and other buses.
- Innovative solutions to the higher fuel consumption involved in speeding and the accidents that result from speeding should be implemented. These include low-cost automatic radar systems to catch speeders, and more importantly, traffic calming road designs that discourage speeding psychologically.
- Health and safety standards on provincially regulated short-line railroads should be modernized and improved so they are at least as strong as federal regulations.
- Public expenditures on different modes such as roads, transit, and rail should be allocated on the basis of full-cost accounting.

- Free parking for provincial employees should be phased out where public transit is available. Consider issuing transit passes in exchange for parking privileges, where appropriate.
- Bicycle lock-up space should be provided in all public buildings to encourage employees to ride to work. Subsidies or tax incentives should be provided to private businesses to install bike lock-up space.
- Underground fuel storage tanks should be carefully regulated to eliminate leakage from these tanks.
- Emission recovery systems should be legislated for refuelling cars.
- A mandatory vehicle emission testing program should be introduced. Ontario should be the leader in North America in reducing N2O/NOx/VOC/CO emissions.
- A buy-back program for over-polluting old cars should be implemented in conjunction with auto manufacturers. A mandatory plan should be negotiated with automobile manufacturers setting a strict time line for complete recycling of cars.
- Waste oil should be recycled. Disposal plans for other hazardous wastes resulting from automobiles should be developed (e.g., air conditioning gases, air bags, fluids).
- Progressive fuel efficiency standards should be implemented.
- The government should lead the way in promoting fuel efficiency and alternative fuel usage in its fleet.
- Truck companies should be charged more of the full cost of the damage their vehicles cause to roads, since increased truck traffic greatly reduces road lifespans and increases road maintenance costs.
- Limits should be imposed on the transportation of waste materials, and treatment at source should be favoured.
- Unnecessary transportation of toxic and hazardous waste should be reduced.
- The use of joint utility corridors (e.g., for water, natural gas, power cables, etc.) should be encouraged.
- A carbon tax should be investigated that would make the burning of fossil fuels more reflective of its full cost. It would create economic pressure for fuel conservation and alternative fuels, and would recoup

some of the hidden costs and subsidies to existing transportation systems.

- The system to encourage the purchase of more fuel efficient vehicles at the expense of less fuel efficient vehicles, including cars, jeeps and light trucks should be expanded. The system should include at least a rebate for fuel efficient vehicles, and prominent labelling and advertising of fuel efficiency information.
- Tolls should be introduced for new limited access highways where alternative routes exist to reflect the “polluter pays” principle.
- The Ontario government should continue to actively encourage the development of emission control technology for large diesel engines in order to reduce the level of pollution produced by these vehicles to levels close to those currently considered acceptable for passenger vehicles.

15.1.2. Ensuring Regional & Individual Diversity in the Transportation Sector

Formerly: 13.0.0 (Part 3)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government will support the following:

- The minimization of paved areas should be a goal to preserve agricultural lands and natural areas.
- Traffic calming methods such as barriers to through traffic, reduced speed limits, speed bumps, etc. should be used to make neighbourhoods safer.
- Space should be provided for displays of public information and artistic works as well as advertising at public transit shops.
- The Waterfront Trail from Hamilton to Oshawa proposed in the Crombie Report should be developed.
- Better lighting and more security cameras, especially around stairs should be used to improve personal security. Drivers should be required to pickup and drop off passengers between normal stops.
- Transit buildings and stations should be made more accessible to disabled people and families with young children, including ramps, elevators, signage, more seating on platforms, automated turnstiles which accepted wheelchairs, and kneeling buses.

- High occupancy vehicle lanes should be instituted on major municipal roads and on provincial highways in congested urban areas.
- Frequent passing lanes should be provided on those parts of the TransCanada highway that are not upgraded to four or more lanes.
- The Ontario NDP opposes the acquisition of CN by CP. The Ontario NDP opposes the abandonment of Ontario rail lines which negatively impacts the economic viability of Ontario communities.
- The overhaul of the automobile licensing system should be continued.
- Educational requirements should be used to improve new and continuing driver skills.
- Graduated licensing should be introduced for suspended drivers to regain their driving privileges.
- Elderly and infirm drivers should have their driving privileges gradually reduced according to their infirmity (e.g. poor night vision), rather than completely at the first signs of any infirmity.
- Ways to reduce driving, improve fuel economy and respect pedestrians and cyclists should be taught during driver training.
- Automobile safety standards should not be left to market demands. Higher minimum safety standards should be legislated for all models of cars, not just “deluxe” cars.
- The Ontario government should press the federal government to reinstate limits on railway abandonments. “Public convenience and necessity” tests should be required before services and communities are abandoned.
- The transportation system should create and maintain jobs in the areas it serves.
- Transportation planning should be done with full public input and with attention given to those most directly affected. Effective environmental assessments should be applied to major developments. These assessments should include a review of mass transit alternatives to highway construction.
- Transportation subsidies should be greater in rural communities to reflect their higher costs of transportation.
- Systems should be supported to create a fully accessible transit system for disabled people.

- Public transportation systems should be linked to public recreation and natural areas. Urban residents, especially youth, must have reasonable access to natural areas.
- Economically disadvantaged groups should be able to take transit. Either special subsidies to these groups or discounted fares are in order.

15.2. Public Transit

15.2.1. Municipal User Fees

Formerly: 13.2.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP calls on the Wynne Government to restore the 50% operating subsidy for municipal transit.

Convention 2017

15.2.2. Urban Mass Transit Contracts

Formerly: 4.1.28

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP pursues legislation increasing Canadian content requirements to 60%, based on person-hours of work, for all public sector urban mass transit contracts.

Convention 2014

15.3. Automobiles & Highways

15.3.1. Roads

Formerly: 13.3.2

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ontario NDP government would take back control of and responsibility for significant components of the provincial highway system downloaded to municipalities.

Convention 2000; Convention 2009 (reaffirmed); Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

15.3.2. Northern Road Infrastructure

Formerly: 13.2.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP press for the establishment of a study into the transportation services and infrastructural needs of northern Ontario with specific reference to:

- Identifying all northern transportation communication needs including those for people, data, locally generated bulk commodities and the shipment of our manufactured goods;
- Researching new and alternative technologies such as dirigibles and light commuter rail lines to reduce our needs for massive new roadway infrastructure and our reliance on motor vehicles;
- Looking into road construction techniques appropriate to the north;
- Investigating intermodal freight handling technologies, with particular reference to the redevelopment of way-freight railroad services; and
- Proposing intermodal travel services and well connected travel linkages through but the whole of Northern Ontario.

Convention 1992; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed). (Convention Resolutions 13-28 & 13-26 were adopted as one resolution)

15.4. Regional Transportation

15.4.1. The Future of Rail Network in Northern Ontario

Formerly: 13.1.1

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Northern Council calls on the Government of Canada to impose a moratorium on any and all rail abandonments until such time as a national policy on the basic rail infrastructure that meets the needs of the country and its regions and the needs of the railway companies has been developed, and that the above noted policy be developed in consultation with communities, groups, individuals, businesses and industries who have an interest in the viability of rail services.

Convention 1994; Convention 2004 (reaffirmed); Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4.2. Ottawa Valley Rail Line

Formerly: 13.1.5

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP call on the provincial government to request the Federal government to impose a moratorium on rail line discontinuance to allow all stakeholders to establish a dialogue on a sustainable alternative to discontinuing the Ottawa Valley Rail line.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Provincial government review potential funding sources to contribute to preserving the said line.

Provincial Council, February 2011 (Emergency Resolution); Convention 2012

15.4.3. Union Pearson Express

Formerly: 13.1.6

BE IT RESOLVED that the Union Pearson Express should be transformed immediately into a true public transit service, with additional stations, electrified and with fares comparable to regular GO or TTC fares.

Convention 2014

15.4.4 Rail and Bus Network

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP develop a firm plan for the next election to establish, in conjunction with Via Rail where appropriate, an extensive provincial rail and bus network which connects all Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) in the province by electrified rail, and which connects smaller Census Agglomerations (CAs) along these routes into the rail system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an electric bus network connects small CAs and towns (within 50 kms of the rail lines) into the stations. The goal of the system will be rail system with a minimum of hourly arrivals and departures between CMAs of greater than 200,000 residents (Windsor, London, Kitchener-Waterloo, Hamilton, St. Catherine's, Barrie, Oshawa, Ottawa) by 2027, and a building out of the system into Northern Ontario communities.

Convention 2022

15.5. Transportation Jobs

15.5.1. Minimum Crew Members on Trains

Formerly: 13.1.3

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP encourage the Government of Ontario to enact legislation which will require trains in Ontario to have a minimum of two crew members.

Convention 1998; Convention 2007 (reaffirmed); Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

15.5.2. Creating and Protecting Jobs in the Transportation Sector

Formerly: 13.0.0 (Part 2)

Be it resolved that an Ontario NDP government will support the following:

- Creation of car-free zones and pedestrian malls should be encouraged in urban centres to spur retail activity. Minimum parking requirements which increase the cost of developments should not be used as criteria for new developments. Maximum parking allowances should be encouraged.
- Government should assist industry in fostering intermodal cooperative ventures, such as truck trailers that “piggy-back” on rail cars.
- Government should provide support for improved inter-city rail links, possibly including a high speed link between Windsor and Quebec City. Such a rail link would reduce the reliance on Highway 401 and would create several billions of dollars worth of construction jobs.
- Bike lanes should be built on country roads in more Tourist Areas, such as Niagara Falls, and along the shores of Lake Huron. Costs can be reduced by adding bike lanes when smaller highways are resurfaced in these areas.
- There is a current imbalance of transportation modes that results in an almost singular dependence on the automobile. A transportation policy that seeks to address this imbalance may create job dislocation. Funding for training and adjustment will assist workers in moving from sectors that are losing jobs to those that are gaining jobs.

- Financing for transportation and other capital costs should be put into a special fund every year, so that money from good economic times can be spent on capital projects in bad economic times.
- A vigorous program of research and development for more efficient transportation must be maintained and promoted in both the public and private sectors.
- A Truck-Train Network that allows all licensed truckers to put their trucks on special truck trains should be created. The service should cost truckers less than driving in selected corridors. Long-haul cross-country corridors, and high-volume corridors should be the first priorities.
- When transportation companies change ownership, unions should have successor rights.
- Workers who lose their jobs through restructuring and downsizing must have access to training and adjustment programs.
- Financing of transportation systems should be done on a sustainable basis, and should be amortized over a portion of the useful length of the project.
- Existing development levies should be allowed to be used to fund new public transit systems and other environmentally friendly modes like bike lanes.
- Employer subsidized parking in urban areas should be classified as a taxable benefit.
- Special levies should be applied to areas that benefit from the provision of new rapid transit lines, such as around the stations and along the corridor, to reflect the benefit those owners receive from public investment in their area.
- Transportation industries should be regulated and, if necessary, re-regulated on the basis of “public convenience and necessity.” This will help ensure a stable transportation sector and provision of services to the public as well as reduce industry bankruptcies and job losses. This (re-)regulation must be carried out in a way that takes account of the competitive pressures on the open and integrated nature of the Ontarian and Canadian economy, preferably through multilateral upgrading of standards.

Original policy adoption date unavailable; Convention 2022 (reaffirmed)