

Answers:

1a.

Myself and the New Democratic Party of Canada unequivocally condemn Russia's annexation of Crimea, as well as other malign behaviour within the Ukraine.

1b.

The renewal and expansion of assistance programs, as well as visa-free entrance into Canada for Ukrainians, are ways in which Canada should exhibit its support for the people of Ukraine and for reform and anti-corruption efforts in the region. Providing lethal weapons is a solution that risks escalation and further harm that will do little to positively influence the situation in the region.

2a.

It is my belief that the expansion and maintenance of economic, diplomatic, and political support for the Ukraine from Canada is necessary. Canada can do much to help the Ukrainian people, and should also extend existing international assistance funding, not cut it. The NDP will boost Canadian international development assistance, and will work to contribute 0.7 per cent of our Gross National Income to international aid.

3a.

Senior citizens not only can rely on caregiving from family members, but may also need to provide such assistance to others. There is much that the NDP can do for caregivers, such as making the Canada Caregiver Tax Credit refundable. This will provide much needed financial support for caregivers of all incomes. Many caregivers are women, many have given up work to care for a loved one, and many are both. Ethno-cultural entities know how to best care for their people, and should be included in efforts to create a life of comfort and happiness for our seniors.

4a.

Yes. Our new neighbours are struggling to find work in their field, causing intense levels of stress to families trying to adjust to a new life here in Canada. These people are of great value, and offer the same potential and benefit to themselves and their neighbours as any current Canadian citizens. The NDP will expand access to services, such as language training services, and expand programs and opportunities for youth newcomers in our communities. As a second generation Canadian, I have been raised by individuals who could have benefitted from these policies and plans today.

4b.

Yes.

5a.

We as Canadians and neighbours should always seek to condemn mass-atrocity crimes, and work to remember and honour the victims of these crimes. Genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes, and crimes against humanity are all offences that all Canadians should oppose. There should be absolutely no question of tolerance of these acts, as they should be opposed openly and honestly. Remembering these individuals with a Day of Remembrance is the least we can do in the face of the suffering of these people.

5b.

The NDP supports this idea.

5c.

Of course!

5d.

The NDP supports language programming of this kind. Personally, I advocate strongly for the learning of languages, especially when it functions to help to connect with one's culture, or connect with an unfamiliar culture. Language training is absolutely something I would always support.

6a.

As a member of an age group that was raised in a hateful and negative online world with far less moderation than today, I absolutely support measures to defend the rights and safety of all users of social media and other technologies. The NDP will work to ensure that all major cities have dedicated hate-crime units within local police, and will create a national working group to counter online hate. We will always stand up against all forms of hate and racism, including but not limited to anti-Black racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, gender-based violence, homophobia, and transphobia.

In solidarity,

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Candidate for King-Vaughan

New Democratic Party of Canada / Nouveau Parti Démocratique