

Party Program

Many Canadians have lost faith in the government and no longer feel represented by any of the existing political parties. They rightly feel they no longer live in the country that Canada once was. They are worried about their own future and the future of their children. They desire responsible policies that preserve our economic strength, ensure social balance and a fair distribution of wealth, defend the sovereignty of our nation, and protect the freedoms of the people.

Our country is not in good shape. For years, governments have been governing without regard for the wishes of the majority. Instead of rewarding merit, wealth has been redistributed from the hardworking to the top one percent. Instead of investing in a competent nation and good public services, politicians have catered to the demands of powerful lobbies and foreign interests, thereby emptying public coffers. Instead of respecting freedom and diversity of opinion, an authoritarian style of politics is spreading, one that seeks to dictate to citizens how they should live, think, and speak. Many political decisions appear haphazard, short-sighted, and rather incompetent.

We stand for a return of common sense to politics. Canada needs a strong, innovative economy and social justice; a sovereign identity that places Canadians first; respect for individual freedom of its citizens; and an open culture of debate. It needs reliable politicians who are committed to these goals. We organize our program around four principles: Economic Common Sense, Social Justice, Sovereign Identity, and Freedom.

Economic Common Sense

Our public infrastructure is in a shameful state for a leading industrialized nation. Essential services that Canadians once took for granted have decayed. Hospital patients wait months for the care they need, families cannot find housing they can afford, and the basic services that a functioning country depends on have been allowed to deteriorate. Overburdened bureaucracies and useless regulations make life particularly difficult for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Government laws and regulations shaped by corporate lobbying, together with the failure of our competition authorities, have created an economy where concentrated power distorts market mechanisms. Market-dominating corporations, powerful financial groups, and aggressive digital monopolists now impose their will on all other participants, suppressing competition

and inflating prices. To a considerable extent, the rising cost of living is a direct result of this imbalance, where excessive economic power allows dominant firms to extract wealth rather than compete fairly.

Canada suffers one of the highest concentrations of corporate power in the OECD. The Big Five banks control roughly 80% of banking assets and the Big Three telecoms dominate some 88% of their market, leaving Canadians to pay among the highest banking fees and telecom bills in the G7, while a grocery duopoly drives up the cost of putting food on the table. This is not a free market. It is a broken one.

Our answer is Common Sense Capitalism. We do not seek to abolish the market or to punish success. We seek to repair the markets that have stopped functioning, to restore fair competition, and to ensure that where great economic power exists, it serves the common good rather than a privileged few. We reward enterprise, protect property, and defend the freedom of every Canadian to build a business and prosper from honest work.

To that end, a new Department of Public Assets Canada (DPAC) will transition Canada's "Strategic Five" oligopolies, the dominant banks, telecoms, energy extractors, rail monopolies, and grocers, into public ownership.

This will be done fairly and without upheaval. Current shareholders will be compensated at fair market value, paid in long-term government bonds so that pensions and savings invested in these firms are protected and no shock is inflicted on the wider economy. This is a buyout, not a seizure. These firms will continue to be run as efficient, professionally managed enterprises, but the nearly one hundred billion in profits they generate each year will flow into a Citizen Dividend for the people who made that wealth possible, rather than to a narrow circle of private shareholders.

Just as importantly, our country still has a successful, innovative medium-sized business sector, and it must be protected. Small and family enterprises, the backbone of our prosperity, will be constitutionally shielded from any transfer into public ownership. Where an entrepreneur builds something great, it remains theirs and their family's — and a new nationally-owned investment bank, operating at arm's length under a mandate set in law to complement, not replace, private lenders, will give the next generation of innovators access to fair, patient capital on transparent, merit-based terms — backing the worthy builders the dominant banks judge too risky, so they need not depend on those banks alone. We need more future technologies made in Canada, more world-class innovators, not fewer.

As with any shift in balance between the private and public sector there are going to be risks. To mitigate against government over reach, every stake the public takes from DPAC is locked inside a Public Ownership Firewall. Four guarantees apply to every sector alike:

1. Dividends, not control. The public stake takes a share of the profits only. It carries no power to direct operations, set commercial decisions, run the business day to day, or sit on its board. Management remains independent and professional. It is a claim on the rewards, never a grip on the controls.
2. No punishment for lawful dissent. No government, official, or shareholder vote may use public ownership to advance political advantage, reward allies, punish critics, withdraw an essential service, or harm any person because of their lawful beliefs, politics, or peaceful expression. The government and public sector stake can never be turned into a weapon against the people who hold it.
3. Locked in by law. These protections are entrenched. They cannot be quietly weakened by an ordinary majority, but only through the highest democratic safeguards, including a public vote — so that no single government can dismantle them in the heat of the moment.
4. Independently held and watched. Each stake is held by an independent trustee within DPAC, at arm's length from government, and enforced by an independent watchdog — so the rules are upheld rather than merely promised.

To these four, each of the Strategic Five adds the one protection its own risk demands:

Banking: No one may be denied a basic account, have it frozen, or lose access to their own money because of their lawful beliefs, politics, or peaceful expression. The right to hold cash and to transact without government permission is protected by law and cannot be voted away.

Telecoms: No political access to your communications, and no power to disconnect you from the network or throttle your service for your lawful speech.

Energy: No government may cut off, throttle, or ration supply to households or essential services for political advantage or to punish lawful dissent. Pricing is set transparently by an independent regulator, not by ministers before an election.

Rail: Routes, timetables, and investment follow published, independent criteria — not the political priorities of whoever is in office.

Grocers: No household may be denied service, and no supplier, farmer, or region may be favoured or shut out, for political reasons. Shelves serve the public, never a party.

Social Justice

For years, inequality has been growing in our country. Millions of people work hard to provide a good life for themselves and their families. They are the ones who keep our society running and who pay a large share of the taxes. Instead of receiving the respect and social security they deserve, their lives have become more insecure and more difficult. Many barely make ends meet despite working full-time. The promise of upward mobility no longer holds true; personal prosperity once again depends primarily on the social status of one's parents.

The concentration of wealth has reached levels not seen in living memory. While corporations pay out record dividends even in times of crisis, the lines at food banks grow longer and longer. Even those who have worked for years and paid into the system are treated with indignity after a single stroke of misfortune. Millions of elderly people cannot enjoy their retirement after a long working life because their pensions are humiliatingly low. Homes, hospitals, and care facilities have been sold off to For-profit operators, and ever since, costs have risen while the quality of services for the majority has declined.

We want to stop the erosion of social cohesion and realign politics with the common good. Our goal is a fair, meritocratic society with genuine equal opportunities and a high level of social security. Personal prosperity should not be a question of social origin, but rather the result of hard work and individual effort.

The wealth reclaimed through the Citizen Dividend will be put to work where it matters most. We will distribute it directly to working Canadians, rather than through a complex eligibility system, providing a genuine income floor.

The housing crisis is not an accident. It is the predictable result of allowing homes to be treated as financial assets rather than places to live. Speculation, financialization, and the steady withdrawal of public investment have made housing unaffordable for millions of working Canadians. We will reverse this.

To build non-market housing at the scale the crisis demands, the CGP will establish Housing Fund Canada (HFC), a financially independent, quasi-governmental non-profit corporation modelled on proven international examples. Capitalized from a dedicated portion of the Citizen Dividend revenue stream and supplemented by long-term government bonds, HFC will serve as Canada's permanent land bank — acquiring land, existing rental buildings, vacant lots, and previously developed land at fair market value, and holding them in trust for the Canadian public. This is a buyout, not a seizure. Owners are compensated fairly. Assets, once acquired, are permanently removed from the speculative market and will never be returned to it.

HFC will transfer acquired assets to Community Land Trusts, municipally governed non-profit housing corporations, and cooperative housing bodies. Residents of HFC-held housing will hold genuine democratic governance rights over their buildings and communities. Rents will be capped at a fair share of household income. Buildings will be built and maintained to a high standard, because Canadians deserve homes that are dignified, not merely adequate.

HFC will work in close coordination with municipal planning departments so that zoning approvals and land acquisition reinforce one another, preventing the speculation that typically follows rezoning decisions. Where land is reclassified for residential development, a majority of new housing space created on that land will be required to be affordable, ensuring that public planning decisions serve the public rather than the developer.

Small private landlords are explicitly excluded from acquisition. A landlord is classified as small and private, and therefore protected, if they meet both of the following conditions: they own fewer than ten residential units in aggregate, counting all units held personally or through any related corporate, trust, or partnership structure; and the property is held personally, not through a corporation, numbered company, real estate investment trust, or limited partnership.

Any residential property held through such a corporate vehicle is classified as institutional regardless of size, closing the shell-company loophole that has allowed large-scale landlords to disguise their holdings behind a maze of numbered companies.

HFC offsets the financialized, corporate landlord class that has turned housing into an extractive industry — the REITs, the numbered corporations, and the institutional investors who treat Canadian homes as financial instruments and Canadian tenants as revenue streams.

We also recognize that many small landlords would welcome a fair and dignified exit. HFC will therefore offer a voluntary right of first refusal: any qualifying small landlord who wishes to sell will have access to a streamlined, fair-value purchase process through HFC, accelerating the growth of the non-market housing stock faster and with less friction than compulsory acquisition alone ever could.

HFC is the instrument by which we reclaim housing as a public good — not through ideology, but through public ownership.

We will fund timely healthcare, ban queue-jumping for the more privileged, and bring prescription drugs and dental care fully into the public system. The privatization and commercialization of these essential services must be stopped; non-profit and public providers should have priority.

Every child has the right to have their talents nurtured and no Canadian should be denied a career in medicine, the trades, or the arts because of the income of their parents. We will therefore abolish tuition fees and cancel existing student debt, making education a true equalizer once again.

We reject the politics of division that pits one group against another. True justice is not found in performative gestures that change nothing but in the material wellbeing of working people, whatever their background. A struggling worker in one province and a struggling family in another have far more in common with each other than either has with any sub-culture of extreme wealth concentration. And we will fund this not by punishing the working middle class, but by reclaiming the wealth that monopolies have extracted from all of us.

Immigration and the coexistence of different cultures can be enriching. However, this is only true as long as immigration remains limited to a level that does not overwhelm our country and its infrastructure, and provided that integration is actively promoted and succeeds. We know that the price paid for increased competition over affordable housing and low-wage jobs, and for failed integration, is primarily borne by those who are economically disadvantaged. We will therefore tie immigration levels to our real capacity to house and care for people.

Anyone who is genuinely persecuted in their home country has the right to asylum. But migration is not the solution to the problem of poverty in our world. Instead, we need fair global economic relations and policies that strive to create more opportunities in people's countries of origin. A shared identity, grounded in common laws, common languages, and common values, is not the enemy of diversity. It is the very foundation of the trust and solidarity that social justice requires.

Sovereign Identity

Our country deserves a confident policy that prioritizes the wellbeing of its own citizens and is based on the understanding that the interests of our larger neighbours differ significantly from ours in some respects. Our goal is an independent Canada in a multipolar world, not a junior partner whose resources, data, and decisions are dictated from abroad.

For too long, critical judgment has been outsourced: our resources sold to foreign shareholders, our industries hollowed out, our data stored on foreign servers, and our politics quietly shaped by powers that do not have Canada's interests at heart. We condemn attempts by corporations, intelligence agencies, and governments, whether foreign or domestic, to comprehensively monitor and manipulate people.

We believe that what is made from Canadian resources should be made in Canada, that Canadian data should remain under Canadian protection, and that strategic national assets should not fall into foreign hands. We will defend our democracy against foreign interference and protect every community within our borders from intimidation by outside regimes.

A sovereign foreign policy is the natural extension of a sovereign economy. Canada must chart its own course in the world — maintaining good relations across the international landscape, pursuing diplomacy and fair trade, and building alliances on the basis of mutual respect and shared interest. We will not be drawn automatically into other powers' conflicts, regime-change campaigns, or military escalations that serve foreign strategic interests rather than Canadian ones. Defense spending must be determined by genuine Canadian and Arctic security needs, not by targets dictated from abroad. A country that surrenders its foreign policy judgment to outside powers has not defended its sovereignty — it has quietly abandoned it.

Freedom

We want to revive democratic decision-making, expand democratic participation, and protect personal freedom. Our patriotism is civic, not ethnic: it is loyalty to shared laws, shared values, and to one another as citizens, and it is open to all who share that commitment, whatever their origin. The principle is simple: a citizen is judged by their conduct, not by what they were born as or what they were raised into. On that basis we reject every form of bigotry that ranks people by what they are rather than what they do — racism, sexism, contempt for one's faith, etc. — and we reject political violence, not as a slogan, but as a contradiction of everything we stand for. At the same time, cancel culture, pressure to conform, and the increasing narrowing of the spectrum of opinion are incompatible with the principles of a free society.

The same applies to the new political authoritarianism that presumes to educate people and to regulate their lifestyles and the words they are allowed to use. A government that tells its citizens what they may say, how they must pay, and where they may go has forgotten that it is the servant of a free people, not their master. We condemn the spread of surveillance disguised as convenience and control disguised as safety. This authoritarianism reaches its limit at the door of personal conscience. On the deepest questions of morality, faith, and private belief — matters on which

sincere Canadians have always disagreed in good faith — neither the government nor any political party has the authority to dictate the right answer. We therefore take no collective position on such questions of conscience. They belong to citizens, their families, their beliefs, and the representatives they freely elect, not to a party platform. Our representatives are free to follow their own conscience and that of their constituents, within the equal protection of the law, and we will impose no party line upon them. Privacy is a prerequisite for freedom. We will defend the right to speak freely, even to offend, short of any direct incitement to violence. We will protect the right to use cash (preserving anonymity and resilience), the right to live without a mandatory digital identity (preventing total surveillance and exclusion), the right of every citizen to be judged by accountable human beings rather than by opaque algorithms (ensuring fairness and recourse), and the right of every citizen to hold their own convictions on matters of conscience and moral belief, free from coercion by the state or conformity to any party line. Technology must serve people, not the other way around. No citizen should be tracked, scored, or silenced, and no one should be denied their livelihood because of their lawful beliefs or peaceful dissent. A free society is one in which the citizen is a rights-bearing individual, not a data point to be managed.

Conclusion

The program set out in these pages rests on a single conviction: that the purpose of an economy is to serve the people who live and work within it, and that when it stops doing so, democratic government has both the authority and the obligation to correct it. We did not arrive at this moment overnight. The failures described in this program are the accumulated result of years of governments that confused the interests of powerful lobbies with the interests of the country, and that mistook inaction for prudence. Each of our four pillars addresses a concrete failure. Economic Common Sense repairs the broken markets and oligopolies that have made ordinary life unaffordable. Social Justice rebuilds the public institutions and housing stock that working Canadians were promised and deserve. Sovereign Identity restores Canadian control over Canadian resources, data, and decision-making. Freedom protects the citizen from a government that has overreached into private life, private belief, and private expression.

These are not separate problems. They are four expressions of the same imbalance: power concentrated too far from the people it affects, with too little accountability to the common good. This program addresses that imbalance directly, through ownership, through law, and through the restoration of genuine democratic competition. We do not seek to tear down what works. We seek to rebuild what has been allowed to fail, and to ensure that the institutions we build are durable enough to outlast the governments that create them.

Canada's potential has not been exhausted. It has been poorly governed. The common good is not an abstract ideal — it is a practical standard by which every policy in this program can be measured, and by which we invite Canadians to hold us to account. The Common Good Party exists to meet that standard.