



2025 NDP Election Platform



Key Takeaways*

- The New Democratic Party's focus is on affordability and commitments in the areas of healthcare, housing, schools and the economy.
- Broad range of commitments to appeal to a broad range of voters in both urban and rural electoral districts, with a heavy focus on those areas that the NDP is targeting to turn from Conservative to NDP.
- The NDP has released a costed platform that refers to municipalities 10 times.
- The NDP have expressed commitment to reverse provincial downloads and stabilize municipal finances with fair cost-sharing of priorities. The “New Deal for Municipalities” includes a Social and Economic Prosperity Review, uploading of affordable housing, shelter and homeless prevention program costs, investment in affordable homes, restoring 50% of provincial funding for municipal transit net operational costs, and applying a rural and northern lens to partnership initiatives.
- Move from First Past the Post to Mixed Member proportional voting.

**Items listed as key takeaways and within this note are based on what has been released by the party or announced as of February 24, 2025. This is not a complete list of commitments. For the complete list, refer to the respective party website and communications.*

Background

Over the last few months, NDP Leader Marit Stiles released several policy commitments as part of the *On Your Side* campaign:

- Defending jobs and tariff-proofing Ontario
- Ending chronic homelessness
- Protecting and supporting renters
- Fixing our schools
- Help with grocery costs
- Family doctors for all
- A people-first democracy



Context

In 2022, the NDP maintained that the party's path to power would be built on demonstrating that they were a responsible alternative to the governing Liberal Party. They maintained their status as the Official Opposition to the Progressive Conservative majority government. The 2025 commitments are broader to appeal to a large group of voters and interests, including measures specifically targeting swing ridings with promises like auto insurance reform, investments in new hospital and transit infrastructure.

AMCTO 2025 Provincial Election Priorities

We are pleased to see some commitments to our [2025 provincial election priorities](#) in the areas of a Social and Economic Prosperity Review, service delivery uploads and providing stable and predictable funding and investment to municipalities. Additionally, at the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference, the party agreed to review legislative changes to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA) and the *Municipal Elections Act* (MEA).

Local Government Perspective

Provincial-Municipal Relationship

- Reverse unfair provincial downloads and bring stability to municipal finances through fair cost-sharing of municipal-provincial priorities. This New Deal will include:
 - A province-wide Social and Economic Prosperity Review
 - Upload costs of provincially-owned "connecting links highways", cost of housing, emergency shelters and homelessness prevention programs
 - Restoring 50% provincial funding for municipal transit net operational costs
 - Building affordable homes with investments in public, non-profit and co-op housing
 - Applying a rural and northern lens to partnership initiatives

Economy

- Negotiate a joint federal-provincial income assistance program to support people whose livelihoods are impacted by tariffs
- Launch a 'Buy Ontario' campaign and direct government agencies to procure locally
- Create a Premier's Task Force on the Economy with a focus on business, labour and civil society
- Create a monthly grocery rebate for households in Ontario based on income and family size
- Launch an Ontario Tariff fund providing direct payments to businesses impact by US tariffs.

Equity

- Increase francophone education in French school boards and French immersion in English boards

Health Services

- Recruit 3,500 new doctors, hiring 350 doctors for northern Ontario, including 200 family doctors and 150 specialists
- Reduce red tape for 13,000 internationally trained doctors and increase residency spots province-wide
- Increase family health teams, shorter specialist wait times, and flexible care options within the first 100 days of forming government



- Create a nurse-to-patient ratio, hiring at least 15,000 new nurses over three years
- Secure universal access to publicly funded and publicly delivered mental health care services like counseling and psychotherapy across Ontario

Housing and Homelessness

- Build or acquire at least 300,000 permanently affordable rental homes in non-profit and co-op housing through the Homes Ontario plan to reach 1.5 million homes in 10 years:
 - Partner with non-profits and municipalities using public land
 - Provide grants, low-cost financing, public land and other resources to help public, non-profit and co-op housing providers
- Create 60,000 new supportive housing units and hundreds of thousands in coming years
- Address affordable rentals, unfair and outdated planning rules, cut red tape and legalize fourplexes and other affordable “missing middle” housing options; allow increased density as-of-right along transit corridors
- Limit short-term rentals like AirBnBs to primary residence
- Increase housing benefits such as the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit
- End a loophole that exempts rental units built after 2018 from rent control and crack down on renovictions and demovictions
- Build or acquire at least 300,000 affordable rental homes

Infrastructure

- Accelerate infrastructure projects (i.e. transit, school repair, home building) with an extra \$830 million per year on school repairs and maintenance

Transportation

- Remove tolls for trucks on provincially owned portion of Highway 407 and open negotiations to remove tolls on 407 ETR
- Update the school bus funding formula
- Upload responsibility for some municipal roadways back to the Province
- Bring snow clearance and highway maintenance under public control

Social Assistance

- \$18 billion to transform social assistance; provide a 20 per cent increase immediately, and double today's Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW) rates in year two

For more information on this note and our 2025 provincial election priorities, please contact advocacy@amcto.com.

