

Election 2019: Questions for All Candidates Meetings

1. Taxpayer handouts for pipelines and Big Oil

Background:

The current government committed to ending subsidies to fossil fuel companies in their 2015 election platform but broke their promise. **As the climate crisis worsens, we continue to give billions of dollars of taxpayers money to the very industries most responsible for the problem. This includes at least \$14 billion for the Trans Mountain pipeline, \$3.3 billion in tax breaks and cash handouts and \$10 billion in loans and state-backed insurance.**

Questions: In light of the climate emergency:

1. Will you work with MPs from other parties to cut off public funding for construction on the Trans Mountain pipeline and oil tanker expansion?
2. Will you commit to ending corporate welfare to the oil and gas sector in your first 90 days in office?

[If yes, you could choose one of these follow up questions to push them further]

- What would you spend the \$27.3 billion saved by cancelling fossil fuel subsidies on instead?
- The International Monetary Fund includes costs such as treating the health impacts of air pollution and clean-up after climate-caused disasters as fossil fuel subsidies. Will you ensure that the fossil fuel industry covers these costs rather than taxpayers - and on what timeline?
- For NDP candidates: does this include cancelling the federal subsidy to LNG Canada?

2. Indigenous rights

Background

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples sets out the minimum standards necessary for the dignity, survival and well-being of Indigenous peoples around the world. The current government promised to legislate UNDRIP, but left the bill to die on the

senate floor. Meanwhile, an inherent conflict exists between current Canadian law and decision-making practices and the principles of Free, Prior and Informed consent for Indigenous peoples - which is playing out most visibly in the case of legal challenges over major energy projects.

Questions:

1. Do you support bringing federal laws and policies in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
2. What would you do as a Member of Parliament to lessen conflict between Indigenous communities and the federal government over land use and resource development, and bring Canadian law more in line with the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent?