

The evolution of green.

In just a few short years, climate change has become the number one issue among Canadians. As awareness of this global crisis has grown, more and more people have looked to the Green Party as an alternative to the political policies that brought us here.

This federal by-election will be a tipping point for those who hope for better

solutions. This is an opportunity we do not take lightly.

That's why we want to share our vision to introduce you to an integrated platform that will move us forward, globally and locally.

We're not the only country grappling with the realities of a changing planet. Many are ahead of us in this journey. Canada has the opportunity to become a leader in the new green economy. If we act now.



It's our time.

Vision Green was developed by a 31-member Green Party Cabinet and follows best practices already in place in parts of Canada or other countries. Many have been successfully applied in Europe, where Greens are elected at all political levels, creating new high-paying jobs

while meeting targets to reduce

greenhouse gas emissions.

Download the complete

Vision Green document at

www.greenparty.ca/visiongreen



Electric light rail is one of our practical transit solutions. Tri Met's new Max Light Rail Trains will run on the "Green Line" in Portland, Oregon starting in 2009.



Ten steps to a world of green opportunity.

EXPERTS AGREE: GREEN PARTY CLIMATE PLAN IS THE BEST

"Pollution must have a price tag. Currently it is too cheap to pollute and too expensive not to."

- Don Drummond, Chief Economist, TD Bank, March, 2007

"If your objective is to cut greenhouse gas emissions, a carbon tax is definitely one of the most effective ways of doing that."

- Doug Porter, Deputy Chief Economist, BMO

"First of all, I don't think it is going to have that much of an impact on the economy overall. Second of all, if you don't do it, you can be sure that the economy will go down the drain in the next 30 years."

- Paul Volcker, former Chairman, US Federal Reserve, February, 2007

"Two things are needed to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations: you need a price on carbon, preferably through a carbon tax, to induce firms and individuals to cut back on their emissions; and you need an energy technology race."

- Chris Green, Professor of Economics, McGill University

"I fully understand that this [taxing the carbon content of fuels] is considered politically impossible, but part of our challenge is to expand the limits of what is possible."

- Al Gore, former US Vice President, March, 2007

1 PUT A TAX ON POLLUTION, REDUCE TAXES ON INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

A tax on carbon emissions is the most effective market tool to drive energy efficiency and investment in renewable energy alternatives.

This tax revenue would then be used to reduce other taxes, including income and payroll taxes, and to offer tax incentives for measures that reduce carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions.

2 CAP CARBON EMISSIONS & EXTRACTION LEVELS

About 50% of Canada's CO₂e emissions are produced by Large Final Emitters (LFEs), including companies in mining, manufacturing, oil, gas and thermal electricity. By setting a stringent cap on carbon emissions for these industries, and establishing an overall cap on fossil fuel extraction levels, we could stop at the source any increase of these carbon emissions in Canada.

Does that mean an end to industry? No. LFEs that reduce their emissions below their cap get carbon credits which they can sell. LFEs that emit more can purchase carbon credits to meet their caps. This is known as a 'cap and trade' system and is successfully practiced in other nations, including 25 of 27 member states of the European Union.

3 STOP SUBSIDIZING SOME OF THE WEALTHIEST CORPORATIONS ON EARTH

Do Canadian taxpayers really need to pay companies to extract our resources? We will remove all subsidies to coal, oil, gas and coalbed methane industries, and phase out fossil fuel electricity generation. These industries would then be required to capture and sequester (pump deep underground) an increasing percentage of the CO₂ they generate.

4 RAPIDLY DEVELOP RENEWABLE ENERGY

Europe is currently the global leader in renewable energy technologies, employing some 200,000 people. Canada must move quickly to ramp up our renewable energy potential, with incentive programmes, and by requiring provinces to adopt power 'feed' laws similar to Ontario's Standard Offer Contracts. The goal: by 2040 Canada's energy needs will be supplanted by 40,000 Megawatts (MW) wind energy, 20,000 MW solar PV, 10,000 MW ocean energy and 50,000 MW geothermal. End subsidies to the nuclear industry and phase out nuclear power.



5 LEGISLATE GREENER CAR, ROAD AND APPLIANCE STANDARDS

The Green Party of Canada will require vehicle emissions to reduce CO₂ by 30% by 2015 and 85% by 2040. In addition we will end federal financing for highway infrastructure that leads to urban sprawl and vehicle dependence. (The Asia-Pacific Gateway Program is an example of one such project.)

All appliances will likewise have to meet Energy Star® rating by 2015, and we will phase out inefficient appliances and light bulbs, some by 2010.

6 PUT WILD FISHERIES FIRST

We must strengthen the Fisheries Act so that management and conservation of wild fisheries take precedence over aquaculture where there are conflicts. We will work with provincial governments to eliminate aquaculture practices that damage the marine environment and human health and seek:

- a) A moratorium on new open-ocean net-pen salmon farms and a phase-out of existing farms in 10 years; and
- b) In the meantime, the following of sea pens during wild-hatch salmon runs.

The Green Party of Canada will establish permanent bans on oil and gas exploration and development in ecologically sensitive offshore areas, like the British Columbia coast and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

7 BRING THE GREEN BACK TO CANADA'S FORESTRY

Canada must have the power to encourage more domestic value-added manufacturing, by restricting the export of raw logs. We will renegotiate trade agreements to create a substantial whole log export tax.

To mitigate the economic impact of the pine beetle epidemic, we will provide more federal funding to research the best way to harvest pine beetle wood, while leaving unaffected trees.

The Green Party of Canada will also promote hemp and agricultural cellulose wood waste as sources of paper fibre to reduce the pressure on standing forests.

8 SUPPORT ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

We will develop a National Agricultural and Food policy that actually pays farmers to apply agricultural practices that maintain and increase carbon sequestration into the soil, ultimately evolving to 100% organic farming over time.

We will also enable local food economies to develop area-specific food regulations that work.



Adriane Carr (on right), Deputy Leader GPC tours organic farm near Senneville, Quebec.

9 BETTER HEALTH CARE, PROVEN ALTERNATIVES

To move forward, Canadians need a health care system that works better. We will immediately provide funds to train more doctors and nurses, and create on-the-job mentorship programs to fast-track the certification of foreign-trained health care professionals.

The Green Party of Canada will also help fund coverage of proven alternative therapies, such as chiropractic, massage and acupuncture.

One alternative we will never consider, however, is a two-tiered, for-profit health care model. We will use all federal funding appropriately to improve and maintain our public system, including preventative, acute and long-term care.

10 SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS FOR MORE GREEN COLLAR JOBS

Most successful applied research and commercialization is done by small and medium-sized businesses, and these business "clusters" attract more new businesses. An easily accessible system for business development must be made available in smaller cities and towns to entice home-grown entrepreneurs to stay. (This model has been very successfully applied in Sweden in the form of Technology Centres.) The Green Party of Canada will also establish a federally funded Small Cities Green Venture Capital Fund to support viable local green business start-ups.

Projected Impacts of Increased Global Warming

Our climate is rapidly warming and over 2,000 scientists on the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) agree humans are the primary cause.

Today we have more than 30% more CO₂ in our atmosphere than at any time in the last 650,000 years (based on measurements of ancient air bubbles from Antarctic ice cores). Activities such as burning fossil fuels, agri-business and clearcutting pump

CO₂, methane and other gases into our atmosphere where they act like greenhouse glass, trapping the heat that would otherwise escape into space.

The impacts are already extreme. Arctic ice is shrinking. Polar bears and other species are at risk of extinction. Permafrost is melting. Glaciers almost everywhere are in rapid retreat. Catastrophic storms, fires, droughts and floods are increasing. Warmer oceans have led to more severe hurricanes.

A 2°C increase in Earth's average temperature above year 2000 will most likely cause:

- 58% of Arctic tundra destabilized, emitting CO₂ and methane gas as the permafrost thaws
- 50% loss of North American salmon habitat
- Extinction of up to 40% of Earth's species
- 97% of world's coral reefs bleached and killed
- Complete melt of Arctic ice in summer by 2030

Source: UK Met Office Conference Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change, 2006

"Researchers were stunned in the summer of 2007 when summer Arctic sea ice extent plummeted to the lowest level ever measured... This decline is rapidly changing the geopolitics of the Arctic region, opening the Northwest Passage for the first time in recorded history and triggering a scramble among governments to claim large swaths of the potentially resource-rich Arctic sea floor."

- Excerpt from "Ice Melt Accelerates Around the World" by Frances C. Moore, Feb. 4, 2008.

Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer aboard NASA's Aqua Satellite on September 16, 2007.

Yellow line: median minimum from 1979 to 2000. Green line: 2005 minimum



Meet your Green Evolutionaries



Elizabeth May, Green Party Leader

Elizabeth May is an environmentalist, writer, activist and lawyer. She has been active in the environmental movement since 1970. She first became known in the Canadian media in the mid-1970s through her leadership as a volunteer in the grassroots movement against aerial insecticide spraying proposed for forests near her home on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. She has served on numerous boards of environmental groups and advisory bodies to universities and governments in Canada.

Elizabeth is the recipient of many awards including the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Sierra Club in 1989, the International

Conservation Award from the Friends of Nature, and the United Nations Global 500 Award in 1990.

In March 2006, Elizabeth stepped down as Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada, a post she had held since 1989, to run for the leadership of the Green Party of Canada. She was successful in her bid, was elected the Green Party's ninth leader at their national convention in August 2006 with a clear majority of the votes.

Elizabeth became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005.



Adriane Carr, Deputy Leader – Vancouver Centre

Adriane Carr is working to be one of the first Green MPs in Canada. Recent opinion polls conducted in Vancouver Centre show that she has a great chance of winning in the upcoming election.

How did Carr become BC's most successful Green activist and politician?

Her greatest political success so far was earning 27% of the popular vote in her riding in the 2001 election, the best result to date of any Green running in a provincial or national election in Canada. Her leadership has changed the face of politics in BC on issues such as

renewable energy, food security, value-added forestry, electoral reform and getting junk food out of schools.

During her six years as the Leader of the Green Party of BC (2000-2006), she established the party as a major political force in BC. She was included in the 2001 and 2005 televised leaders' debates, the first Green Leader in North America to be included in such debates. As a result of her performance, in 2001 the Greens increased their votes by 600 percent to over 12% of the popular vote.



Dan Grice – Vancouver Quadra

Dan Grice was born in Vancouver, has a bachelor of Arts from UBC and has worked as a marketing consultant and account manager for a local technology company. He is an active director of Fair Voting BC, advocating electoral reform.

"Vancouver Quadra is a unique riding filled with families, scholars, students, business leaders, new Canadians and many of the brightest minds in Canada" says Dan.

"Many of Quadra's residents are graduates of UBC and belong to a proud tradition of being

**VOTE DAN GRICE
ON MARCH 17th**

independent thinkers. We have always cared about the planet and our community and expect more from our elected leaders.

This riding has always been at the forefront of real change and this upcoming by-election is an opportunity to send a message that we need real action on climate change.

Please, support the Green Party by giving me your vote in the March 17th by-election."

To learn more about Dan Grice and support his campaign go to: www.VoteGrice.com

Join the Evolution

I'll give a tax deductible* donation to the Green Party of Canada.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$200 Other \$ _____

(*Between 75% and 50% rebate e.g. a \$200 donation costs you just \$50. Maximum \$2,200; \$1,100 each to central and local campaigns.)

Please transfer my donation to Dan Grice's Campaign.

I want to apply \$10 of my donation to join the Green Party.

I am not a member of any other federal political party.
(please sign here:)

Please contact me. I want to help elect Green Party MPs to change the climate in Parliament.

Name (please print) _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____
Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Phone _____
Email _____

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It's our time.