



# 2025 Green Election Platform



## Key Takeaways\*

- The Green Party of Ontario is the first party to release a fully costed platform, "[Ontario Greens: Our Plan for Fairness](#)", mentions municipal 28 times in English, and contains a section called "A New Deal for Municipalities" with commitments specific to the municipal sector.
- Considers a new provincial-municipal relationship removing provincial interference in municipal services and removal of strong mayor powers.
- Proposes changes to the *Planning Act*, Provincial Policy Statement and the Growth Plan favouring an urban boundary freeze, increased density in urban areas, and environmental protections.
- Mentions new revenues tools to fund infrastructure, health, a fund to assist with climate adaptation, and the uploading of some transit, shelter and social housing costs.

*\*Items listed as key takeaways and within this note are based on what has been released by the party or announced as of February 17, 2025. This is not a complete list of commitments. For the complete list, refer to the respective party website and communications.*

## Background

On February 12, 2025, The Green Party of Ontario released *Our Plan for Fairness*; with commitments on a broad range of issues from housing to healthcare to the economy, the platform targets a range of voters.

The platform highlights 12 priorities:

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| • Housing Now                                      | • Healthcare   |
| • Building Better Communities                      | • Caring for Seniors   |
| • Our Plan for Workers and Economic Fairness       | • Caring for Kids and Students   |
| • Protecting People and Places                     | • Our Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities |
| • Strengthening Ontario's Economy                  | • A More Equitable Ontario   |
| • Tackling the Mental Health and Addictions Crisis | • A People-First Democracy   |



## Context

In the 2022 election the Green Party retained their seat with leader Mike Schreiner in the Legislature. After a November 2023 by-election the party obtained an additional seat. With party leader and MPP Aislinn Clancy (a former city councillor) participating in the Legislative Assembly over the last couple years, and through all opposition party press releases, the party has released a platform positioning themselves as a viable alternative to parties with a broad appeal. The Ontario Greens present themselves as collaborators, ready to work with other parties to implement their ideas.

### AMCTO 2025 Provincial Election Priorities

We are pleased to see some of our [2025 provincial election priorities](#) reflected in the Green party platform:

- Some thought related to service delivery in the uploading costs of community housing, shelters, and transit.
- Funding for rural hospitals with cuts to local cost share for new hospitals; increased funding for libraries and community centres; creating a predictable, annual Infrastructure fund for safe walking, cycling and accessible mobility devices for municipalities; a predictable multi-year fund for municipalities to build climate-resilient infrastructure; and a dedicated Climate Adaptation Fund.
- The removal of strong mayor powers.

The plan supports our overarching priority for a renewed municipal-provincial relationship with increased collaboration and consultation between municipalities and the Province.

## Local Government Perspective

### Provincial-Municipal Relationship

- Increase collaboration and consultation between municipalities and the Province
- Assess the use of city charters as a mechanism to empower major Ontario cities, such as Toronto, and prevent inappropriate interference in local democracy by the Provincial government
- Allow municipalities the option to use a ranked ballot voting system for elections.
- Create limits for municipal elections whereby no person may contribute more than \$1,000 to all candidates combined
- Reinstate upper-tier regional planning authority to ensure coordinated and sustainable planning to build the housing we need while protecting agricultural and natural heritage

### Accessibility

- Ensure that new affordable housing stock is accessible, and require affordable housing retrofits to meet the same standards
- Commit to fulfilling all commitments in the Accessible Ontario Pledge by the AODA Alliance

### Animals

- Add more transparency to Ontario's Animal Welfare Services
- Ban dog train and trial areas (often referred to as penned dog hunting)
- Ensure the new Ontario puppy mill regulations include a licensing and registration system
- Ban roadside zoos in Ontario that exploit exotic animals



### Childcare

- Work with the federal government to ensure continued funding for universal access to high-quality, \$10-a-day childcare in all communities.
- Cancel the planned cut of \$85.5 million and cost-share changes imposed on municipalities

### Economy

- Immediately create a 'tariff taskforce' that works across party, jurisdictional and sectoral lines to negotiate with the United States on trade
- Develop a "Buy Ontario" strategy and implement public procurement rules that support Ontario businesses and farmers
- Provide \$2 billion per year for capital spending for municipalities to build resilient infrastructure through a dedicated Climate Adaptation Fund
- Make fossil fuel companies pay municipalities for the right to use land for their infrastructure
- Eliminate property tax penalties for farmers with small-scale, value-added production facilities on farms

### Environment

- Support municipalities, schools and institutions to create renewable energy projects through 0% loans
- Expand the Greenbelt to include a Bluebelt of protected waterways, freeze urban boundaries and reverse recent boundary expansions
- Restore and enhance the integrity of the *Endangered Species Act*
- Create mechanisms to enhance protection and restoration of natural areas and wetlands for climate control
- Amend provincial legislation to recognize and permanently protect Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas and appropriately support other Indigenous-led conservation and climate efforts
- Reduce the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and minimize their impact by more effectively coordinating government responses
- Restore the independence and capacity of the Greenbelt Council and Niagara Escarpment Commission to enable decision-making that is consistent with the goals and objectives of those provincial plans
- Strengthen and uphold the Environmental Bill of Rights
- Ban food waste from landfills or incinerators and expand food waste collection to all municipalities across the province
- Set required minimum use of recycled aggregates in infrastructure projects as well as provide research and education funding to ensure that all reclaimed concrete material can be re-engineered and re-used as effectively as possible
- Lower costs and reduce waste with a *Circular Economy Act* to support reuse, repair and recycling jobs and businesses

### Equity

- Increase core funding for community-based mental and physical health supports in racialized, newcomer, and other communities that have traditionally been underserved
- Require a minimum proportion of women on public corporations' boards and executive level positions, with a goal to achieve gender parity
- Re-enact the *Pay Transparency Act*



- Enact the *Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, 2024* into law and increase funding for sexual assault centres, emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe centre hubs, and legal supports and develop a framework to end violence against women
- Require ongoing educational training about 2SLGBTQIA+ identities, gender and sexuality, and examine prejudice, assumptions, and privilege that builds awareness of homo/bi/transphobia and racism for those providing publicly funded services
- Mandate standards to have safe, accessible, all-gender washrooms in all public spaces in Ontario
- Ensure that interpreters, translators, or multilingual written materials are available in publicly funded services and raise awareness of their availability

### **Finance**

- Grant municipalities autonomy to implement revenue tools to fund critical infrastructure needs and services
- Upload costs to the province that have been unfairly downloaded onto municipalities like community housing, shelters, and transit funding
- Provide dedicated and ongoing funding to municipalities to address the mental health and addictions crises
- Increase funding for local libraries and community centres

### **Health Services**

- Recruit 3,500 doctors in Ontario through medical school positions and increased residency opportunities for international medical graduates to ensure every person has a primary care provider within the next three to four years
- Expand and provide start-up funding for family health teams across the province with a wider variety of care available (i.e. social workers, addictions care, physio, etc.)
- Better integrate long-term care, homecare, and caregiver services within family health teams to properly provide for the complex needs of residents
- Reopen safe consumption and treatment sites and expand the number of sites
- Increase provincial funding for rural hospitals and cut local cost shares for funding new hospitals in half
- Build 48,000 non-profit long-term care spaces by 2029 to meet growing demand; prioritize and enhance capital support for the expansion of not-for-profit long-term care
- Phase out for-profit care
- Instantly create thousands of additional senior supportive housing units by adding healthcare and social services supports into existing non-profit senior housing buildings

### **Housing and Homelessness**

- Permit the building or subdividing of units, including types, sizes and qualities through increased planning and housing proposals; update the *Planning Act*, Provincial Planning Statement and other applicable laws and regulations to expand zoning permissions and reverse Provincial Planning Statement changes.
- Require municipalities to permit developments with the use of pre-approved building designs; look at prioritized and sped up development approvals for certain projects.
- Update building codes and land use planning laws, financial tools, tax powers, and funding programs to incentivize the use of faster, lower-cost, and labour-efficient construction methods and sustainable materials like mass timber, modular factory-built homes, etc.
- Remove development charges on homes, condos and apartment units built under 2,000 sq ft



within urban boundaries; implement an Affordable Community Fund to reimburse municipalities for lost revenue

- Work with municipalities to implement a province-wide vacant homes tax
- Lease all public land suitable for housing to non-profits, co-ops, and community land trusts for permanently affordable housing at no cost
- Reduce multi-residential building property taxes to bring them in line with rates for single family homes
- Renew 305,000 community housing units and create a new capital repair program
- Support rental replacement bylaws province-wide to ensure the continued supply of affordable rental stock
- Work collaboratively with municipalities on a province-wide “Yes, in My Backyard” initiative to raise awareness of the benefits of building more housing within existing neighbourhoods and explore innovative approaches to planning consultation
- Immediately support people living in encampments with their housing and support needs until permanent housing solutions are built

### **Indigenous Reconciliation**

- Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and fast-track implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Recognize First Nations’ right to self-determination and establish a co-management stewardship model for the development of provincial resources with fair revenue sharing
- Recognize and integrate Indigenous laws and legal traditions in the negotiation and implement processes involving treaties, land claims, and other constructive agreements
- Establish Indigenous-led co-governance processes for natural resources, energy projects, and land-use planning
- Make the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation a statutory holiday

### **Infrastructure**

- Implement a predictable multi-year fund for municipalities to build climate-resilient infrastructure
- Speed up reducing the repair backlog for Ontario public schools and work in consultation with school boards to adopt a standard of good repair

### **Labour**

- Increase the minimum wage to \$20.00 per hour and index to inflation each year
- Implement 10 provincially legislated paid sick days for all
- Legislate equal pay for equal work and put an end to wage theft

### **Public Safety and Well-Being**

- Create a multi-stakeholder Safety and Well-being at School Action Table mandated to develop a comprehensive plan

### **Transportation**

- Prohibit 400 series highways in the Greenbelt, starting with canceling Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass
- Create dedicated truck lanes on Highway 407 to reduce congestion and the need for more highways; remove Highway 407 tolls for transport trucks
- Expand all-day, two-way GO service to leave every 15 minutes with at least one express service



- available during peak periods and every 30 minutes off-peak periods, including weekend service.
- Establish a clean, affordable, accessible intercity electric bus service to connect communities across the province, ensuring connections in small, rural communities and dedicated bus lanes

### **Social Assistance**

- Phase in a basic income, with the first step being to at least double the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW) rates, tie ODSP to future increases in inflation.

For more information on this note and our 2025 provincial election priorities, please contact [advocacy@amcto.com](mailto:advocacy@amcto.com).

