



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS

CONGRÈS DES UKRAINIENS-CANADIENS

2019 Federal Election

Ukrainian Canadian Congress Questionnaire for Candidates for Member of Parliament

Dear Candidate:

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is surveying all candidates in the 2019 Federal Election regarding the following issues of importance to the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Thank you for helping us to inform Canadians about your position on the issues which are very important to the Ukrainian Canadian community. Attached to this survey please find the UCC National 2019 Policy Guide.

We will be publishing the results of this questionnaire in the media and on the UCC website. **We kindly request that you respond to the following questions by October 4, 2019 via email to 2019election@ucc.ca**

Should you elect not to respond, we will record this as an expression of "No Interest."

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Candidate Information:

Name of Candidate: Nick Capra

Constituency: Parkdale-High Park

Political Party: Green Party of Canada

1. Strengthening Canada-Ukraine Security Relations

a) Do you condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts?

Yes, the Green Party of Canada strongly condemns Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

b) Do you support Canada providing Ukraine with defensive weapons, increased security cooperation between Canada and Ukraine, and increased Canadian sanctions on Russia in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine?

The Green Party is committed to building and keeping peace, including post-conflict work to strengthen civil society and democratic institutions around the world. We are committed to expanding Canada's peace-keeping role internationally. At the same time, we are fully aware of the dangers of militarism and the need to defend against it, both at home and on the global stage. We support the United Nations' doctrine of the duty to protect and refuse to place corporate interests ahead of ethical action to protect vulnerable populations.

In light of this, we support Canada providing Ukraine with defensive weapons, increased security cooperation between Canada and Ukraine including capacity building, and increased Canadian sanctions on Russia in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

2. Supporting Democratic and Economic Reform in Ukraine

a) Do you support increased Canadian international assistance for Ukraine, including increased humanitarian assistance and increased support for consolidating Ukraine's democratic institutions?

In recognition that international stability rests on all nations being able to provide their people with basic needs and security, the Green Party of Canada is committed to:

- Re-establish the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) that was dismantled by the Harper government, with a mandate to provide overseas development assistance where it is most needed. Eliminate the requirement that aid be tied to Canadian business interests overseas, or strategic geopolitics.
- Increase Canada's overseas development assistance budget to reach former Prime Minister Pearson's goal of 0.7 per cent of GDP, which Canada has never achieved but which many in the donor group of our allies have already surpassed. 82 2019 GREEN PARTY OF CANADA
- Ramp up our national contribution to the Green Climate Fund and Global Environmental Facility to \$4 billion per year by 2030.
- Review federal government policy to align with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and develop a mechanism to track progress in meeting these targets both at home and abroad.

3. Ensuring Security and Dignity for Seniors

a) Do you support increased investment to ensure affordable care for seniors and increased cooperation with ethno-cultural organizations and institutions who provide care to seniors?

In recognition that an essential duty of the social contract between government and citizens is to make sure people can live fulfilling and dignified lives in their senior years, we support increased investment to ensure affordable care for seniors, increased cooperation with ethno-cultural organizations and institutions who provide care to seniors (see details about our National Seniors Strategy below).

A Green government will also develop a National Seniors Strategy with the following priorities:

- Ensure the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) remains robust and adaptive to changing needs and circumstances by increasing over time the target income replacement rate from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of income received during working years.
- Regulate the CPP Investment Board to require divestment of coal, oil and gas shares and ensure that all investments are ethical and promote environmental sustainability.
- Support innovative home-sharing plans and other measures to allow people to stay in their own homes as long as possible. Create more long-term care beds in neighbourhood facilities.
- Protect private pensions by amending the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and Companies' Creditors

4. Welcoming Newcomers to Canada

a) Do you support increasing assistance and cooperation with ethno-cultural, community-based settlement services for newcomers?

Yes, as the MP for Parkdale-Highpark, I would support increasing assistance and cooperation with ethno-cultural, community-based settlement services for newcomers, as stated in our platform, which commits to:

“Increase funding of multicultural associations providing immigrant support programs including language programs.”

The Green Party of Canada 2019 platform further includes the following commitments:

- Ensure professionals being considered for immigration have the licensing requirements for their professions clearly explained before entry.
- Work with professional associations to create a robust system for evaluating the education and training credentials of immigrants against Canadian standards, with the goal of expediting accreditation and expanding professional opportunities for immigrants.
- Lead a national discussion to define the term “environmental refugee,” advocate for its inclusion as a refugee category in Canada and accept an appropriate share of the world’s environmental refugees into Canada.
- Allocate much greater funding for training in official languages (ESL and FSL) for new immigrants through earmarked transfers to the provinces for primary and secondary public school and free night school programs.
- Work with municipalities and provinces to improve the integration of new Canadians into the multicultural fabric of our country.
- Support multicultural communities by assisting cultural organizations to obtain charitable status.

- Allocate much greater funding for training in official languages (ESL and FSL) for new immigrants through earmarked transfers to the provinces for primary and secondary public school and free night school programs.
- Work with municipalities and provinces to improve the integration of new Canadians into the multicultural fabric of our country.
- Support multicultural communities by assisting cultural organizations to obtain charitable status.
- Eliminate the Temporary Foreign Workers Program and address labour shortages by increasing immigration, working with employers to establish paths to permanent residency.
- Establish a program to process the estimated 200,000 people living in Canada without official status, providing a pathway to permanent residency for those who qualify.
- Reintroduce legislation to establish a Civilian Complaints and Review Commission for the Canada Border Services Agency.
- Terminate Canada's Safe Third Country Agreement with the United States. • Regulate the immigration consulting industry to ensure universally fair, legal and accessible services to help people navigate the immigration system.
- Increase penalties for immigration consultants convicted of human smuggling and devote more resources to investigation and enforcement.
- Amend the Anti-Terrorism Act and the Public Safety Act to require that, after a reasonable period, formal charges be brought against all those detained.
- Investigate allegations by the United Nations Human Rights Committee of Canadian officials cooperating with foreign agencies known to use torture.
- Ensure the "lost Canadians" quietly being denied citizenship through archaic laws are protected and that their citizenship is restored. Although some significant progress has been made, some are still "lost."
- Implement the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration to grant permanent resident status immediately to those who have refused or left military service in a war not sanctioned by the United Nations.
- Improve the pathway for international students and foreign workers to Canadian permanent residency and citizenship.
- Speed up family reunification, especially reuniting children with their parents.

b) Do you support visa-free travel to Ukrainian citizens visiting Canada?

Yes, the Green Party of Canada supports visa-free travel to Ukrainian citizens visiting Canada.

5. Helping our Culture Flourish

Historical recognition –

a) Do you support the recognition of the Deportation of the Crimean Tatar People (Sürgünlik) by the Soviet regime in 1944 as an act of Genocide? Do you support establishing May 18 as the annual Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of the Crimean Tatar People?

Yes, the Green Party of Canada supports the recognition of the Deportation of the Crimean Tatar People (Sürgünlik) by the Soviet regime in 1944 as an act of Genocide and the establishing May 18 as the annual Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of the Crimean Tatar People.

b) Do you support the establishment of October 28 as the annual Day of Commemoration of Canada's First National Internment Operations?

Yes, the Green Party of Canada supports the establishment of October 28 as the annual Day of Commemoration of Canada's First National Internment Operations.

c) Do you support increasing funding to multicultural programming in Canada?

Yes, I support increasing funding to multicultural programming in Canada.

d) Do you support increasing government assistance to heritage language programming in Canada?

Yes, the Green Party commits to support multicultural communities by assisting cultural organizations to obtain charitable status. We further commit to increase funding of multicultural associations providing immigrant support programs including language programs.

6. Fighting Online Hate and Disinformation

a) Do you support increased measures to eliminate online hate and disinformation campaigns from social media?

Yes, I strongly support increased measures to eliminate online hate and disinformation campaigns from social media. As an example of a measure I am committed to take, as outline in the 2019 Green Party platform, we seek to regulate Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms to ensure that only actual people, with verifiable identities, are able to publish on those platforms.