



'Common Ground' **CPC Leadership Election Platform**

Welcome to the ***'Common Ground'*** CPC Leadership Election Platform.

Thank you for taking the time to stop by. We welcome you and look forward to standing together on the ***'Common Ground'*** we share!

Although we don't always agree on individual issues, we do have a sincere desire work together and hope you will find the following policy and legislative proposals to be a representation the ***'Common Ground'*** between us. ***'Common Ground'*** between you, our friends in the Conservative Party, and those of us who come from one of the many faith communities in Canada.

We also trust you will find these platform 'planks' an expression of our understanding that as members of the faith community, we are a constituency among many and that our input is always going to be in competition with the proposals of others.

Thank you for considering the ***'Common Ground'*** Leadership Election Platform among the mix of ideas you are considering supporting and for allowing us to freely express our views.

There is much work to do on the road ahead and it will take all of us working together to achieve our common goals. So please look around and don't forget to **register your support** for the platform before you go.

It's important you register, so all our friends in the Conservative Party of Canada will clearly see your support for the ***'Common Ground'*** between us!

Review Platform & Register your support at

[Conservativeupdate.com](http://conservativeupdate.com)

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Pillar #1 – Parents have the right to raise their children the way they want.

As Parents in Canada, we all have this in common. We want the very best for our children.

We also know and love our children in a way that civil government could never replicate.

That is why we believe it is important that civil government respects parents and **their right to raise their children the way they want.**

As an expression of our shared view that **parents have the right to raise their children the way they want,** we seek a commitment from CPC Leadership Candidates to support the introduction of the

Parental Authority Protection Act (Parents Bill of Rights).

This 'Parents Bill of Rights' will protect a Parent's right;

1. To pass on their religion to their children.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the right to freedom of conscience and religion. Parents in Canada reserve the right to pass on the teachings of their faith to their children, even when political leaders disagree with their views on societal and cultural issues.

2. To instill their values in their children.

From the earliest days of our nation, Canadian parents have taught their children values, morality and virtue. Parents have the right to shape the character of their children and teach them what's right and what's wrong. Not civil government.

3. To choose their children's school.

Parents know that each child is different, and each family is different. Parents reserve the right to decide how, what and where their children learn. Whether it is at public school, private or charter school, or through home school programs.

4. To retain authority to decide what their children are exposed to and who has access to them.

It is becoming more common for parent's to be required to forfeit their authority to decide what their children will be exposed to while at school and who will have access to them. The parent's 'permission slip' has been replaced by the, 'request to opt out' form, completely transferring the authority of parents over to the state. Parents do not want to be forced to forfeit their

authority as a prerequisite to accessing the services of taxpayer funded schools and education programs.

5. To protect their children's health.

Civil government representatives have systematically given authority to young children to make life-altering medical decisions regarding contraception, abortion and gender transition – all without the knowledge or consent of parents. Young children do not often understand the consequences of these decisions and we must empower parents, not children and representatives of civil government to decide what is best.

Another expression of support for Parents we seek from CPC Leadership Election Candidates, is for the **Child Protection Pornography Act**.

The Conservative Party of Canada Membership has long acknowledged research which recognizes that pornography is a public health risk to children and adults and we have always supported policies and laws that protect children.

That is why we believe that this legislative proposal represents '**Common Ground**' we share as it would prevent adults in trust relationships with children, from exposing them to sexually graphic materials and pornography.

This act would define as an offence and increase penalties for the sharing, transmission, conveyance or communication of sexually graphic material or pornography from a person who is (not the parent of the child) and is in a trust relationship with the child.

This goal we all have in common. The desire for Canada to be the best country in the world in which to raise a family - and - to see the maximum amount of money possible in the hands of parents.

Enabling parents to decide how to spend their money and raise their children.

One way that goal can be achieved is, to once again, give couples the ability to split their income for tax purposes. Many parents in Canada saw this as a valuable benefit to them and greatly contributed to the wellbeing of their families.

We therefore seek a commitment from CPC Leadership Candidates **to bring back income splitting** for couples at the earliest possible opportunity.

Pillar #2 – Those we elect to serve us in civil government must respect and defend our right of belief and freedom of religion.

In recent years, Members of Parliament have had many opportunities to stand unified in defense of the Charter Rights of Canadians but have failed to do so.

During that same period, many parliamentarians have supported the use of their 'Section One' Charter authority to pass laws that **unreasonably** limit our freedoms as Canadians.

One example is the recent passing of euthanasia laws here in Canada.

Parliament had an opportunity to show leadership and stand in defence of the conscience rights of medical professionals when the law was passed. However, they instead chose to leave it to provincial government leaders to protect the conscience rights of medical professionals who were not able to participate because of their deeply held religious beliefs.

Provincial government leaders failed to do so.

This failure of leadership has been a great concern to many Canadians so we ask our friends in the Conservative Party and the CPC Leadership Election Candidates to commit now to introducing and supporting a legislative proposal that would provide **Comprehensive Conscience Rights Protection for Medical Professionals**.

Note: At the 2018 Policy Convention of the Conservative Party of Canada, party members passed (with a clear majority) a motion in support of conscience rights for doctors, nurses, medical professionals and others to refuse to participate in or refer patients for abortions, assisted suicide or euthanasia.

Pillar #3 – The laws and policies of civil government must provide for the safety and security of the citizens, especially the vulnerable among us.

Civil government has many responsibilities however it only has one primary responsibility. It is, to provide for the safety and security of the citizens. All other aspects of our life here in Canada break down if civil government fails to fulfill their responsibility to us in this regard.

One way that our federal government fulfills this responsibility to us is through policies and laws.

Several recent examples of the failure of government to meet their primary responsibility to us was the Federal Liberal Government's rush to pass marijuana laws here in Canada. Insufficient care and attention were given to the risks this legislation would have on vulnerable people that live among us in our communities.

In addition, while still failing to provide evidence that the legalization of marijuana was not harming vulnerable citizens, the federal Liberal Government implemented their plan to legalize edible marijuana products in October of last year.

Another example was the failure of the federal Liberal Government to ensure vulnerable Canadians were protected when they passed euthanasia laws. Government leaders were repeatedly warned that a rush to pass laws deficient in protections would have lethal results. And it has.

As a result, serious gaps in protections for the vulnerable now exist between federal euthanasia law, provincial government laws and oversight provided by provincial medical colleges.

Our Federal Liberal Government has repeatedly applied what appears to be 'acceptable loss theory' in their legislative calculus of dangerous legislative proposals.

That is why we are seeking support from CPC Leadership Election Candidates for the, (One is too many) **Vulnerable Persons Protection Act**.

This Act establishes in law the requirement for the federal government to complete and publish, a comprehensive assessment of the risk to vulnerable persons for all legislative or policy proposals.

This assessment would clearly show who, and to what degree, specific vulnerable people groups in society are at increased risk with the passing of each new law.

We are willing to do it for the environment. It is our hope our federal government will demonstrate the same duty of care for the vulnerable citizens that live among us in our communities.

According to the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), in Canada (excluding Quebec), there were 766 late-term livebirth abortions in a five-year period from 2013 to 2018.

Our Criminal Code makes it clear that children who survive an abortion have legal rights upon birth. That includes the right to life and the right to medical treatment.

Medical staff, therefore, have an ethical and legal duty to care for a baby born alive.

Upon becoming aware of this reality, we are hopeful that you our friends in the Conservative Party share our deep concern and want to know; how could this happen? How are these babies cared for? Is palliative care provided?

While medical colleges and provincial governments work to answer these questions for us, we can act in a compassionate way. We are asking CPC Leadership Election Candidates, to support the **Born Alive Infant Protection Act**, that will undergird and strengthen the specific, affirmative duty of physicians and medical professionals to provide medical care and treatment to infants born alive at any stage of development.

Our Canadian federal government must always utilize credible and verifiable scientific research when drafting policy responses to critically important issues such as Health Policy and Climate Change.

That is why are seeking support for the establishment of the **Science and Medical Research Secretariat (SAMRS)**

The work of SAMRS will reside on an internet-based platform that is fully transparent and easily accessible to all Canadians. It will be a platform where legislators and policy makers can share the most up to date and complete scientific research in support of their legislative proposals and policies.

Government policies and legislative proposals are far too often influenced by electoral cycles and partisan politics. The establishment of **SAMRS** will ensure that scientific data utilized to inform government policies and laws is transparent.

SAMRS will also serve as a platform for health and medical research that is utilized to inform healthcare related policies and legislative proposals of the federal government.

Members of the Conservative Party of Canada have always extended a compassionate hand to those in need. It is a core principle of our party that when our fellow citizens are wounded and in need, we must show compassion and care for them.

That is a foundational belief of the faith communities of Canada as well and we believe there is much we can accomplish together with our friends in the Conservative Party.

Together we can effectively respond to the sad reality that many citizens among us are wounded by deficiencies in the service that our government provides. One example is the harm that comes to women who choose to terminate their pregnancies without being provided adequate information to fully inform their consent to the procedure.

Repeatedly women in Canada have told us that when making the decision to terminate their pregnancy they were not provided quality information, or enough information as part of the process.

In addition, questions are now also being raised about the information that is being provided citizens looking into death by euthanasia and the adequacy of the procedures leading up to the death of euthanasia patients.

That is in large part why we are seeking support from CPC Leadership Election Candidates for the establishment of **National Standards for Informed Consent** for euthanasia, abortion, adolescent hormone treatment and gender reassignment surgeries.

Canadians have the right to the very best information available before making important decisions about these high-risk medical procedures and we want to support a Candidate who will work closely with their provincial counterparts and their respective Provincial Medical Colleges to ensure vulnerable Canadians are protected from deficiencies in the quantity and quality of the information necessary to make informed choices about their personal healthcare.

During a previous session of parliament, Private member's Bill C-225, also known as **Cassie and Molly's Law**, was named after Cassandra Kaake.

Cassandra was seven months pregnant when she was found dead at the scene of an arson in Windsor, Ont. in 2014. Within a very short period of time from her death, Cassandra would have given birth to her baby and had planned to call her Molly.

On the day Cassandra was murdered, she had gone out and was planning her baby shower. When she returned home, a struggle ensued, and Cassandra was strangled until she was unconscious.

It was reported that her throat had been slit, her fingertips were cut off and her body was doused in gasoline before the house was set on fire.

The 'Cassie and Molly's Law' bill, called for an amendment that would, ***"make it a separate offence to cause injury or death to a pre-born child during the commission of an offence against the child's mother."***

At first reading of the bill a majority of Members of Parliament in the House of Commons voted down this legislative proposal. Many of our Conservative Members of Parliament expressed great disappointment with the Liberal Government's lack of support for the bill.

We are therefore asking our CPC Leadership Election Candidates to **seek support from all Parliamentarians for the reintroduction of this legislative proposal.**

We understand that reintroducing legislation only to have it fail would be heartbreaking for Cassandra's family and friends, so we are asking CPC Leadership Election Candidates to simply commit to first seeking support for legislation, with amendments if necessary, and then reintroduce the bill so that Members of Parliament, on all sides of the House, will have an opportunity to reconsider their vote and cast it again.

This time in favour of Cassie and Molly, and all the other women and their unborn babies, who are more vulnerable to violent assault and who are in need additional protections in law.

No one understands better the basic human needs of vulnerable people living within their community than the people who care for them. That is why we must allow citizens within local communities to come up with their own solutions as to how to care for vulnerable people.

But the federal government can still play a role in supporting their efforts.

That is why we are seeking the support of CPC Leadership Election Candidates for the, **"Community Solutions Partnership Grant Program."**

This proposed 'dollar-matching' grant program will help unleash the awesome power of communities who come together with the common goal of serving those with the greatest need.

Citizens in the towns and cities of our nation from the faith & business communities, along side indigenous and municipal government leaders, will be encouraged to work together to identify those people among them who are struggling to meet their most basic needs.

Together, these community members will all partner, pool their financial and human resources - and the federal government will be right there with them to support their efforts with matching dollars.

With local community members taking the lead on this initiative, Canadians can be confident that their federal tax dollars will be utilized in a way that best serves the most vulnerable among us and accomplishes this by leveraging one of the most valuable resources we have here in Canada...

Local Community Partnerships (LCPs).

Pillar #4 – It is inappropriate for civil government to heap debt upon the backs of our children and future generations.

Governments in Canada at all levels, continue to spend more money than they receive from taxpayers creating debt that our children and future generations will one day have to pay for through excessive taxation.

Our current Liberal government appears to have no limit to the amount of debt they are willing to bury our children under.

That is why we are asking our CPC Leadership Election Candidates to commit to immediately upon forming government, directing all Conservative Cabinet Ministers to halt the Liberal trend of reckless spending and **“Find 4”** percent in savings in their department budgets within the **1st year**.

We acknowledge that this is an aggressive goal given the dangerous trajectory that this Liberal Government has placed our nation on. However, we must reign in spending and begin travelling down the long road of removing the burden of excessive taxation from the backs of our children and future generations.

Note: We are proposing that one department is exempt from this directive. Veterans Affairs.

Canadians honour the sacrifices that the men and women of our Armed Forces have made to defend the freedoms we have as citizens of Canada and we will ensure that this department of government is funded to the degree that is required to meet their needs.

In addition to providing ongoing support to our Veterans here in Canada, we are seeking support from CPC Leadership Election Candidates for the establishment of a new funding program of the federal government called the, **“Grateful Canadians Monuments Fund.”**

There are so many more stories of patriotism, courage, selflessness and sacrifice yet to be told by Veterans of our Canadian Armed Forces - and many Canadians want to have an opportunity to help them tell those stories by supporting new monument projects.

As part of this funding program, grateful Canadians who appreciate how precious their freedoms are and how high the price was that paid for them, will now have an opportunity to donate to this fund and earn a tax receipt for a portion of their contribution.

Value for Money - The CBC

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) has a long history of great service to Canadians from coast to coast to coast and we thank all the hard-working employees who have dedicated so much time and energy to the great work of the organization.

However, many Canadians do not believe that all the services of the CBC are delivering adequate value for their taxpayer-money invested.

Many more Canadians believe that the CBC has become completely divorced from any understanding of their community and what their media preferences are. This is perhaps why many Canadians have chosen to limit their individual and family's access to the services of CBC and have made other media choices.

Having said this, we acknowledge and support the present goals of CBC/Radio-Canada that focus on delivering to Canadians predominantly Canadian programming services in both official languages, reflecting the multicultural and multi-ethnic nature of Canada, including Indigenous peoples, supports Canadian creators and producers and are accessible and discoverable in Canada and abroad.

We do not however believe that at this time the organization is capable of delivering predominantly Canadian programming that reflects all Canadians across the country - and - can deliver to taxpayers the high-quality and reliable news and information required to meet their needs and expectations.

We ask CPC Leadership Election Candidates to commit to ensuring the continuation of CBC and the long history of great service to Canadians. However, ask that you also launch a complete review of the services of CBC and the restructure the organization so that it is a more attractive choice in the marketplace and more effectively meets the needs of all Canadians.

CPC Leadership Election - Platform 'Railings'

We accept that governments need help at times operating within the limits of their authority and the mandate they have been given. The '4 Pillar Test' will help all parliamentarians fulfill their obligations to the citizens they serve.

We ask CPC Leadership Election Candidates to commit while in opposition and upon forming Government, to supporting the mandatory use of the '**4-Pillar Test**' for all existing and new policies and legislative proposals.

This 'tool of responsible governance,' will also be defined in the Prime Ministerial Mandate Letters to members of Cabinet and will clearly require Cabinet to hold all existing policies and new legislative proposals of their departments up against the principles represented by these, '4 Pillars;'

- 1) That the right of Canadian Parents to raise their children the way they want is respected.
- 2) That the individual right of belief of all Canadians is being respected & defended.
- 3) That the safety and security of the all the citizens, especially the vulnerable among is maintained.
- 4) That the burden of debt is being lowered for children and future generations of Canadians.

Where existing or new policies and legislative proposals, do not reflect the principles of the 4 Pillars, Cabinet Members are required to provide the Prime Minister and Canadian Citizens with their rationale as to why they believe it necessary to compromise these critically important principles.

While in Opposition and upon forming government, we also ask CPC Leadership Election Candidates to, within 10 days of the last sitting day of parliament before each summer break, publish and distribute to Parliamentarians and their constituents the, '**4 Pillar MP Report Card.**'

This MP Report Card will grade each parliamentarian from all political parties on their individual performance over the past year. Parliamentarians will have to demonstrate by their actions, their personal understanding, appreciation and support for the principles of these '4 Pillars;'

- 1) That parents have the right to raise their children the way they want.
- 2) That as parliamentarians they must respect and defend all citizen's right of belief and freedom of religion.
- 3) That the policies and laws of civil government provides for the safety and security of all citizens, especially the vulnerable among us, and,
- 4) That it is inappropriate for civil government to heap debt upon the backs of children and future generations.

And finally,

We ask CPC Leadership Election Candidates to support the following initiative.

On the eve of the commencement of every new session of Parliament, an invitation will be extended from the office of the Prime Minister to all Canadians from sea to sea to sea, inviting them to take a moment to pause, to reflect, meditate or pray, for the work ahead in the Parliament of Canada.

This is an invitation from our Prime Minister, encouraging us all to come together, setting aside the things that divide can us and focus ourselves on the future of Canada.

It will also be an opportunity for us to encourage our governmental leaders. A moment for us to wish them well and express our desire for them to be well equipped to fulfill their duties as our elected representatives in government and that they would continue to the good work that we have sent them there to do.