#### Social Project

### Pranav B.

### Mr. Ginther

# Economy

## Conservative

The Conservatives “guarantee” low taxes to families, seniors, workers and small businesses by placing a “tax lock.” Some of their main priorities are to create 1.3 million new jobs by 2020, opening new markets for Canadian businesses and workers, and helping 700,000 more Canadians own their own home. They believe that they have “a positive plan for the next four years to protect Canada’s economy, create new, well-paying jobs, and help families and seniors.”

* Keep budget balanced
* Create 1.3 million new jobs by 2020
* Reduce corporate tax rate from 22% to 15% and the small business tax rate from 11% to 9% by 2019
* Provide approximately $670 million in federal tax relief to Canadian seniors over age of 70 between 2015 and 2020
* Offer a budget of up to $5000 for a new or better job through the Canada Job Grant program
* Introduced a “family tax cut” that allows couples with children under age 18 to split up to $50,000 of income; caps non-refundable benefit at $2,000
* Increased annual contribution limit for tax-free savings accounts (TFSAs) to $10,000 from $5,500
* Boost the Universal Child Care Benefit, from $100 to $160 a month for each child under the age of six, as well as a new $60-a-month payment for each kid aged six to 17
* Bring in a "tax lock" law barring increases to federal personal and business income taxes, sales taxes and "discretionary payroll taxes" such as CPP and EI
* Increase the Old Age Security eligibility age to 67 from 65

## Liberal

The Liberals promise to balance the books in 2019. They will run more deficits to sustain spending on larger infrastructure package, tax cuts, and other promises over the next four years. Despite all this spending, they promise to balance the budget again in 2019 with a surplus of $1 billion. Their main priority is to strengthen, and provide more benefits to the middle class.

* Balance the budget in 2020 and promises that the size of annual deficits will not exceed $10 billion
* Cut middle class (those with a taxable income between $44,700 and $89,401 per year) income tax rate from 22% to 20.5% and raise taxes from 29% to 33% on income over $200,000
* Create a Canada Child Benefit “worth up to $533 a month per child”. The change would fund larger monthly payments to families at lower incomes by providing less generous benefits to higher income families.
* Invest $200 million more annually in clean energy technology and green innovations in forestry, fishery, mining, energy, and agriculture sectors
* Keep the Old Age Security eligibility age to 65
* A Liberal government would ensure that the CRA proactively contacts Canadians when they are entitled to tax benefits and end the Agency's political harassment of charities. A Liberal government would support filing paperless tax returns and actively combat international tax evasion
* Cancel income splitting for families but maintain it for seniors
* A Liberal government would reduce EI premiums from $1.88 to $1.65 per $100 starting in 2017.
* Cancel TFSA increase to $10,000, saying it helps well-off Canadians who need it the least.
* Supports lowering the small-business tax rate but have measures to ensure the small-business tax system isn’t used by high-income Canadians as a way of avoiding taxes
* Invest $1.5 billion over four years to help young people find work
* Improve investment in skills training through a $750 million annual increase in funding for training programs delivered in partnership with the provinces, territories, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit. They would also invest $25 million per year into training facilities.
* Provide $200 million a year for three years to help research facilities, small business incubators and exporters. Plus another $100 million towards an industrial research assistance program.

## NDP

NDP promises four years of balanced budgets in fiscal years. By increasing corporate tax rate by two percent, they will maintain surpluses while increasing spending each year. They will also remove income splitting and increased TFSA limits because, they say, it only helps the wealthy and does little for middle-class Canadians.

* Keep budgets balanced
* Cut small-business tax rate to 9% from 11% in two years
* Raise corporate tax rate from 15% to 17%
* Apply an additional $0.01 to the existing gas tax to create a $1.5 billion annual infrastructure fund. They would also invest an additional $1.3 billion annually over the next twenty years on transit nationwide.
* Keep the Old Age Security eligibility age to 65
* Create a $160 million, four-year fund to help small and medium-sized aerospace companies adopt new technology and increase production. An NDP government would also invest $40 million over four years in the Canadian Space Agency's technology development program
* Create more than 40,000 youth jobs, paid internships and co-op placements over four years through a $100 million program.
* Cancel government’s income-splitting policy for families; says it helps only wealthiest 15 per cent
* Reverse changes to TFSA contribution limits; says higher amount helps the wealthy and does little for middle-class Canadians
* Increase Canada Pension Plan contributions and benefits for Canadians.
* Create $15-a-day national child care program, and create or maintain one million affordable child care spaces across Canada.
* Honor the expanded Universal Child Care Benefit
* Increase federal minimum wage to $15/hour
* Not raise personal income-tax rates

## Green

The Green Party would grow the economy by shifting it to a “green economy”; create jobs in renewable energy and efficiency.

* Eliminate personal taxes on incomes below low-income cut-off of $20,000
* Reduce federal small business tax rate to nine per cent by 2019
* Raise corporate taxes over four years from the current level of 15 per cent to 19 per cent
* Work with provinces to increase taxes on tobacco and alcohol.
* Create jobs by making homes and business more energy efficient
* Increase federal minimum wage to $15/hour and introduce legislation to ban unpaid internships

# Bill C-51

## Conservative

Because of the Conservative government’s majority, the House of Commons passed the controversial new Bill C-51 which gives law enforcement more power to investigate those suspected of terrorism and stop speech that glorifies or promotes terrorism.

* Bill C-51:
  + Gives powers to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) to expand surveillance and actively disrupt threats to national security
  + Makes it illegal to promote terrorism
  + Lowers the legal threshold required for police to arrest and detain suspected extremists without charge
  + Allows more than 100 government entities to exchange Canadians’ confidential information if it is “relevant” to a potential or suspected national security threat
  + broadens no-fly list powers
* Committed $292 million over five years to help RCMP, CSIS and the Canada Border Services Agency combat terrorism.

## Liberal

The Liberals would keep bill C-51, but make some amendments to the bill. They promise to institute a sunset clause on some parts of the bill.

* Make amendments to Bill C-51 by:
  + limiting the sharing of personal data to 17 government departments and agencies with national security responsibilities
  + eliminating CSIS’s new power to obtain court warrants to break the law in some cases to disrupt suspected terrorists
  + Adding a three-year sunset provisions on some parts of the law and mandatory parliamentary reviews of the extraordinary security measures.
* Create an all-party national security oversight committee to oversee the 17 government departments and agencies with national security responsibilities

## NDP

The NDPs are completely against Bill C-51. They promise to repeal the bill to protect our security and our rights.

* Repeal Bill C-51, the anti-terrorism act
* Provide more independent review of Canada’s national security agencies

## Green

Will completely repeal Bill C-51 saying it “Is the death of Freedom.”

* Repeal Bill C-51, the anti-terror act and the portions of Bills C-13 and S-4 that allow warrantless disclosure
* Introduce a comprehensive security plan that will provide coordinated direction to the RCMP, CSIS, Canada Border Services Agency, Coast Guard and Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
* Ensure responses to terrorism are carried out within a framework consistent with international law
* End the Canadian government’s online surveillance program and introduce legislation to "defend an internet that is open and free, where Canadians have a right to privacy."

# Syria and Iraq Crisis

## Conservative

The Conservatives promise to bring 10,000 refugees from Syria and Iraq over four years. They introduced a Syrian emergency relief fund that would be sent as humanitarian assistance to Syria. The fund would match donations from Canadians, up to $100 million. They would continue active military action against ISIS in the form of coalition airstrikes to stabilize the region.

* Bring 10,000 additional refugees from Syria and Iraq over the next four years
* Committed Canada to a military mission against ISIL, sending CF-18 fighter jets to Iraq and Syria
* Spend $300 million over five years to expand the use of biometric screening at Canadian borders
* Introduce Syrian emergency relief fund which will match donations from Canadians, up to $100 million

## Liberal

The liberals would continue to work with its allies in the fight against ISIS, and accept 25,000 Syrian refugees by January, 2016. They pledge to invest an additional $100 million in fiscal year 2015/2016 to increase refugee processing, sponsorship and settlement services in Canada. A Liberal government would end airstrikes, but increase Canadian Forces presence when it comes to training local resistance fighters.

* End the bombing campaign in Iraq and Syria but keep military trainers in Iraq and boost humanitarian aid to help refugees; allow more refugees into the country from Iraq and Syria
* Accept 25,000 Syrian refugees by January, 2016
* Commit $200 million to help new arrivals settle in Canada and to help the UN manage refugee camps in the Middle East
* Invest $100 million in fiscal year 2015/2016 to increase refugee processing, sponsorship and settlement services in Canada

## NDP

Tom Mulcair, said that an NDP government would pull out of the war against ISIS, instead they would send humanitarian aid. $64 million will be dedicated in humanitarian assistance for Syrian refugees. They promise to sponsor 10,000 refugees by year's end and also appoint a Syrian refugee coordinator. An NDP government would also increase Canada’s diplomatic presence and number of immigration officials in the region to accelerate application processes.

* End the bombing campaign and pull out all military personnel from Iraq and Syria
* Boost humanitarian aid to help refugees affected by ISIL as well as investigate and prosecute war crimes
* Bring 10,000 Syrian refugees into the country by the end of the year and 46,000 by 2019
* Increase Canada’s diplomatic presence and number of immigration officials in the region to accelerate application processes.

## Green

The Green Party believes that the Conservatives are not doing nearly as much as they can to help. "We need to get back to the kind of country we were where we welcomed people and we didn't allow a humanitarian crisis to be wrapped up in red tape," May said. She would like to see Canada do “everything it can” to help the crisis.

* End Canada’s combat role in Iraq and Syria and seek other means to defeat ISIS
* A Green government would strengthen human rights protections for prospective immigrants, repeal recent changes that encourage rapid deportation, and reverse policies that place barriers on family reunification.
* They would also restore funding for refugee healthcare and make sure that Canada is doing "everything it can" to take in as many refugees as possible.

# Marijuana

## Conservative

The Conservatives are opposed to legalization or decriminalization of marijuana.

* Not legalize or decriminalize marijuana
* Consider Canadian police chiefs’ call for ticketing system for people possessing 30 grams of pot or less

## Liberal

The Liberals would legalize marijuana completely and collect taxes on the industry.

* Would legalize marijuana, and decriminalize the consumption and possession of drugs

## NDP

The NDP promise to decriminalize marijuana, and then enter into public discussions about what should happen thereafter; they will consider legalizing it.

* Decriminalize marijuana immediately and study the resulting health and societal effects
* Open to considering legalization, but is calling for a commission to consult Canadians and instruct Parliament on how to carefully regulate non-medical use

## Green

The Greens promise to legalize marijuana completely and collect taxes on the industry.

* Legalize marijuana
* Believes that drug addictions should be treated as a health problem, not as criminal offences

# Environment

## Conservative

Steven Harper is opposed to both a carbon tax and a cap-and-trade program. The Conservatives have contributed $300 million to the UN Green Climate Fund, which helps developing countries battle the effects of climate change. They are committed to strengthening the polluter-pay principle. They have set emissions reduction targets under the Copenhagen Accord, but unless further climate legislation is brought in, Canada is on track to miss those targets.

* Is opposed to both a carbon tax and a cap-and-trade program
* Has set goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 with no clear way of achieving it
* Will create a Wildlife Conservation and Enhancement Program that improves habitat for species harvested by hunters and trappers
* Will enact new migratory bird regulations to establish a family hunting permit
* They support the Northern Gateway, Kinder Morgan, Keystone XL and Energy East pipelines.
* Committed to strengthening the polluter-pay principle

## Liberal

The Liberals promise a Medicare-style approach to carbon pricing through which Ottawa would set national targets and enforces principles but allow provinces to design their own systems. Within three months of the UN Climate Change Summit in Paris, Justin Trudeau would meet with the premiers to develop a climate change strategy. The Liberals would also improve access to National Parks, waiving entry fees for new Canadians. They would support pipelines only if they meet environmental standards.

* They support the Keystone XL pipeline but oppose Northern Gateway. The Liberals neither favor nor oppose the Energy East and Kinder Morgan projects—and want to make a determination based on a renewed, stronger environmental review process
* Increase science spending on our National Parks by $2 million per year to allow for the early identification of ecological stresses and prevention of permanent degradation.
* Within three months of the UN Climate Change Summit in Paris, Justin Trudeau would meet with the premiers to develop a climate change strategy
* Waive entry fees for new Canadians to National Parks starting in 2018
* Will invest $50 million annually to advance the development of Canada’s parks system, national wildlife areas and migratory bird sanctuaries
* Committed to strengthening the polluter-pay principle

## NDP

The NDP intend to redirect about $1 billion from fossil fuel subsidies to investment in clean technology. They favor a country-wide cap-and-trade program to lower greenhouse gas emissions. An NDP government would also bring back the Home Retrofit Program, which funds home energy renovations. The NDP also plans to strengthen laws to protect Canada's lakes and rivers.

* Opposes the Keystone XL and Northern Gateway pipelines. The NDP neither favors nor opposes the Energy East and Kinder Morgan projects—and will want to make a determination based on a renewed, stronger environmental review process
* Redirect $1 billion from fossil fuel subsidies to investment in clean technology
* Re-institute the popular eco-energy home retrofit program that the Conservative government began in 2007 but ended in 2012. The program offered Canadians up to $5,000 to make their homes more energy efficient by replacing old roofs, windows, and insulation with eco-friendly alternatives.
* Institute a cap-and-trade system which puts a "clear market price" on carbon emissions. The revenue generated by the system would be invested in renewable energy projects in the regions where that revenue is generated
* Restore tax credits in the manufacturing industry that encourage firms to invest in energy-efficient machinery.
* Introduce a national version of the Sustainable Development Act
* Spend $200 million over four years to help retrofit 50,000 homes and 15,000 apartments to make them more energy efficient
* Introduce an Environmental Bill of Rights giving all Canadians the right to a clean and healthy environment
* Invest $150 million over four years to a green municipal fund. The money would offer local governments stable funding for sustainable projects and cleaner transit.
* Committed to strengthening the polluter-pay principle

## Green

Elizabeth May would introduce a carbon fee on fossil fuels. The revenues from this would be returned to all Canadians adults in the form of a carbon dividend. Greens advocate a 40-per-cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2025 and commit to $500 million each year to the Green Climate fund.

* Commit Canada at COP21 in Paris this December, to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 40% below 2005 levels by 2025. To accomplish these reductions, they would establish a revenue-neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend system to phase out carbon emissions and promote renewable energy.
* Spend $500 million each year to the Green Climate fund
* Embed the "right to a healthy environment" in Canada’s constitution
* Cancel the $1.3 billion dollar annual subsidy to fossil fuel companies
* Committed to strengthening the polluter-pay principle