



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:

James Elwick, Green Party, Oakville

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.

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?

We support the current Canadian Armed Forces efforts to assist in training and capacity building, and its expansion and extension (Operation UNIFIER). However, we do not support the provision of weapons.

We support Canada's continued use of strategic sanctions on Russia and will follow the advice of Canadian intelligence agencies.

We will implement Magnitsky Act sanctions against Russian officials responsible for human rights abuses, both in response to Russia's illegal invasion of Ukrainian territory and for other abuses.

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?

Yes. Under a Green government, international assistance funds will be broadly increased and Ukraine will remain a priority recipient. Canada has an important role to play in upholding human rights internationally.

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?

A Green government will actively address the needs of seniors, committing to increased cooperation and consultation.

Our policies are formulated with a view to keeping seniors in their own communities. We will fund the creation of more long-term care beds in neighbourhood facilities, and will support home-sharing plans that can provide the option to seniors to stay in their own homes. We understand the immense effort undertaken by caregivers and are open to supporting them through a benefit program. Our Guaranteed Liveable Income program will also support caregivers and seniors alike.

The Green Party will also restore the federal/provincial Health Accord, basing the health transfer on demographics and real health care needs in each province, rather than the current formula based on gross domestic product (GDP) growth. This reform will account for the needs of seniors.

And a universal, single-payer national pharmacare program is urgently needed. No Canadian should have to make a choice between filling the prescriptions they need and paying rent or putting food on the table for their family. Greens were the first to call for a universal pharmacare

system in Canada, and we remain committed to implementing such a program. It will apply to everyone, not just seniors.

Universal pharmacare is the best way to accomplish both life-saving and cost-cutting goals. The GPC would complement this program by creating bulk drug purchasing agency and shortening drug patent protection times.

4. Welcoming Newcomers to Canada

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

Yes. We will work with municipalities and provinces to improve the integration of new Canadians into the multicultural fabric of our country. We will also support multicultural communities by assisting cultural organizations to obtain charitable status.

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

We are encouraged by the progress made under the Liberal government towards visa-free travel for Ukrainian citizens visiting Canada, and we plan to continue this progress.

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.

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

Yes.

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

Yes. The Greens will support multicultural communities by assisting cultural organizations to obtain charitable status.

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

Yes.

6. Fighting Online Hate and Disinformation

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

Online harassment is illegal. The Green Party condemns it and believes that the perpetrators of such harassment should be reported and held accountable. Greens will study options 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. This will also help reduce the pernicious spread of disinformation campaigns, which have been undermining our democracy.