

**Office of the Regional Chair and CEO
The Regional Municipality of Durham**



Statement

from the Regional Chair

September 10, 2015

Questions to Federal Election Candidates

Whitby, Ontario – Municipal issues are important to all Canadians. We all need safe, environmentally sustainable, livable communities. We need jobs and strong local economies. We need solid commitments from the Government of Canada to work alongside municipal governments to address these priorities. We need partners.

Earlier this month, I sent letters to each of the federal candidates running campaigns across the region to share their parties' position on several issues of importance to Durham. Over the coming weeks, as we receive responses to the following questions, I will share their responses here, with our Regional Council, and through my Twitter feed. This is important information. Ask your candidates about their commitments to the places where you live, work and play.

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, and attract trade and investment to Durham Region?
2. Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?

Environment

3. What is your party's strategy to secure Canada's economic and energy sustainability in a carbon-constrained future? What roles do conservation, retrofits, renewable energy, and nuclear energy production play in this plan?

4. How will your party work to ensure that communities are prepared for, protected from, and supported in managing the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events?

Infrastructure

5. How will your party deliver the substantial, stable, long-term federal funding needed to help address urgent municipal infrastructure needs in Durham (e.g. transit, roads and bridges)?
6. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?
7. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Social Issues

8. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?
9. Will your party develop a national housing strategy to address the affordability of housing in communities across Canada, including the 4500 households on the waiting list for affordable housing in Durham Region? If so, by what date?

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