

Questions and Answers

Durham Region Federal Ridings

Durham Regional Chair Roger Anderson sent a series of questions on issues of regional importance to all of the candidates running locally in the upcoming federal election. Responses will be posted as they are received.

Note that this document is divided alphabetically by riding, with the responses to each question listed alphabetically by political party.

Riding	Party	Name
Ajax	Conservative – in office	Alexander, Chris
Ajax	Liberal Candidate	Holland, Mark
Ajax	NDP Candidate	Brown, Stephanie
Durham	Christian Heritage Party Candidate	Moriarity, Andrew
Durham	Conservative – in office	O'Toole, Erin
Durham	Liberal Candidate	Traill, Corinna
Durham	NDP Candidate	Spence, Derek
Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock	Conservative Candidate	Schmale, Jamie
Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock	Green Party Candidate	MacCallum, Bill
Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock	Liberal Candidate	Marquis, David
Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock	NDP Candidate	Perry, Mike
Northumberland/Peterborough South	Conservative Candidate	Moulton, Adam
Northumberland/Peterborough South	Green Party Candidate	Sinnott, Patricia
Northumberland/Peterborough South	Liberal Candidate	Rudd, Kim
Northumberland/Peterborough South	NDP Candidate	Christianson, Russ
Oshawa	Conservative – in office	Colin, Carrie
Oshawa	Green Party Candidate	Dempsey, Michael
Oshawa	Liberal Candidate	Marimpietri, Tito-Dante
Oshawa	NDP Candidate	Fowler, Mary

Riding	Party	Name
Pickering/Uxbridge	Conservative – in office	Chisu, Corneliu
Pickering/Uxbridge	Green Party Candidate	Navarro, Anthony
Pickering/Uxbridge	Liberal Candidate	O'Connell, Jennifer
Pickering/Uxbridge	NDP Candidate	Downward, Pamela
Whitby	Conservative – in office	Perkins, Pat
Whitby	Green Party Candidate	Cameron, Craig
Whitby	Liberal Candidate	Caesar-Chavannes, Celina
Whitby	NDP Candidate	Kelly, Ryan

Ajax Riding Boundaries – consisting of that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of the Town of Ajax

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, attract trade and investment to Durham Region?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

The Liberal Party plans to foster a better working relationship with all three levels of governments. Canada's aging infrastructure cannot be solved on the backs of municipalities. That is why the Liberal Party plans to work with municipalities to invest in infrastructure. This creates jobs and gets our economy moving again. In addition, we plan to invest in youth training and employment to create 40,000 new jobs for people just entering the job market.

2. Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

The Greater Toronto Area is already well-served by three international and various regional airports, and residents don't want the construction of another white elephant. The Liberal Party of Canada sees no legitimate business case for an airport on the expropriated Pickering lands. A Liberal government would hold immediate public consultations and explore alternative uses for this very valuable land.

Environment

1. 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?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

A Liberal government will invest \$100 million annually in clean technology producers, giving them resources to solve our pressing environmental concerns. Additionally, we will invest \$200 million dollars annually in innovation technology in specific sectors with growing environmental concerns. We will work directly with provinces to develop a plan for sustainability and renewable energy. In doing so, we hope to create green jobs and industry, and therefore, expand our economy while being responsible global citizens.

2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

A Liberal government will renew all our international commitments on climate change. We will also work directly with provincial and municipal governments to ensure funding is properly targeted to ensure all communities are prepared for extreme weather conditions.

Infrastructure

1. 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)?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

A Liberal government will work with the municipalities who know the needs of their communities best, tripling federal funding in infrastructure over the next four years, and contributing \$6 billion over the next four years in public transit specifically.

2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

A Liberal government would reintroduce the long-form census, so that all levels of government would have the information they need to make evidence-based decisions. We would also introduce stable funding, so municipalities can make predictable long-term decisions.

3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

A Liberal Government would follow a flexible approach, using both formulas and applications to maximize predictability and use. In addition, bilateral agreements, similar to those used in gas tax transfers, would be used to create stability in funding.

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

Our infrastructure investment includes investment in thousands of new childcare spaces across the country. We will also create the Canada Child Benefit plan, an income-based benefit that will ensure support goes to middle class families that need it.

2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – Mark Holland

The Liberal Party's infrastructure investment includes a renewed commitment by the federal government to create affordable housing. The timeline includes \$6 billion in investment in the first four years and nearly \$20 billion over the next 10.

Durham Riding Boundaries – Consisting of that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of: (a) that part of the City of Oshawa lying northerly of Taunton Road West and Taunton Road East; (b) the Township of Scugog; and(c) that part of the Corporation of the Municipality of Clarington lying westerly of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the southerly limit of said municipality with the production of Cobbledick Road; thence northerly along said production and Cobbledick Road to Highway No. 401; thence westerly along said highway to the production of Darlington-Clarke Townline (Regional Road No. 42); thence northerly along said production, Darlington-Clarke Townline and its intermittent production to Concession Road 10; thence generally westerly along said road to Regional Road No. 20; thence generally northerly along said road to Darlington-Manvers Townline; thence generally northerly along said Townline to the northerly limit of said municipality (awaiting responses)

Economy

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

Environment

1. 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?
2. 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

1. 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)?
2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?
3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?
2. 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?

Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock Riding Boundaries – Consisting of: (a) the County of Haliburton; (b) that part of the County of Peterborough comprised of the Township of Cavan-Monaghan; (c) the City of Kawartha Lakes; and (d) that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of the Township of Brock

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, attract trade and investment to Durham Region?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

Each year over the next decade, a Liberal Government will steadily increase Federal infrastructure investment. At full implementation this will represent an annual additional investment of \$9.5 billion per year. We will almost double Federal infrastructure investment to nearly \$125 billion – from \$65 billion – over ten years. This will be the largest new investment in infrastructure in Canadian history. A Liberal government will also develop bilateral agreements with the provinces and territories, which will be similar to those created for the successful gas tax transfer to cities and communities. We will not only significantly increase the scale of Federal infrastructure investment; our plan will provide provinces, territories, and municipalities with an unprecedented level of long-term predictability in funding as well.

As a former Municipal representative, I can tell you that this will be a game changer and will make a huge difference in way we are able to plan for local development projects. As your Federal MP, it will be my job to make a case for projects in the Durham region ripe for investment and as a former Councillor and resident, I know the list is long. Modern infrastructure, including transportation and housing is key for businesses to grow.

2. Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

The Liberal Party of Canada sees no legitimate business case for an airport on the expropriated Pickering lands. A Liberal government would hold immediate public consultations and explore alternative uses for this very valuable land. The rationale for this position is as follows; the Greater Toronto Area is already well-served by three international and various regional airports, and residents don't want the construction of another white elephant.

Environment

1. 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?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

Green infrastructure projects eligible for investment under the Liberal Infrastructure program include – but are not limited to – the following:

- Local water and wastewater facilities;

- Water conservation projects: grey water systems, rainwater collection, and fixture replacement programs;
 - Storm water management projects: rainwater collection and reuse, green roofs, rain gardens for bio-retention, infiltration initiatives (such as storm water planters, infiltration trenches, and permeable pavement);
 - Climate resilient infrastructure;
 - The retrofitting, construction, replacement, expansion, or purchase and installation of fixed assets or infrastructure that will improve environmental performance in municipal, energy, transportation, waste, or water – or some combination of these sectors;
 - Clean energy;
 - Helping provinces and territories invest in the kind of modern grid, power storage, and transmission that ensure a bigger role for clean energy; and
 - New energy-efficient buildings equipped with on-site renewable energy, such as a solar photovoltaic system, a solar thermal system for space and water heating, and a wind or biogas system.
2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

As part of our infrastructure investment, we will repair/replace Dams, dikes, reinforce energy grids and other key structural assets to protect against wildfires, storm water, floods, etc.

Infrastructure

1. 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)?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

We will use the existing Building Canada Fund to prioritize investments in roads, bridges, transportation corridors, ports, and border gateways. We must capitalize on trade opportunities in emerging markets and with the United States and to do this we have to invest in infrastructure that supports our export industries, including agriculture. We also know that transportation infrastructure investments in rural areas like ours are vital for getting our resources and other goods to market, and broadening prosperity for all.

A Liberal government will automatically transfer any uncommitted Federal infrastructure funds near the end of any fiscal year to municipalities, through a temporary top-up of the Gas Tax Fund. This will ensure that no committed infrastructure money is allowed to lapse, but is instead always invested in communities across the country.

2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

Our objective is nothing less than making transparency a fundamental principle across the Government of Canada. To start, we will amend the Access to Information Act so that all government data and information is made open by default in machine-readable, digital formats. In the rare instances where information cannot be disclosed, the individual making the request would receive a written explanation within 30 days. We will also eliminate all fees associated with the Access to Information process, except for the initial \$5 filing fee. We will expand the role of the Information Commissioner by providing them with the ability to issue binding orders for disclosure. We will ensure a full legislative review of the Access to Information system every 5 years thereafter. We will also ensure that Access to Information applies to the Prime Minister's and Ministers' Offices, as well as administrative institutions that support Parliament and the courts.

3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

The Liberal Party is open to working with municipalities to determine the best funding practices but it is David's view that an application based approach would be best where projects could be evaluated on merit and readiness.

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

Affordable, high-quality child care is essential for the success of Canadian families and the Canadian economy as a whole. Therefore, the federal government should exercise national leadership to ensure that Canadian families are able to access affordable, high-quality child care spaces in every region of the country, including providing dependable, sustained funding for social infrastructure which will pay for thousands of new, quality spaces where they are needed. Put simply, the future of the Canadian economy and the health of our society depend on our children having the strongest possible start in life.

2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – David Marquis

The Liberal Party of Canada has a plan to make housing more affordable for the people who are too often ignored – our seniors, persons with disabilities, lower-income families, and Canadians working harder to join the middle class.

Under the leadership of Justin Trudeau, a Liberal government will invest in a comprehensive National Housing Strategy that will:

- Prioritize significant new investments in affordable housing and seniors' facilities, as part of the Liberals' historic ten-year investment of nearly \$20 billion in social infrastructure;

- Provide \$125 million per year in tax incentives to increase and substantially renovate the supply of rental housing across Canada;
- Finance the construction of new affordable rental housing for middle- and low-income Canadians;
- Inventory all available federal lands and buildings to see what could be repurposed, and make it available at low cost for affordable housing in communities where there is a pressing need;
- Modernize the existing Home Buyers' Plan so that it helps more Canadians finance the purchase of a home; and
- Review escalating home prices in high-priced markets – like Vancouver and Toronto – to keep home ownership within reach of Canadians living in these areas.

Northumberland/Peterborough South Boundaries – Consisting of: (a) the County of Northumberland; (b) that part of the County of Peterborough comprised of the townships of Asphodel-Norwood and Otonabee-South Monaghan; and (c) that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of that part of the Corporation of the Municipality of Clarington lying easterly of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the southerly limit of said municipality with the production of Cobbledick Road; thence northerly along said production and Cobbledick Road to Highway No. 401; thence westerly along said highway to the production of Darlington-Clarke Townline (Regional Road No. 42); thence northerly along said production, Darlington-Clarke Townline and its intermittent production to Concession Road 10; thence generally westerly along said road to Regional Road No. 20; thence generally northerly along said road to Darlington-Manvers Townline; thence generally northerly along said townline to the northerly limit of said municipality (awaiting responses)

Economy

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

Environment

1. 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?
2. 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

1. 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)?
2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?
3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?
2. 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?

Oshawa Riding Boundaries – Consisting of that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of that part of the City of Oshawa lying southerly of Taunton Road West and Taunton Road East

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, attract trade and investment to Durham Region?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

The Liberal Party of Canada will invest directly in municipalities to create jobs and ease the burden placed upon municipalities and regions to provide funding for critical infrastructure while attempting to maintain a reasonable tax rate. As a former regional councillor, I know how difficult this task can be.

The GTA is estimated to lose **\$11 Billion per year** solely based on gridlock. The deficit in funding for better local transit, roadways and improved mass transit means that cities and regions are left scrambling to provide band-aid solutions and watch as employers pack their bags.

To address this fact, a Liberal government will quadruple federal investment in public transit over the next decade by investing almost \$20 billion more. Our funding will be flexible to municipalities' priorities and requirements, in order to maximize the number of public transit projects that are built in Canada. Federal funding will no longer be a roadblock to action. This funding commitment is on top of all existing public transit commitments already made by the federal government.

Fostering innovation and attracting trade and investment requires a significant investment in our youth. They are the keepers of the next waves of employment in high tech and cutting edge fields. It is no secret that young people today are becoming highly educated, informed and experienced. Despite this, we know they are not finding meaningful employment that will allow them to move forward and invest in their own businesses.

Liberals will fix that.

A new Liberal government will invest \$1.3 billion over three years – 13 times more than the NDP – to create jobs and opportunity for young Canadians so they can get a strong start in life. A Trudeau-led Liberal government will create 40,000 youth jobs each year for the next three years through a new, annual investment of \$300 million into the renewed Youth Employment Strategy. We will use this funding as follows:

We will increase the number of jobs funded by the Canada Summer Jobs program by 35,000 each year.

We will more than double the almost 11,000 Canadians who can access Skills Link each year. Skills Link helps young Canadians who may be at risk of not making a successful transition to the workplace – such as First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and persons with disabilities or single parents – find meaningful employment.

We will create 5,000 youth green jobs. This will be accomplished by hiring more guides, interpreters, and other staff at Parks Canada, so that more Canadians can experience the beauty of our National Parks and learn about our environment. Instead of attacking environmental organizations, we will partner with them to

create specific programs for young people focused on tackling environmental challenges and gaining valuable job experience.

After this initial three-year boost in funding, we will set the renewed Youth Employment Strategy's funding level at \$385 million per year – a \$50 million increase from 2015/16. In addition to the increased funding for the Youth Employment Strategy, a Liberal government will take the following actions to provide young Canadians with more opportunities for work and training:

We will invest \$40 million annually to create more co-op placements for students in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and business programs to help employers create new placement opportunities for students. We will pay 25 percent of a co-op placement salary, up to a maximum of \$5,000, to an employer that creates a new co-operative placement.

We will work with provinces, territories, and post-secondary institutions to develop or expand Pre-Apprenticeship Training Programs. This will provide up to \$10 million per year to help young Canadians gain the skills they need to enter trades in high demand.

We will waive employers' Employment Insurance premiums for a 12-month period on any net new hire of a full-time employee, aged 18 to 24, in 2016, 2017, or 2018. This will reduce costs to employers by approximately \$80 million per year. The cost of this initiative will be drawn from general revenue.

We will restore a modernized Youth Service Program and provide \$25 million per year to help young Canadians gain valuable work and life experience while traveling the country, participating in community building projects.

We will end the higher 910-hour eligibility penalty for new workers, stopping the discrimination that has made it harder for younger workers – many of whom are working part-time or have lost their jobs through no fault of their own – to access benefits and training support that will help them gain more skills and return to the workforce.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

Across Canada congestion is costing billions each year in delays, wasted fuel and pollution. Fast, efficient public transit is the best way to tackle congestion, and investment in transit creates jobs. Tom Mulcair's Better Transit Plan will tackle gridlock, and cut commute times. By the end of our first term, the NDP's 20 year plan will provide \$1.3 billion every year in predictable and transparent transit investment across Canada. We will also increase direct transfers to municipalities for local infrastructure priorities by \$1.5 billion each year to ensure municipalities have the resources to repair and upgrade local roads, bridges, water systems and transit. There will no longer be a complicated application process or competition with other cities. The NDP plan will give the Durham region the opportunity for long-term planning with dedicated revenue to fund transit and infrastructure priorities for our community.

The NDP will also invest in small business to create good-quality, well-paying jobs. The NDP have proposed to cut the small business tax rate from 11 percent to 9 percent to better support those businesses who create 78% of all new private sector jobs in Canada. The NDP will start with an immediate reduction from 11 to 10 percent, injecting some \$600 million into Canada's small businesses - followed

by an additional reduction to 9 percent in the second year of our mandate. Once fully implemented this will cut small business taxes by nearly 20 percent.

We will kick-start the manufacturing sector with an Innovation Tax Credit to support business R&D and strategic investments in the auto sector totalling \$200 million over four years. This will include support for a technology demonstration program and a one-stop-shop to help attract investments in new plants and product lines in our region.

2. [Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?](#)

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

The Liberal Party of Canada sees no legitimate business case for an airport on the expropriated Pickering lands.

The Greater Toronto Area is already well-served by three international and various regional airports, and residents don't want the construction of another white elephant.

There is no legitimate business case to demonstrate the need for a Pickering airport.

Conservative MP Christopher Alexander ran on a pledge to fight the construction of an airport.

He promised to end this decades-long debate and to stand with his community. Now he has reversed his position entirely.

A Liberal government would consult and engage the community which has been completely ignored by the Conservatives.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

The future development of these federal lands will require consultation and collaboration with surrounding communities and local residents. To date the business case for a Pickering airport does not exist and the NDP doesn't support the proposal. These lands are Class 1 farmland that could also provide an opportunity to expand agricultural development in the GTA area. We believe that improved investments in other local infrastructure can stimulate our economy and provide opportunities for local businesses.

Environment

1. [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?](#)

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

As part of our plan to make the largest investment in infrastructure in Canadian history, A Liberal government will provide dedicated funding to invest in a broad range of projects, including but not limited to: local water and wastewater facilities, climate resilient infrastructure, clean energy, and clean-up of contaminated sites to facilitate new construction. We will also support efforts to prepare for changing weather patterns, such as: protections against wildfires, improved storm water systems to diminish the impact of urban floods, additional dams and dikes to prevent overland or coastal flooding, the reinforcement of energy systems in the face of possible ice storms, and the reinforcement of infrastructure to confront

melting permafrost in our North. These and other efforts will be undertaken in partnership with other orders of government and based on the best available science. We will boost investment in green infrastructure by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

As a regional and local councillor, I was honoured to serve as Vice Chair of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority. I know the importance of protecting Durham Region's natural resources and upholding the integrity of our environment. I have and will continue to support sustainable energy production in Durham.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

Tom Mulcair is committed to meeting our international climate change obligations through a transition to a clean economy. The NDP will reduce Canada's reliance on fossil fuels and support energy efficiency and conservation. The NDP are in favour of a national carbon price in the form of cap-and-trade. The party has committed to using the revenue from cap and trade to invest in public renewable energy infrastructure, research, and development. Millions of Canadians are looking for affordable ways to cut costs and fight climate change by making their homes more energy-efficient. Our platform will provide further details on our offer to Canadians on how we can transition to a clean energy economy, improve energy efficiency and create the next generation of clean jobs in energy, construction, innovation and cleantech. Before the Harper government cut it, Canada's Home Energy Retrofit program created more than 5,000 direct jobs and more than 10,000 indirect jobs in such areas as construction – the Conservatives have brought us backwards. Energy retrofits is one of our priorities and we look forward to sharing our ideas in the weeks ahead.

2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

As was stated in the response to the last question, we will support efforts to prepare for changing weather patterns, such as: protections against wildfires, improved storm water systems to diminish the impact of urban floods, additional dams and dikes to prevent overland or coastal flooding, the reinforcement of energy systems in the face of possible ice storms, and the reinforcement of infrastructure to confront melting permafrost in our North.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

Ensuring that communities are prepared for and able to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change is not a challenge for tomorrow – we must start today. We are already feeling the effects of a warming climate – from severe weather to droughts and rising sea levels. The NDP takes this issue seriously – we will work with the provinces and territories, communities, stakeholders and others to ensure that the regional threats and opportunities are recognized, and that infrastructure is either upgraded or built with climate change in mind.

Infrastructure

1. 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)?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

Ours is the only party committed to the single largest infrastructure investment in Canadian History. Our funding will be flexible to the requirements of municipalities, in order to maximize the number of public transit projects that are built in Canada. Federal funding will no longer be a roadblock to action. A Liberal government will ensure that the federal government pays its share of capital, interest, and any additional charges to ensure both new construction and a state of good repair for transit facilities. We will boost investment in public transit by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

A Liberal government will provide a new, dedicated funding envelope for social infrastructure. We will prioritize investment in affordable housing and seniors facilities, early learning and child care, and cultural or recreational infrastructure. Our plan will renew federal leadership in affordable housing, help build more housing units, refurbish existing ones, renew existing co-operative agreements, and provide operational funding support for municipalities. We will also fund the creation of thousands of new child care spaces, enhance their quality, and ensure that affordable child care spaces are available to more families who need them. We will also boost investment in social infrastructure by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

Refer to response in Question 3 below.

2. [How would your party ensure that government decision-making \(e.g. for transit projects\) is evidence-based and transparent?](#)

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

In order to ensure this process is evidence based and transparent, the Liberal Party will make Access to information much more accessible and transparent by reducing the fees for Access to Information to a flat \$5 and make all information machine readable and open by default. Additionally, we will restore evidenced based decision making through independent Statistics Canada information and by restoring the long form census.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

Tom Mulcair and the NDP believe that all Canadians benefit when governments solicit, collect and use the evidence and expertise needed to make smart policy decisions that safeguard the health, safety and prosperity of Canadians. New Democrats support actions that invest in public-interest science; ensure open, honest and timely communication of scientific information; and make public the evidence considered in government decisions.

For instance, New Democrats have consistently defended the need to obtain better and more accurate labour market information to help government craft policy and programs attuned to Canada's real labour market challenges. Conservative cuts to Statistics Canada and the scrapping of the long-form census have seriously damaged data quality in our country leaving businesses, local governments and social services providers without the evidence they need to make informed decisions.

New Democrats will restore the long-form census and have proposed measures to strengthen the role of the Parliamentary Budget Officer to ensure transparent and accountable information on government budgeting is available to all Canadians.

3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

A Liberal government believes that funding must be both predictable and application based. This means listening to municipalities and provincial and territorial governments in order to identify. As a former regional councillor, I know that regional and municipal governments must be trusted as the eyes and ears on the ground. By working with and listening to these jurisdictions, the federal government can provide the best possible results.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

(Combined response for Questions 1 & 3) Tom Mulcair has outlined plans to build a new relationship with municipalities to build the infrastructure Canadian families and businesses need. The NDP plan to help build stronger communities is bold, measured, and fully costed. We will respect provincial and local decision-making, simplify application processes and remove funding barriers through direct, stable and transparent transfers to municipalities and provinces for their priorities. It will ensure the long-term success of Ontario municipalities. We will start with investing the equivalent of one additional cent of the existing gas tax. This will provide additional funding in the first year that will ramp up to an additional \$1.5 billion invested at the end of a first mandate. This NDP initiative will provide annual, stable, long-term investment for infrastructure projects and allow municipalities to choose their own local priorities.

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

Liberals have a real and concrete plan to address child care issues that don't rely on provincial jurisdictions opting in, unlike the NDP plan. We will create the Canada Child Benefit: one bigger, fair, tax-free, automatic monthly child benefit that puts more money back in the pockets of Canadian families who need it most, unlike the NDP and Conservative plan which gives breaks to millionaires. Additionally, we will create thousands of new child care spaces and we will do it now rather than after 4 or 5 election cycles.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

After a decade of Conservative government, Canadian families are paying more than ever for childcare: \$1000 a month on average – and that's if they can find a space. Stephen Harper promised to create 125,000 new childcare spaces, but he's failed to deliver even one. And even with 12 years in office, the Liberals still didn't get the job done. Tom Mulcair's NDP has a plan to ensure there's a space for every child by creating or maintaining a million quality childcare spaces, keeping costs for parents at no more than \$15 a day, and working with the province to deliver quality early childhood education to our community. Studies have shown that for every dollar invested in child care, our economy grows by two

dollars, and in Quebec, the introduction of affordable childcare helped an additional 70,000 women return to the workforce. Our plan will help families to make ends meet while stimulating our economy.

2. 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?

Liberal Candidate – Tito-Dante Marimpietri

A Liberal government will provide a new, dedicated funding envelope for social infrastructure. We will prioritize investment in affordable housing and seniors facilities, early learning and child care, and cultural or recreational infrastructure. Our plan will renew federal leadership in affordable housing, help build more housing units, refurbish existing ones, renew existing co-operative agreements, and provide operational funding support for municipalities. We will also fund the creation of thousands of new child care spaces, enhance their quality, and ensure that affordable child care spaces are available to more families who need them. We will also boost investment in social infrastructure by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

NDP Candidate – Mary Fowler

An NDP government will enact the Affordable Housing Act, a bill that recognizes housing as a right and calls for the development of a national housing strategy. Tom Mulcair and the NDP will partner with municipalities, provinces and Indigenous communities to restore long-term, stable investments in affordable housing. We will sustain investment in Canada's affordable housing agreements, and provide incentives for the construction of 10,000 affordable and market rental housing units. The NDP is committed to renewing cooperative agreements that are set to expire and invest over \$2 billion in affordable housing over 4 years.

Pickering/Uxbridge Riding Boundaries – Consisting of that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of: the City of Pickering; the Township of Uxbridge

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, attract trade and investment to Durham Region?

Conservative Candidate (currently in office) – Corneliu Chisu

Our Conservative Government has a strong record of economic and fiscal management. Municipalities would continue to have direct access to all of the programs available and targeted for various funding projects. We have in the past and will continue to support municipalities. Successful projects we have brought to the region, including what I have personally worked to achieve, illustrate how we partner hand-in-hand with our local counterparts. Examples include: creation of Canada's First Rouge National Urban Park and we doubled its land mass allowing the park trails to connect from Pickering all the way to the existing trails in Uxbridge and the Trans-Canada Trail. We have contributed to the revitalization of Frenchman's Bay Harbour Entrance, we have financially supported the Highway 407 expansion to aid in transit infrastructure, and we have also financially supported the Pickering GO Transit Hub, Pedestrian Bridge and Parking Garage. For our local region, federal funding financed local infrastructure projects such as the trestle bridge restoration and storm sewer upgrades in Uxbridge. These partnerships will continue to create many opportunities for local economic growth by attracting new people and businesses to the region.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

The Liberal Party is committed to developing a more effective relationship between municipalities and the federal government. Now more than ever, it is imperative the federal government fosters a climate where intergovernmental cooperation succeeds in driving growth, and increasing investment. Currently, interest rates for new investment are at historic lows, our current infrastructure is aging, and Canada is in immediate need of a boost in economic growth. A Liberal government would work closely with Durham Region and municipal governments across the country over the next decade, to steadily increase federal infrastructure investment. At full implementation, this will represent an annual additional investment of \$9.5 billion per year.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

Across Canada congestion is costing billions each year in delays, wasted fuel and pollution. Fast, efficient public transit is the best way to tackle congestion. And investment in transit creates jobs. Tom Mulcair's Better Transit Plan will tackle gridlock, and cut commute times, by the end of our first term, the NDP's 20 year plan will provide \$1.3 billion every year in predictable and transparent transit investment across Canada. We will also increase direct transfers to municipalities for local infrastructure priorities by \$1.5 billion each year to ensure municipalities have the resources to repair and upgrade local roads, bridges, water systems and transit. There will no longer be a complicated application process or competition with other cities. The NDP plan will give the Durham Region the opportunity for

long-term planning with dedicated revenue to fund transit and infrastructure priorities for our city.

The NDP will also invest in small business to create good-quality, well-paying jobs. The NDP have proposed to cut the small business tax rate from 11 per cent to 9 percent to better support a sector of our economy that creates 78% of all new private sector jobs in Canada. The NDP will start with an immediate reduction from 11 to 10 percent, injecting some \$600 million into Canada's small businesses - followed by an additional reduction to 9 percent in the second year of our mandate. Once fully implemented this will cut small business taxes by nearly 20 percent.

And we will kick-start the manufacturing sector with an Innovation Tax Credit to support business R&D and strategic investments in the auto sector totalling \$200 million over four years. This will include support for a technology demonstration program and a one-stop-shop to help attract investments in new plants and product lines in our region. Moreover, the NDP will extend the accelerated capital cost allowance for manufacturing and processing machinery and equipment. This will enable Canada to be innovative in processing raw materials at home, creating good-paying, middle class jobs.

2. [Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?](#)

Conservative Candidate (currently in office) – Corneliu Chisu

There is currently an independent review being conducted by Gary Polonski who was the president of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Durham College. He is now President Emeritus of UOIT. I have full confidence in his abilities and commitment to the betterment of the Durham Region. He will assess the best use of the land, whether that means dividing the land into separate functions, for example some farmland, some land for industrial/economic development, or whether that includes the existence of an airport.

Our party makes decisions based on facts, evidence and research. We want to make responsible choices for our future, for the environment as well as for the economy. We will take a position based on the advice of the independent review, as well as upon hearing the will of the general public, of whom we most importantly represent.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

Along with other Liberal party candidates, I am against the development of the Pickering Airport. This land was expropriated in 1972, and its future has been unclear ever since. There is no business case to justify another airport in the GTA. Instead Durham Region would benefit from the protection of this land for natural uses and agricultural economic development.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

The federal government has been tossing about the idea of building an airport at Pickering for more than 40 years. Back in 1972, the government acquired 18,600 acres in Pickering with the intention of building a new airport. The citizen group People or Planes emerged immediately in response to what, even decades ago, appeared to be a ludicrous idea.

From Trudeau to Chrétien and now to Harper. In these hands, this project has been kept alive and the conversation and the controversy re-ignited again and again. Yet over these past 40 years or so, no evidence has emerged to justify an

airport and the consequent destruction of farmland. Rather, we risk building a Toronto equivalent of Montreal's Mirabel -- a white elephant, a project that stands for ill-conceived transportation planning.

According to the Greater Toronto Airport Authority Master Plan, Pearson International has not nearly reached capacity. With the construction of a sixth runway, Pearson could handle 46 to 54 million passengers per year -- up from the 34 million that passed through in 2012. And with a current debt load of \$7.1 billion, it seems like Pearson could benefit from a few more passengers. The Needs Assessment Study itself fails to make a clear case for an airport, concluding that "it is prudent planning to retain and protect the site, thereby preserving the option of building an airport, if and when required." Hardly a clarion call for action -- certainly no justification for an airport.

We haven't needed an airport north of Pickering in the last 40 years; we don't need one now. But the issue is bigger than that. The GTA will continue to grow. But it must do so sustainably. To our inevitable demise do we go if we destroy that which sustains us. Our farmlands -- and particularly Class 1 farmlands such as those that would become an airport if left to the devices of successive Federal governments -- sustain us. These lands were intended to feed us and that should forever be the purpose to which they are put.

Environment

1. [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?](#)

Conservative Candidate (currently in office) – Corneliu Chisu

The Harper Government is taking action to deliver results on all sources of clean energy and the environment by boosting clean energy investments to secure Canada's position as the world's foremost clean energy superpower and protecting and conserving Canada's natural heritage and treasures, including preserving record amounts of precious parkland for future generations to enjoy. We are the first Government in Canadian History to reduce greenhouse gas emissions-and we've done so while protecting the Canadian economy and jobs.

In this riding specifically, our Conservative Government created the Rouge National Urban Park. Located in the Greater Toronto Area, this national urban park provides Canadians with an opportunity to learn about, and connect with, Canada's natural, cultural and agricultural heritage. And, on July 11th, 2015, we committed an additional 21 km² of new lands to Rouge National Urban Park. This expansion increases the boundaries of Canada's first national urban park by over 30% and makes it 22 times larger than Central Park in New York.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

A Liberal government will commit to being a full partner in the work, already underway by provinces and territories, to develop a Canadian Energy Strategy that delivers energy security and energy conservation. This includes investing \$200 million annually to create sector-specific strategies that support innovation and clean technologies in forestry, fisheries, mining, energy, and agricultural sectors.

Furthermore, a Liberal government would also invest \$100 million annually in clean technology producers, so that they can tackle Canada's most pressing

environmental challenges, whether in our air, in our water, or on our land. An increase in the amount of Canada's protected marine and coastal areas from 1.3 percent to 5 percent by 2017, and 10 percent by 2020 is an important commitment Liberals have made to strengthen conservation efforts.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

Tom Mulcair is committed to meeting our international climate change obligations through a transition to a clean economy. The NDP will reduce Canada's reliance on fossil fuels and support energy efficiency and conservation. The NDP are in favour of a national carbon price in the form of cap-and-trade. The party has committed to using the revenue from cap and trade to invest in public renewable energy infrastructure, research, and development. Millions of Canadians are looking for affordable ways to cut costs and fight climate change by making their homes more energy-efficient. Our platform will provide further details on our offer to Canadians on how we can transition to a clean energy economy, improve energy efficiency and create the next generation of clean jobs in energy, construction, innovation and cleantech. Before the Harper government cut it, Canada's Home energy Retrofit program created more than 5,000 direct jobs and more than 10,000 indirect jobs in such areas as construction – the Conservatives have brought us backwards. Energy retrofits is one of our priorities and we look forward to sharing our ideas in the weeks ahead.

2. [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?](#)

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

Our Government will continue to implement a responsible sector-by-sector regulatory approach that is aligned with our economic competitors- like the United States – to ensure Canada's economic competitiveness is protected.

Thanks to the Harper Government, Canada has a fair and ambitious GHG reduction target that is in line with other major industrialized countries and reflects our national circumstances, including Canada's position as a world leader in clean electricity generation.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

A Liberal government will attend the Paris climate conference, and within 90 days, hold a First Ministers meeting to work together on a framework for combatting climate change and reducing Canada's carbon emissions. Any effective policy on climate change preparedness must include a partnership with provinces and local institutions to establish national emissions-reduction targets, and ensure they have targeted federal funding and the flexibility to design their own policies to meet these commitments, including their own carbon pricing policies. We will also phase out subsidies for the fossil fuel industry in order to fulfill Canada's G-20 commitment.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

Ensuring that communities are prepared for and able to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change is not a challenge for tomorrow – we must start today. We are already feeling the effects of a warming climate – from severe weather to droughts and rising sea levels.

The NDP takes this issue seriously – we will work with the provinces and territories, communities, stakeholders and others to ensure that the regional threats and opportunities are recognized, and that infrastructure is either upgraded or built with climate change in mind.

Infrastructure

1. 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)?

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

Municipalities have permanent access to a portion of the tax collected through gas tax revenue. They can provide this funding toward projects that promote cleaner water, cleaner air, or reduce greenhouse gas emission and help address a massive province wide infrastructure deficit. The municipal funding agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues under the New Deal for Cities and Communities requires municipalities to demonstrate measurable environmental outcomes. These projects are predictable, long term and stable and are helping Ontario's municipal governments address their infrastructure deficits while improving environmental sustainability and creating jobs and economic growth.

We have already delivered major transit and infrastructure funding and projects to the Durham region and to Pickering in general.

There is \$5.3 billion a year, on average, for provincial and municipal infrastructure funding under the New Building Canada Plan. Our Party is committed to creating A New Public Transit Fund committing the federal government to spend \$250 million in 2017, \$500 million in 2018 and \$1 billion a year after 2019.

The birthday of Canada's 150 year is a momentous cause for celebration and our government has allocated \$150 million for Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program to fund local community and cultural infrastructure projects across the country as a way to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial in 2017. This includes the expansion of the Petticoat Creek Conservation area aquatic facility and improvements of the accessibility in the Elgin Park in the Township of Uxbridge.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

A Liberal government will more than triple federal investment in public transit over the next four years, and over ten years we will quadruple it. Our funding will be flexible to the requirements of municipalities, in order to maximize the number of public transit projects that are built in Canada. Federal funding will no longer be a roadblock to action. A Liberal government will ensure that the federal government pays its share of capital, interest, and any additional charges to ensure both new construction and a state of good repair for transit facilities. We will boost investment in public transit by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

The NDP will deliver stable, long-term funding to build stronger communities. Specifically, we'll start with dedicated funding in an amount equivalent to one cent of the gas tax – ramping up to an additional \$1.5 billion at the end of a first mandate to reach \$3.7 billion annually.

Regarding transit infrastructure, the NDP will replace the complicated application processes to eliminate competition between cities/regions. The NDP will transfer stable, predictable funding annually directly to all municipalities. These commitments more than double existing transfers to municipalities, increase Canada's GDP by \$2 billion a year, and create 31,000 good quality, middle class jobs in manufacturing, construction, and transit operations.

2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

The Conservative Government recognizes the value of the scientific method and the importance of outcomes for evaluating the policy process- to loop a feedback into our decision-making. All projects go through rigorous assessment, both transparent and based on criteria important to the projects' success. We would ensure that our projects and decisions are evidence based, throughout the funding approval process and clarify the expectations that must be met in order to proceed. We have been utilizing this type of administrative evaluation for the duration of our tenure in government, and given the value of empirical results, we will continue to do this in the future.

Our party has already heavily invested in infrastructure projects throughout the region. We are making strategic investments in public transit infrastructure to help reduce traffic congestion and the cost of gridlock, facilitating access for Canadians to jobs, education, health care services and social activities. We are investing \$70 billion dollars over 10 years in federal, provincial, territorial and community infrastructure, projects such as building subways in the Greater Toronto Area, replacing Montréal's Champlain Bridge, building a new Windsor-Detroit crossing and constructing Vancouver's Evergreen Line.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O'Connell

The Liberal Party will not only significantly increase the scale of federal infrastructure investment, but our plan will also provide provinces, territories, and municipalities with an unprecedented level of long-term predictability in funding, as well. This will be done in full respect of provincial and regional jurisdiction. We will make an immediate down payment on this plan to kick start job creation and economic growth. For each of the next two fiscal years, a Liberal government will double current federal infrastructure investment to \$10 billion per year from \$5 billion. This will be accomplished with the new and growing infrastructure funding areas outlined below. We will also work with the Auditor General to ensure transparency and effective financial controls on this significant and immediate boost in investment.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

Tom Mulcair has outlined plans to build a new relationship with municipalities to build the infrastructure Canadian families and businesses need. The NDP plan to help build stronger communities is bold, measured, and fully costed. Our transit plan will provide \$1.3 billion annually in predictable and transparent transit investment across Canada. With this dedicated funding, it is the essence of predictable and transparent. Municipalities will now be able to plan long-term, and review their taxation requirements.

3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

Our party supports a balanced approach when delivering results for local communities. We started with the budget of 2008, which launched the Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund in several provinces, moving forward on projects in smaller municipalities. The Communities Component of the Building Canada Fund recognizes that smaller communities have unique infrastructure needs, and therefore targets projects in communities with populations of less than 100,000. Projects are selected through an application-based process, to specifically target the needs of the local communities. These applications follow an evaluative criteria, which are based on a formulaic protocol, to deliver funding to those communities that need it. And we have seen communities thrive and grow as a result of our investments. An additional \$500 million was committed from 2008-2010 for projects that could be completed in the next two construction seasons.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O’Connell

A Liberal government would follow both a formula, and application based approach to delivering infrastructure funding. We will respect provincial and regional jurisdictions and provide them with the ability and space to fully maximize federal investments. A Liberal government would also develop bilateral agreements with the provinces and territories, which will be similar to those created for the successful gas tax transfer to cities and communities.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

We will respect provincial and local decision-making, simplify application processes and remove funding barriers through direct, stable and transparent transfers to municipalities and provinces for their priorities. It will ensure the long-term success of Ontario municipalities. We will start with investing the equivalent of one additional cent of the existing gas tax. This will provide additional funding in the first year that will ramp up to an additional \$1.5 billion invested at the end of a first mandate. This NDP initiative will provide annual, stable, long-term investment for infrastructure projects and allow municipalities to choose their own local priorities.

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

Our conservative Government has provided substantial tax relief in every budget since 2006 and the typical family with children is now receiving tax relief and increased benefits of up to \$6,600 per year. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Cutting the GST from seven to six to five percent
- Establishing and expanding the Universal Child Care Benefit
- Enacting the Family Tax Cut
- Increasing the annual Childcare Expense Deduction Limit
- Introducing and doubling the Children’s Fitness Tax Credit

On July 20th all Canadian families with children received their lump sum Universal Child Care Benefit payment.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O’Connell

A Liberal government will create the Canada Child Benefit (CCB): one bigger, fair, tax-free, automatic monthly child benefit that puts more money back in the pockets of Canadian families who need it most. As an income-tested benefit, the Canada Child Benefit gradually phases out to ensure that it is targeted to the middle class and those working hard to join it. We will also fund the creation of thousands of new child care spaces, enhance their quality, and ensure that affordable child care spaces are available to more families who need them.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

After a decade of Conservative government, Canadian families are paying more than ever for childcare: \$1000 a month on average – and that’s if they can find a space. Stephen Harper promised to create 125,000 new childcare spaces, but he’s failed to deliver even one. And even with 12 years in office, the Liberals still didn’t get the job done. Tom Mulcair’s NDP has a plan to ensure there’s a space for every child by creating or maintaining a million quality childcare spaces, keeping costs for parents at no more than \$15 a day, and working with the province to deliver quality early childhood education to our community. Studies have shown that every dollar invested in child care our economy grows by two dollars, and in Quebec, the introduction of affordable childcare helped an additional 70,000 women return to the workforce. Our plan will help families to make ends meet while stimulating our economy.

2. [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?](#)

Conservative Candidate (currently in office)– Corneliu Chisu

The Government is working with the provinces and territories to develop and implement solutions to housing. Provinces and territories have the flexibility to invest in a range of programs and initiatives to reduce the number of households in need, including new construction, renovation, home ownership assistance, rent supplements, shelter allowances, and accommodations for victims of family violence.

Under the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH), provinces and territories cost match the federal investment and have responsibility for the design and delivery of affordable housing programs to address their local housing needs and priorities.

Through the IAH, a federal investment of close to \$2 billion is being provided from 2011 to 2019 to help reduce the number of Canadians in housing need.

Under the IAH, the provinces and territories cost-match the federal investment as well as design and deliver affordable housing programs that meet their local housing needs and priorities.

Initiatives can include new construction, renovation, shelter allowances, rent supplements and accommodations for victims of family violence.

For example from April 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014, close to 218,000 households benefitted from the Investment in Affordable Housing and the investment in Nunavut housing.

Liberal Candidate – Jennifer O’Connell

A Liberal government will provide a new, dedicated funding envelope for social infrastructure. We will prioritize investment in affordable housing and seniors facilities, early learning and child care, and cultural or recreational infrastructure. Our plan will renew federal leadership in affordable housing, help build more housing units, refurbish existing ones, renew existing co-operative agreements, and provide operational funding support for municipalities. We will also fund the creation of thousands of new child care spaces, enhance their quality, and ensure that affordable child care spaces are available to more families who need them. We will also boost investment in social infrastructure by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years, and almost \$20 billion over ten years.

NDP Candidate – Pamela Downward

An NDP government will enact the Affordable Housing Act, a bill that recognizes housing as a right and calls for the development of a national housing strategy. Tom Mulcair and the NDP will partner with municipalities, provinces and Indigenous communities to restore long-term, stable investments in affordable housing. We will sustain investment in Canada’s affordable housing agreements, and provide incentives for the construction of 10,000 affordable and market rental housing units. The NDP is committed to renewing cooperative agreements that are set to expire and invest over \$2 billion in affordable housing over 4 years.

Whitby Riding – Consisting of that part of the Regional Municipality of Durham comprised of the Town of Whitby.

Economy

1. How does your party propose to work directly with municipalities to create jobs, drive growth, foster innovation, attract trade and investment to Durham Region?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

The NDP plan will ensure Durham Region is a job creation mecca! Stable, predictable, long-term infrastructure funding will bolster jobs in the construction, manufacturing, and transit industries. This will ensure infrastructure will be able to support the growth to match our economy. So too will an innovation tax credit, while promoting growth in new and green technologies. Furthermore, lowering the small business tax rate will allow small businesses to continue and improve their trend as the backbone of our economy and job creation. Trade is necessary, but needs to be both intelligent and sustainable. Tom Mulcair will be a champion to industry, being our strongest advocate abroad. Moreover, the NDP will extend the accelerated capital cost allowance for manufacturing and processing machinery and equipment. This will enable Canada to be innovative in processing raw materials at home, creating good-paying, middle class jobs.

2. Does your party support the development of an airport on the Pickering federal lands?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

Both Pearson and Toronto Island offer excellent options, and Pearson is still not at capacity. Oshawa airport may offer improved alternatives in the future as well. Finally, with diminishing access to farm land for local agriculture, we need to be cognizant of plans that may diminish this important part of our communities.

Environment

1. 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?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

The NDP will maintain a strong economy while preserving and enhancing our clean environment. To do this, we will kick-start our clean energy sector to make Canada a global market leader. Also, we will implement a cap-and-trade system to put a price on carbon. This will allow us to meet international targets, transition to a clean economy, and support energy efficiency and conservation.

2. 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?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

The NDP plan will go a long way to reducing the negative effects of climate change. Tom Mulcair ensured as Minister of the Environment in Quebec that emissions were reduced each year, and targets were met. This is a preventative measure that will mitigate negative effects now and into the future. Further to this, dedicated, stable, predictable, long-term infrastructure funding will allow

municipalities and regions to have the necessary funds available to respond to any potential weather event.

Infrastructure

1. 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)?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

The NDP will deliver stable, long-term funding to build stronger communities. Specifically, we'll start with dedicated funding in an amount equivalent to one cent of the gas tax – ramping up to an additional \$1.5 billion at the end of a first mandate to reach \$3.7 billion annually.

2. How would your party ensure that government decision-making (e.g. for transit projects) is evidence-based and transparent?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

Our transit plan will provide \$1.3 billion annually in predictable and transparent transit investment across Canada. With this dedicated funding, it is the essence of predictable and transparent. Municipalities will now be able to plan long-term, and review their taxation requirements.

3. To deliver infrastructure funding for municipalities, does your party support a predictable, formula-based approach or an application-based approach?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

Regarding transit infrastructure, the NDP will replace the complicated application processes to eliminate competition between cities/regions. The NDP will transfer stable, predictable funding annually directly to all municipalities. These commitments more than double existing transfers to municipalities, increase Canada's GDP by \$2 billion a year, and create 31,000 good quality, middle class jobs in manufacturing, construction, and transit operations.

Social Issues

1. How will your party ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

The NDP will ensure that working parents have access to affordable, flexible, quality childcare by working with the provinces, territories and Indigenous communities to fund and develop national early childhood education and childcare programs delivered with common principles like affordability, availability and quality. As well, we will enshrine the program in legislation and ensure long-term, predictable funding so provinces and communities can plan ahead. Transparency in the program will be provided by setting measurable benchmarks with publically available reporting. This will prove to support or maintain the creation of one million new childcare spaces within eight years, when the program is fully phased in.

2. 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?

NDP Candidate – Ryan Kelly

Yes. The NDP will initiate a national housing strategy by enacting the Affordable Housing Act which will recognize housing as a right. Further, we will partner with municipalities, provinces and First Nations communities to restore long-term, stable investments in affordable housing. Also, we will make housing more affordable in our communities by sustaining investment in Canada's affordable housing agreements, and by providing incentives for the construction of 10,000 affordable and market rental housing units. This will all be accomplished by 2020 by renewing cooperative housing operating agreements that are set to expire, and by investing over two billion dollars in co-ops and social housing.