



2018 ONTARIO ELECTION CAMPAIGN PLATFORM COMPARISON

June, 2018

Note on Sources

Information contained in this document is taken from the four party platforms and other materials presented on their websites. It also includes public statements and commentary made by leaders and campaign representatives during debates or to the media during interviews, and from other media sources. Ontario Liberal Party platform information has also been taken from the spring budget.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Fiscal Plan & Finances (Deficits & Taxes)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Liberals outlined their fiscal plan in the 2018 spring budget, projecting a \$6.7-billion deficit in 2018-19 and did not forecast a return to balance until 2024-25. The provincial debt is projected to be \$325 billion in 2018-19. Interest payments for the current fiscal year are projected to be \$12.5 billion. The Liberals have pledged to introduce legislation requiring all provincial budget surpluses be allocated to repaying provincial debt. Corporate tax rate will remain at 11.5% under a Liberal government. Liberals remain committed to increasing tobacco taxes, following through on a three-year plan to increase the price per carton by \$10 by 2019-20. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doug Ford has said, if elected, he would run a deficit in his first year. Core commitment is to cut \$6 billion from Ontario's budget without laying off public employees by finding "inefficiencies." PCs have promised to cut the corporate tax rate to 10.5% from 11.5%. Income tax will be eliminated for minimum wage workers (anyone making less than \$28,000/yr.). Income tax for middle-income earners will be reduced by 20%. Campaign has pledged to cut the small business tax rate by 8.7%. Ford has pledged to scrap Ontario's cap-and-trade system and advocate for the elimination of the federal carbon tax. A PC government would reduce gasoline taxes by \$0.10/litre. The Conservative plan also promises to reintroduce a "buck a beer" to Ontario, reducing the minimum price for the sale of beer to \$1, plus deposit, per bottle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NDP projects its platform will run five straight deficits. Ontario would incur a deficit of \$3.3 billion in 2018-19, peaking at more than \$5 billion in 2020-21, shrinking to \$1.9 billion by 2022-23. Platform commits to raise the corporate tax rate to 13% from 11.5% while maintaining the Liberals' reduction to small business corporate tax rates. Also pledged to tax tobacco on value instead of volume. NDP will close the loophole allowing corporations to qualify for a small business exemption (businesses with payrolls over \$3M will no longer qualify). Committed to raising income tax on amounts earned over \$220,000 by 1%, and on earnings over \$300,000 by 2%. Will add a surcharge for vehicles that cost more than \$90,000. Committed to increasing the Pension Benefit Guarantee Fund guaranteed amount to \$3,000/month indexed to inflation. Promising to expand pension coverage to more Ontarians by reducing barriers for workers to join existing public Jointly Sponsored Pension Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Party objective is to achieve tax reform that shifts taxes off incomes and on to pollution to generate revenue. Driving principle is that polluters should "pay their fair share". Committed to lowering personal income taxes in a progressive way, raising exemption levels for individuals and families with an emphasis on supporting those lower incomes. Party pledges to increase corporate taxes by 1-1.5% to pay for essential services while being able to reduce taxes on small local businesses.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Infrastructure, Transportation & Transit			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Liberal government has promised \$79 billion for different public transit projects, an increase of \$24 billion from the 2017 budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$11 billion has been pledged to begin work for the high-speed rail line between Toronto to Windsor. The remaining \$68 billion would be allocated to integrating municipal projects to support broader regional infrastructure. Platform would match a federal infrastructure grant of nearly \$5 billion, with a \$4 billion contribution from the provincial infrastructure budgets for public transit projects across Ontario between 2018 and 2028. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform includes substantial spending on infrastructure, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way, all-day GO service, supporting expansions and new projects across Southern Ontario. Current funding to be maintained. Uploading responsibility for subway infrastructure, including the building and maintenance of new and existing subway lines, from the City of Toronto to the Province. The cost is to be amortized over the lifecycle of subway projects once operational, plus \$160 million per year for existing assets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add \$5 billion in new funding to build the Sheppard Loop, the Relief Line, and the Yonge Extension. Leave responsibility for day-to-day operations, including labour relations, with the City of Toronto. Maintain the arrangement in which the City keeps all revenue generated by the subway system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontario NDP plan pledges to invest over \$180 billion in infrastructure, avoiding the use of P3s. Platform commits to expand Community Benefits Agreements, making them integral to all infrastructure projects. NDP are promising to cover 50% of operating costs for municipal transit, will provide two-way all-day GO rail service between Kitchener—Waterloo and Toronto and will have year-round GO rail service between Niagara and Toronto. An NDP government will implement a Northern Rail Strategy that restores Ontario Northlander's passenger service and supports the Huron Central and Algoma Central Rail Lines. Platform promises to build Toronto's Downtown Relief Line as soon as possible and Hamilton's LRT right away. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Green government will increase funding for public transit infrastructure by \$1 to \$1.5 billion per year over projections in the 2018 budget and will fund 50% of the operating costs of municipal transit systems. Will establish a dedicated long-term fund for municipal walking and cycling infrastructure, investing \$2.17 billion over 4 years on safe streets and roads. Will implement expert recommendations for dedicated revenue tools that are fair and progressive — such as congestion charges, parking levies and land value taxes — to raise over \$3.9 billion annually. Will dedicate 5% of the transportation budget for walking and cycling infrastructure.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore the potential for high-speed rail and highway projects, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Six-laning of Highway 401 to the 416 between Toronto and Ottawa, and complete the environmental assessment for the GTA West Corridor, at a total cost of \$20 million. ▪ Four-lane Highway 17 in eastern Ontario and Highway 3 in Southwestern Ontario, at a cost of \$5 million per year over 50 years. ▪ Expand natural gas distribution to rural communities with private sector help. ▪ Invest the assumed \$100 million in savings in cellular and broadband infrastructure expansion. ○ Cut the aviation fuel tax for the North, costing \$11 million annually. ○ Reinstate passenger rail service to the North, at a cost of \$45 million annually for refurbishment and operating costs. 		

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Ontario Economy, Jobs & Wages			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Liberals have pledged numerous increases to social services, healthcare, and childcare amounting to more than \$20.3 billion in new spending over the next three years. Projected annual deficits of between \$6.5 billion and \$6.7 billion are expected until at least 2020-2021 with provincial finances not expected to return to balance until 2024-2025. Premier Wynne's government has increased the minimum wage to \$14 from \$11.60 on Jan. 1, 2018, and plans to increase it further to \$15 on Jan. 1, 2019. Future annual increases beyond 2019 will be at the rate of inflation. Liberals have pledged to invest \$170 million over three years in the new Ontario Apprenticeship Strategy. Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), providing more high school students with trades-related hands-on learning opportunities. Improved guidance counselling resources and local labour market information for students, parents and educators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PC platform promises to support business by cutting regulations hampering job creation and economic growth. Pledges include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the Small Business Tax rate by 8.7%. Lowering the Corporate Income Tax to 10.5% from 11.5%. Reducing the manufacturing and processing tax rate. Estimates are that reducing the small business tax will cost Ontario \$60 million annually starting in year two and reducing other business taxes will cost \$1.3 billion starting in year two. Additional promises include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancelling the Jobs and Prosperity Fund (estimated savings of \$270 million annually). Maintain current support for Regional Economic Development Funds. Improved access to apprenticeships and reform of the foreign credential recognition process. Introduction of a minimum-wage tax credit - individuals earning minimum wage pay no tax; estimated cost is \$558 million annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDP platform pledges to make Ontario a leader in the development and manufacture of driverless technology, hybrid and electric vehicles. An NDP government promises to work with First Nations, mining and exploration companies, refiners and northerners to develop the Ring of Fire project, tapping into \$60 billion in chromite and other reserves and creating thousands of jobs. Platform commits to cut hydro bills 30% by bringing Hydro One back in public hands. The NDP intends to increase the minimum wage to \$15/hour, but has not provided a timeline for the increase. Also promised is a requirement for employers to provide at least three weeks paid vacation to full-time employees. Andrea Horwath and the NDP have pledged to invest \$57 million annually from the Jobs and Prosperity Fund to create opportunities in the trades. The NDP will work to reduce workplace injuries and better support injured workers by making sure WSIB works for them. An NDP government will be proactive in enforcement of health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Green government would transition the Ontario economy to one that is efficient and sustainable, based on principles of fairness and resilience. Stop subsidizing businesses that pollute and instead provide incentives to work towards clean products. Change government procurement rules to support low carbon products and services. Lower payroll taxes on small local businesses and non-profits with the intent of creating good local jobs with living wages for workers and fair taxes for small, family businesses. Pledging to increase the exemption level for the Employer Health Tax from \$450,000 to \$1 million in payroll for businesses and organizations with payrolls under \$5 million, keeping about \$1 billion available annually to invest in communities and pay workers better wages. To be funded by reversing the Liberal's corporate tax cut for big businesses by 1%. Modernize the apprenticeship application process by leveraging the Ontario College Application Service to provide candidates with an electronic, single-entry access to

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A new grant to promote pooled group sponsorship models for apprentices. ○ A Local Apprenticeship Innovation Fund to increase opportunities for apprentices and encourage engagement within the apprenticeship system across Ontario, as well as support regional, local or sector-specific pilots where there is demonstrated market need. ○ Continuing education opportunities for trade professionals. • Transform the Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit (ATTC) into the new Graduated Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (GAGE) to encourage employers that apprentices complete their training. • Create a new Office of Apprenticeship Opportunity to support apprentices from underrepresented groups and to build an inclusive, diverse apprenticeship system. No details on when the program will be active. • The Liberals will invest an additional \$63 million over three years to create the first Ontario Training Bank to serve as a one-stop shop for employers, job seekers and workers to access the skills training that meets their needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increasing the agriculture sector Risk Management Program cap by \$50 million annually, starting in year three. ○ Committing \$850 million for a tax credit for minimum wage earners. • Doug Ford has promised to scrap the Liberals' plan to increase minimum wage next year, holding it at \$14/hour. 	<p>and safety standards and will increase the number of jobs covered under Employment Standards and worker safety laws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledging to work with tradespeople, employers, and educational institutions to ensure that there are opportunities available for education and apprenticeships, and that tradespeople have the skills and knowledge for a lifetime of building Ontario. 	<p>the apprenticeship application and registration process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand and invest in apprenticeship and training programs, including incentives for businesses to participate in apprenticeship, mentoring and co-op programs. • Reduce the ratio of journey people to apprentices to 1:1 in order to open more jobs and training opportunities for our youth and workers seeking new career options. • Establish a progressive fee schedule based on the earnings opportunities for each trade.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Electricity, Energy, Hydro & the Environment			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liberals are promising to reduce hydro bills by 25% for residential consumers, and up to 50% for those who live in rural or northern communities, or low-income Ontarians. Liberals have pledged to keep Ontario moving towards a more “competitive and low-carbon economy.” To achieve this they would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spend \$1.7 billion over three years to support energy-saving programs under the Green Ontario Fund. Invest \$52 million over three years for new technologies to deal with toxic chemicals, excessive algae and road salt; better manage sewer system overflow. Spend \$15 million over the next three years to protect forests, wetlands and lakes. Invest more than \$90 million in 2017–18 to support commuter cycling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promising to lower electricity prices through a series of measures, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrapping the <i>Green Energy Act</i>. Declaring a moratorium on new energy contracts. Cutting residential, agriculture, and small business electricity rates by 12% by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returning Hydro One dividend payments to taxpayers (estimated cost: \$300-400 million per year). Fund conservation programs out of general government revenue rather than electricity bills (estimated cost: \$433 million annually). Cancelling energy contracts that are in the pre-construction phase and re-negotiating other contracts. Stabilize industrial hydro rates through a package of reforms. Remove the board of Hydro One and its CEO & lower salaries at Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One. Platform promises to end the cap and trade system and challenge any attempt by the federal government to impose a carbon tax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NDP says its plan would cut hydro bills by 30%. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returning control of Hydro One to the provincial government by buying back the share of the utility that’s been sold to private investors. Cutting rural electricity rates by about 15 per cent. Ending time-of-use billing; set a flat rate of 10.3¢ per kWh (Currently, rates fluctuate between 6.5–13.2¢ per kWh based on the time of day). Opening negotiations with the federal government to remove HST on hydro bills. An NDP government plans to use revenue from Ontario’s cap-and-trade program to fund part of its environmental platform, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$50 million from cap-and-trade programs for new no-interest and on-bill home retrofitting to help residents pay for power-saving technology into their homes. Direct 25% of cap-and-trade revenue to rural, northern and lower-income homes and trade-exposed industries. Remediate the mercury in the English–Wabigoon River in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A green government is committed to develop a Long-term Energy Plan for Ontario utilizing 100% renewable energy that puts community benefits before corporate interests. Estimates canceling the Fair Hydro Plan will save Ontario \$21 to \$69 billion. Plan will eliminate the rebuilding of nuclear plants, saving the Ontario government \$1.1 billion annually. Platform proposes to adopt low cost water power from Quebec and also bioenergy. A Green government pledges to seek an independent public review of the costs and availability of all energy sources to make the best choices for Ontario’s energy needs, pushing for low cost energy solutions that meet Ontario’s GHG pollution targets. Plan commits to target hydro rate reductions to the most vulnerable, rather than across the board reductions. Green platform pledges to create a \$4.18 billion 4-year Green Building and Business fund to provide grants and interest free loans to help homeowners, renters and businesses invest in energy conservation.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Estimated cost is \$1.9 billion annually, to be offset by eliminating the funds collected from previous auctions. ○ Potential federal government challenges are estimated to cost \$30 million over the course of the mandate. • The platform pledges to create a fund to invest in new, emissions-reducing technology in Ontario, including \$500 million for environmental initiatives such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enforcing air quality programs and protecting waterways. ○ Hiring more conservation officers to improve enforcement of “major polluters”. ○ Committing resources to reduce litter. • Platform also pledges to move forward with resource revenue sharing for Northern and Indigenous communities, for mining, forestry, and aggregate activity, with an estimated cost of \$30 million annually starting in year two. 	<p>northwestern Ontario and pledge an additional \$12 million to a Mercury Disability Fund for people suffering from the complications of mercury poisoning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Environmental Bill of Rights and expand parks in consultation with First Nations. 	

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Healthcare/Mental Health			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberals have committed to investing \$822 million in hospitals over the next year to reduce wait times. • The plan also promises to cover all medications on the Ontario Drug Benefit program, including drugs for cholesterol, hypertension, thyroid conditions, diabetes and asthma. • Liberals have also pledged to spend \$300 million over three years for registered nurses in every long-term care facility in Ontario and increase the number of hours each RN spends with patients by 2022. • Committed to expanding the OHIP+ program to cover drug costs to seniors 65 and over beginning Aug. 1, 2019, projected to cost \$575 million. • Promised to invest \$2.1 billion to “rebuild” Ontario’s mental health system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC platform pledges to invest \$3.8 billion in mental health and addictions supports over 10 years (cost assumed to be shared with the federal government). • Promising to introduce dental coverage for low-income seniors at an estimated cost of \$98 million. • Committing to build 15,000 long-term care beds over five years and 30,000 hospital beds over 10 years. Estimated cost is \$62,000 annually per bed (assuming capital costs amortized over bed’s lifetime). • Plan will encourage more doctors to move to northern Ontario by cutting their provincial taxes to as little as 0%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDP platform is promising provide free dental and drug coverage for all Ontarians. • Pledged to put \$19 billion over 10 years into hospitals. • To provide 2,000 hospital beds immediately at a cost of \$312 million the first year. • Platform commits to immediately increase hospital operational funding by 5.3%, ensuring all hospitals receive a base funding increase that is above inflation. • Platform pledges to end the underreporting of surgery wait times, increase funding for community health centres and create 70 new public dental clinics and seven new mobile dental buses for rural and remote regions. • Also promised are 360 midwives and a guarantee that no cuts are made to women’s health centres. • The NDP are committed to instituting a requirement that all seniors in long-term care homes receive at least four hours of care per day, for an estimated cost of \$257 million per year. It will also create 40,000 new long-term care beds and update the long-term care residents’ “Bill of Rights” to allow elderly couples to stay together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to better mental health services is part of the Green plan to transform the health care system to focus on preventing illness and promoting health in addition to treating sickness. • A Green government sees a need for more investments in primary and community health care, home care and senior care. • A Green government will invest \$4.1 billion over 4 years, an additional \$2 billion above the projected increases in the 2018 budget, into mental health services as the first step to making mental health services part of OHIP+. • Platform pledges to create a new umbrella organization called Mental Health and Addictions Ontario to consolidate and prioritize mental health and addictions programs and services consistently across Ontario. • Ontario can raise half a billion dollars annually year by implementing recommendations from the 2012 government commissioned Drummond report to improve collections, reduce tax avoidance and implement cost recovery for more services.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Education & Childcare			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberal platform plans to boost education spending by \$625 million, \$300 million of which is to be allocated for special needs education programs. • A Liberal government plans to help low-income students cover tuitions through OSAP grants. • Promising to offer OSAP grants for lower-income students to cover their tuition. • Committing to set aside \$411 million to fund a high school apprenticeship program. • The Liberals have pledged to provide free care for children aged two-and-a-half until kindergarten, beginning in 2020. Estimates are the plan will help families save an average of \$17,000 per child. • The Liberals also plan to create 100,000 new child care spaces over five years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doug Ford has said he wants to “review the curriculum in all core subject areas thoroughly” but has not provided details. • Doug Ford has pledged radical changes to “fix” Ontario’s education system, replacing the province’s sexual education and math programs. • PC plan pledges to spend an additional \$38 million for children with autism. • Plan commits to cover 75% of families’ child care costs up to \$6,750 for children between the ages of 0 and 15. Estimates are the proposal would cost \$389 million annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An NDP government pledges to provide qualifying students with OSAP grants instead of loans and convert student debt into grants, retroactively forgiving interest for anyone with provincial student loan debt. • Pledged to invest \$16 billion over 10 years to repair public schools. • Committing to end standardized testing. • Will implement a moratorium on school closings. • An NDP government promises free child care for families earning \$40,000/yr. or less. Those earning more will pay and an average of \$12 per day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Green government supports properly funding higher education with public subsidies, eventually guaranteeing fully public tuition for all Ontario residents.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Housing			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberals introduced the Fair Housing Plan in April 2017, which included at 15% foreign buyers' tax. • Also promising to start a fund to create new co-op housing and tighten rental rules to prevent unfair "renovictions" and rent increases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform promises to preserve rent control for existing tenants. • Intends to increase the supply of affordable housing in the GTA while protecting the Greenbelt. • Doug Ford has said to the <i>Globe and Mail</i> he would consider abolishing the 15% foreign homebuyers' tax introduced by the Liberals and create more affordable housing on underused land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NDP platform pledges to build 65,000 new affordable homes over 10 years, while overhauling inclusionary zoning regulations and spending \$3 million to revive the province's co-op housing sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Green government will require new developments to have a minimum of 20% affordable homes. • Platform promises to push for innovative solutions such as "tiny homes," laneway housing, co-housing and secondary suites. • Pledging to invest an additional \$200 million over projected increases in the 2018 budget in funding for shelters, social, co-op and supportive housing. • A Green government is committing to increase the housing speculation tax to help the most vulnerable have a place to call home.

2018 Ontario Election Campaign Platform Comparison

ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY	ONTARIO PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY	ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY	GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO
Government Accountability			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC plan emphasizes accountability and fiscal responsibility by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Balancing the Budget on a “responsible” timeframe. ○ Launching an independent commission of inquiry, at the cost of \$1 million, with a mandate to examine the deficit. This will include an independent audit of the Province’s finances, to be released publicly. ○ Reinstating the Auditor General’s authority to approve government advertising. ○ Centralizing government purchasing. ○ Conducting a value-for-money audit of every government program. ○ Preventing government agencies, boards, and commissions from purchasing tickets/tables to political events. ○ Instituting a single-window access for approvals with a one-year deadline. 		