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We formally invited the candidates for Member of Parliament of Ward 1, Etobicoke North and Ward 11, University-Rosedale districts registered in Elections Canada to answer our survey. Due to time constraints and limited resources we could not offer the candidates very much time to answer the questions. We were not able to get in touch with Sudhir Mehta (Canada's Fourth Front), Steve Rutchinski (Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada), Aran Lockwood (People's Party of Canada), and Karin Brothers (Stop Climate Change). We got a chance to speak to Liz White (Animal Protection Party of Canada, Ward 11) and her responses are shared below. This initiative was made possible by our government liaison, Nashmia Zia and executive-at-large, Jennifer Huynh.

We received an acknowledgement from candidates listed below and they each expressed their apologies for not being able to respond in time.

<b>Electoral Party</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Name of candidate</b>
Conservative	1	Sarabkit Kaur
PPC	1	Renata Ford
Liberal	11	Chrystia Freeland
NDP	11	Melissa Jean-Baptiste
Green Party	11	Tim Grant

1. **Climate change:** Canada's climate is warming at twice the rate than the rest of the world (Canada's Changing Climate Report, 2019). Is climate change an urgent matter for your party? What are some climate change initiatives you will continue to pursue and are there any new initiatives you would like to introduce? How do you plan to evaluate the reliability/efficacy of these projects?

Climate change is a front and center issue for our party. Our focus is on fossil fuels but that is only one part of an overall issue. We need to look at what industries and activities contribute to climate change; one of those includes animal agriculture. We need to redefine our economy in a way that bridges the gap between where we are now and where we are going. We do not want people to get hurt or be out of work but we do have to change how we live and be conscious of the kinds of impacts we have on the planet. If we look at Alberta, there is incredible amount of work being done on alternative and clean energy. We aim to look at best practices occurring in the world. Evaluate what is working worldwide, what countries have significant progress in trying to address greenhouse gases/ global warming, and how is it working. Begin with where those best practices are occurring and then build on them. We are currently exploring organic stock-free agriculture and a number of agricultural communities are moving in that direction.



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2. **Greenhouse gas emission reductions:** Does your party want Canada to re-enter the Kyoto Accord and realign its greenhouse gas emissions reductions with the global community?

Yes, but these agreements are not sufficient and aggressive enough; our government needs to take this issue seriously.

3. **Senior population support programme:** By 2030, seniors will number over 9.5 million and make up 23 percent of Canadians (Government of Canada - Action for Seniors report, 2014). What would you do to help the generation of seniors who have their children and their own elderly parents to take care of?

In order for us to change how we get to the place we need to go to prevent a climate catastrophe, we need to take rich and poor and squash them together. Build social support programs for people with kids, with elderly parents, families, and for elderly who are living alone and single. Health care, housing, education should be a right to everyone, and we need to redefine society. To have a social safety net to allow ourselves to feel secure about our food, housing etc. will then free us up to address the issue of global warming.

In our society seniors are undervalued, they retire and go away, and they are often not part of civil society. They are seen as a burden and not as an asset. The Animal Protection Party of Canada has elderly volunteers who contribute immense knowledge. We should seek their input and expertise.

4. **Immigrants underemployment:** Canada is a country made of 1/5 immigrants with almost 17% of the recent immigrants holding a master's or doctorate degree. But most of them are not working in the field they were trained/working in before they came to Canada. How does your party plan on addressing the issue of immigrant underemployment? What measures and support programs do you plan to use to get the most from the immigrant workforce that Canada already has to fill the skill shortage?

We do not have policies that are of specific detail. Our goal is for people to reach their fullest function and ability in our society because society benefits from that. They benefit from being properly employed, even though they come from different countries does not mean that they are less important or valuable to society. We see them as full contributors; we need to provide a society for that to happen. We have not explored the specifics for that to take place. If we were to form government we would establish some sort of investigation or commission to explore what are the barriers that prevent people from being able to move to



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their given profession, are they able to pass the test here and are there possibilities to provide retraining programs? Canada needs family doctors; it is unbelievable to see doctors from other countries drive taxi cabs here.

5. **Public health safety:** With the public health safety and concerns regarding the use of e-cigarettes and vapes requiring further research and evidence, will there be plans to fund research into this area?

No, research in this area would involve testing of animals for people to use e-cigarettes for recreational purposes. E-cigarettes should be given out for medical purposes for people who are addicted to cigarettes as a last resort to help get them off of cigarettes. Not for non-cigarette users to try for recreational purposes. As we know from the past, companies do not tell the truth about the health effects of cigarettes and we should expect they do same with e-cigarettes. Distribution of these products should be carefully controlled.

6. **Alternative energy:** Alternative energy is one of the solutions to combat climate change. Energy storage is key to ensure the feasibility of alternative energy and move away from fossil fuels, will an action plan be set in place to fund energy storage research and decrease subsidizing oil companies in the next four years?

Yes, that would be the direction to go into. Begin by implementing programs that get people to reduce their consumption. We have to change our behaviour; we need to change how we get around (travel/commute). Our party would advocate removing subsidization of fossil fuels. Continuing to subsidize fossil fuels will not get us to where we want to go.

7. **Privacy protection:** The Internet has become a foundation of economic, social, law enforcement, and military activity. What steps will you take to protect vulnerable infrastructure and institutions from cyber-attack, and to provide for national security while protecting personal privacy on electronic devices and the Internet?

We have not taken a position on this issue. Regarding elections, we have had extensive discussions on cyber security.



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8. **Freedom to share research:** Evidence-based science is the best way to enforce fair and just public policy which highly depends on the integrity of the scientific process used to produce it. To achieve this integrity, the process should be transparent and free from political bias and pressure. How will you ensure scientific transparency and accountability in government while preventing political interference in the work of scientists and federal agencies? Where does your party stand on allowing public-sector researchers to speak freely?

Animal-based research is the most opaque of all. There is not much public information for what goes on in a research laboratory, how many animals are used, what kind of science is coming out of it, whose reviewing the science and whether the research that is being done has any integrity or whether the research is dated (eg. health effects of mustard gas). All research should be available to the public, we should know who the researchers are, know where they get their money from, and what their background and interests are. In our country, there is no way to find out what goes on in research laboratories. Are we getting answers from this research? What is coming out of it? Why certain research requires 20 years. None of these questions are asked because the current structure of research is done in a closed system. The peer review process that occurs is with other researchers, no independent peer reviewer, no oversight, and no assessment if that is money well spent or not. Research should be open, transparent, peer-reviewed, and free of political-influence. When animals are involved, research is opaque.

9. **Long-term funding initiatives:** Many research initiatives require long term funding that exceeds the four-year term that governs the political cycle. In view of budgetary constraints, what criteria will you employ to balance the short term and long-term funding? And in terms of investment what areas of science and technology will be on your priority list.

We would invest time and money in the kind of research that deals with the effects of climate change and how we use that technology to mitigate the worst effects that we are going to face.

Please note that CIC Toronto section does not endorse any candidate, and that the inclusion or absence of responses from candidates does not reflect any bias of the Chemical Institute of Canada.