



The Task Force To End Homelessness in Burnaby

Working Together to END Homelessness in Burnaby

www.burnabyhomeless.org

Questionnaire for Federal Candidates election October 2019

The Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness has compiled this questionnaire on issues affecting people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, for distribution to all candidates seeking to federally represent Burnaby in the House of Commons.

The results from this questionnaire will be posted on the task force website www.burnabyhomeless.org

Thank you for your consideration regarding this important issue. We look forward to your response.

Please send questions and responses to Carol-Ann Flanagan at info@burnabyhomeless.org by October 5, 2019.

Please answer the following questions. If elected:

- 1) How will your party implement the Right To Housing and the National Housing Strategy Act?
- 2) Recognizing that the Right To Housing is not a constitutional provision, how will your party prevent the right to housing legislation from being rescinded?
- 3) Given that the current federal homeless initiatives are not based on stable or ongoing funding, what would your party do to ensure stable, predictable ongoing funding to homeless initiatives that address current homelessness and prevent future homelessness?
- 4) If elected, what resources would your party allocate to increase the supply of affordable housing in Burnaby for people who are living in core housing need as defined by CMHC? How would it be paid for?
- 5) Given the growing needs of homeless women and children in Burnaby and the lack of gender responsive resources available, what is your plan to support this growing population? How would it be paid for?
- 6) Recognizing that barrier-free access to health care and medications are a critical need for people who are homeless or at high risk of homelessness, and that many people experiencing homelessness live with two or more significant health conditions, how will your party ensure that a comprehensive evidence-based universal pharmacare program, based on need vs. ability to pay, is implemented across Canada so that people living in poverty, including the homeless, can access the medications they need to maintain and improve their health? How would it be paid for?
- 7) What is your party position on decriminalizing all drugs across Canada and the provision of a safe drug supply program for people living with substance use disorders?
- 8) What strategies and resources would your party commit to assist low income earners overcome barriers such as to improved employment, better health and resource access?
- 9) How do you see faith-based organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and the government working together to help fight extreme poverty?

Thank you for your time and attention,

Karen O'Shannacery
Interim Chair