

Women Count: Election 2008

Questions for Candidates

Funding for Democracy and Women's Equality

- Q. What will your party do to support women's human rights?
- Q. What will your party do to support Status of Women and women's groups that do advocacy and research?
- Q. Will your party reinstate full funding for the Court Challenges Program?

Women's Political Representation

- Q. What does your party do to recruit, nominate and support more women candidates in winnable ridings?
- Q. Does your party support electoral reform?

Women and the Environment

- Q: Will your party commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Canada to the targets outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change?
- Q: How would your party ensure that steps taken to address climate change don't negatively impact vulnerable communities including women, low income and rural Canadians, seniors, students, farmers or fishers?

Reproductive Rights

- Q. How did you vote on Bill C-484, and how will you vote on any subsequent bills that threaten to erode women's right to choose?
- Q. What will your party do to restore funding to the Canadian Health Network, and ensure access to comprehensive health information, including sexual and reproductive health, for Canadians
- Q. What will your party do to ensure that Canada meets its ODA commitments, and to ensure that some of these funds are allocated specifically to sexual and reproductive health services?

Pay Equity

- Q. If your party is elected, will you pledge to introduce new pay equity legislation based on the recommendations of the Pay Equity Task Force?

Child Care

- Q. Will your party increase federal transfers for child care, starting with an additional \$1.2 billion in the first year?
- Q. Does your party support adopting federal child care legislation to ensure these funds are used to build a non-profit child care system?

Foreign Policy and Development Policy

- Q. How will your party support the increased participation of women and girls in peacebuilding and peacekeeping operations?
- Q. What will your party do to address the epidemic of sexual violence in conflict zones where Canada has deployed soldiers and police forces?

Women in Poverty

- Q. What measures would your party implement to improve the economic status of women?
- Q. What measures would your party implement to reduce women's homelessness, including street homelessness and homelessness of women fleeing domestic violence?

Violence Against Women

- Q. How will your party, in consultation with grassroots feminist and Aboriginal anti-violence agencies, commence development of a national strategy to end violence against women?
- Q. Will your party immediately allocate substantially increased funds for family law legal aid and ensure that federal funds flow to grassroots supports and services such as shelters for abused women, rape crisis centres, and culturally-specific violence against women programs?

Post-Secondary Education

- Q. Does your party support the implementation of a Post-Secondary Education Act and the creation of a federal Ministry to work with the provinces to improve the affordability and quality of universities and colleges?
- Q. Will your party increase core funding for post-secondary education in order to support reductions in tuition fees?

Women and the Economy

- Q. How will your party address income inequality in Canada and the increasing feminization of poverty?
- Q. How will your party ensure that its taxation policies will not disproportionately disadvantage women?
- Q. How will your party improve access and benefits for women under the Employment Insurance system?

* This analysis is based on public information available as of September 10, 2008.