



Ottawa Survey – Liberal Response

1. Stage 2 LRT Provincial Funding Commitment

The City of Ottawa, in partnership with the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada, is currently procuring Stage 2 of Light Rapid Transit, scheduled to begin construction in 2019. Stage 2 will bring LRT farther East, West and South. It will reduce commuting times for Ottawa residents and families, contribute to a long-term reduction in GHGs and support the City's economic diversification. Stage 2 procurement also includes the extension of the Trillium Line from South Keys to the Riverside South Town Center.

1.a Does your party support the Province of Ontario honouring its \$1.2 Billion funding commitment to the City of Ottawa for the full build-out of Stage2?

Yes No Other _____

2.b Does your party support the Province of Ontario honouring its \$50 million funding commitment to the City of Ottawa for the extension of the Trillium Line from Bowesville to Riverside South Town Center.

Yes No Other _____

Ontario Liberals know how important public transit is to managing congestion, curbing emissions, and building communities. The Liberal Party has committed more than \$1 billion to support the Stage 2 LRT project in Ottawa. This is the largest single investment ever made to the city's public transit system from the provincial government.

Through earlier investments our government committed up to \$600 million toward the Stage 1 Confederation Line. Since 2003, we have committed more than \$2.2 billion to public transit in Ottawa, the largest investment in public transit in the City's history. This includes more than \$452 million in Gas Tax funding.

The Ontario Liberals remain committed to working cooperatively with the City of Ottawa as it moves forward with implementing its Stage 2 LRT project, including the \$50 million extension to Riverside South Town Centre that was announced by Bob Chiarelli on May 3rd. The Ontario Liberals are also prepared to work with

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the City of Ottawa, the City of Gatineau, the Province of Quebec, and the Government of Canada on the next steps for interprovincial transit across the Prince of Wales Bridge as well as any further steps that need to be taken to expand transit access further across the city.

2. Province of Ontario Commitment to increase City's share of gas tax

In 2017, the Province of Ontario announced an increase in the Provincial share of gas tax to be shared with Ontario Cities. For every litre of gasoline sold, Ontario currently provides two cents to municipalities to help fund local public transit improvements. Beginning in 2019, Ontario will increase the municipal share of gas tax funds up to a total of four cents per litre in 2021-22, as follows:

- 2.5 cents per litre in 2019-20
- 3.0 cents per litre in 2020-21
- 4.0 cents per litre in 2021-22

The City of Ottawa currently receives \$36.5 million in gas tax funding. That is estimated to double to \$73 million in 2021, an average funding increase of approximately \$12.2 million annually, over three years. The planned increase will allow the City to continue to invest in and fund much needed public transit needs.

Does your party support honouring the Province of Ontario's commitment to increasing the municipal share of Provincial gas tax revenue, as outlined above?

Yes No Other _____

The Liberal Party of Ontario is committed to using Gas Tax funds to support public transit across Ontario. Through the 2013 Ontario Budget, we passed the



Dedicated Funding for Public Transportation Act. This made the funding for the Gas Tax program permanent.

It is now a guaranteed source of funding for eligible municipalities to improve and expand their transit services. Since 2004, we have committed \$4.1 billion in Gas Tax funding. This includes more than \$452 million in Gas Tax funding for the City of Ottawa.

In addition, we have committed to increasing Gas Tax funding from 2 cents per litre to 2.5 cents per litre in 2019/20, to 3 cents per litre in 2020/21 and to 4 cents per litre in 2021/22. This means up to \$66M per year for the City of Ottawa by 2021/22.

This increased gas tax funding will go to municipal transit without an increase to what drivers will pay at the pumps.

3. Affordable Housing Funding Commitment

On April 30th, 2018, the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario announced they have reached a bilateral agreement under the National Housing Strategy. The 10-year agreement will invest more than \$4.2 billion to protect, renew and expand social and community housing, and support Ontario's priorities related to housing repair, construction, and affordability. The governments of Canada and Ontario will also work together on the design and implementation of a new Canada Housing Benefit in Ontario. This new bilateral agreement will support long-term and predictable funding starting April 1, 2019.

Does your party support honouring the Province of Ontario's commitment to the National Housing Strategy with a commitment to the successor program to the Investing in Affordable Housing Ontario Program?

Yes No Other _____

Does your party also support the continuation of the following two provincial programs recently announced:

- (1) The Development Charges Rebate Program, where \$18.5M was committed over a 5 year period to support the development of new purpose-built rental housing in the private and not for profit sectors; and,**

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Yes No Other _____

(2) The provincial Home for Good Program, where, Ottawa was allocated a total of \$11.3M in operating funding and \$19M in capital funding for new supportive housing for people struggling with physical and mental health challenges.

Yes No Other _____

We are committed to ensuring that the people of Ontario have a safe and affordable place to call home. When families have access to affordable housing, they are given the opportunity to reach their full potential. Unlike the PCs and the NDP, we have a solid track record on housing and will continue to make strategic investments in affordable housing. Under Kathleen Wynne's leadership, the government has increased annual investment in housing to \$1 billion per year.

We are supporting the creation of over 22,000 affordable rental housing units and more than 335,000 repairs to social and affordable housing units; and, providing rental and down payment assistance to over 93,000 households in need.

Through the Investment in Affordable Housing program, the Government of Ontario invested \$27 million to build 675 housing units, including partnering with the Multifaith Housing Initiative in Barrhaven and the Carlington Community Health Centre on supportive housing for low-income seniors. The Government of Ontario also invested \$5.1 million in the Tamir Integrated Living Centre, a 34 unit, 45 bed facility that provides housing and respite care for adults with developmental disabilities. A re-elected Ontario Liberal government will continue to fund projects like these that take an innovative approach to address housing challenges.

Our government is investing up to \$200 million in operating funding for housing allowances and support services to assist up to 6,000 families and individuals over the next three years. We are also supporting the construction of up to 1,500 new supportive housing units over the long-term.

Our Fair Housing Plan is protecting homebuyers and tenants alike, because everyone deserves a suitable home that they can afford. This includes extending rent control to all private units, which protects tenants from unfair and unaffordable rent increases.

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We unlocked the value of provincial lands and expanded funding for affordable housing, ensuring the affordability of tens-of-thousands of existing and future homes.

Through the Development Charges Rebate Programs, we will provide over \$200 million in municipal supports to create market and below-market housing. Through the Home For Good program, partnering with municipalities to deliver tailored supportive housing units for people experiencing homelessness.

The National Housing Strategy will deliver over \$4 Billion dollars to support housing in Ontario, including new construction, a portable housing benefit, and the renewal of tens of thousands of units of social housing. Ontario Liberals would cost-match federal funds dollar-for-dollar to derive maximum benefit from this opportunity.

We also introduced inclusionary zoning, which gives municipalities the power to force affordable housing as part of development projects.

4. Supporting Long-Term Care

The Province of Ontario committed \$300 million over three years in new funding for long-term care, starting with \$50 million in 2018–19 to hire a registered nurse for every home, and setting a goal of increasing the provincial average to four hours of daily care per resident by 2022.

Does your party support honouring the Province of Ontario’s commitment to fund more direct, one-on-one patient care for long-term care residents?

Yes No Other _____

Ontario Liberals have committed to over \$300 million more dollars in long-term care to increase staffing in long-term care homes with the goal of meeting the provincial average to four hours of daily care per resident by 2022. This will ensure that every home will have staff with specialized training in behavioural supports, and in palliative and end-of-life care. These investments will directly impact the lives of residents living in Ontario’s long-term care homes now by ensuring they receive additional care immediately. These investments are in addition to the new long-term care capacity we have committed by adding 5,000

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new beds by 2022 – which have already been allocated and include beds for Ottawa’s francophone population – and 30,000 in the next decade.

5. Maintaining Uploading Agreements

The Province of Ontario began “uploading” approximately \$1.5 billion in social service costs in 2008. This program has been implemented and saved the City of Ottawa approximately \$25 million a year. I am sure you would agree that it makes more sense to fund provincially mandated social services for the larger and more diverse provincial revenue base than from the municipal property taxes.

Do you personally agree that the Province of Ontario should maintain the uploading program? **Yes** **No**

Does your political party commit to maintaining the uploading program?

Yes **No**

The Ontario Liberal government began the work of uploading costly responsibilities that had been recklessly downloaded by the last PC government under Mike Harris. We spent years fixing the mistakes of the previous government on this file. In January, we proudly completed the upload. In 2018, On Ontario Works alone, the upload of non-administration costs to the province will save municipalities about \$408 million. This includes about \$25 million in program delivery funding that was previously paid by municipalities. We are committed to maintaining the upload and to work collaboratively with municipalities on these and other challenges they face.

6. Traditional Infrastructure

Residents understand that the last seven years have seen the Province focus more heavily on transit infrastructure – which required a massive catch-up effort.

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Today, residents are asking us to shift some of that focus to our other built infrastructure needs. What we are hearing – at public meetings or in informal conversations - is the need to continue to do more about the state of our roads, infrastructure, buildings and parks.

The infrastructure gap is a significant challenge for municipalities nation-wide. For every \$1 billion dollar invested in new infrastructure, 10,000 person years of employment will be generated in Ottawa, including 5,500 new jobs in the construction sector.

Will your party consult with Ontario municipalities on the need to establish a traditional infrastructure program for roads, bridges, highways, pedestrian and cycling facilities?

Yes No Other _____

We are committed to ensuring that our unprecedented infrastructure investments deliver for everyone in Ontario. We have a responsibility to build the critical public infrastructure our province needs to maintain a strong economy and high standard of living.

Our track record speaks for itself - we are already making the largest infrastructure investment in Ontario's history: \$230 billion over 14 years.

In March, Ontario and Canada signed an agreement that will bring \$11.8 billion in federal funding to Ontario over the next ten years.

Our commitment to match that amount with \$10 billion of our own includes significant investments in public transit, green, rural and northern, and recreational infrastructure. This joint funding will support faster commute times, cleaner air and water, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, roads and bridges, and enhanced recreational facilities.

We are aware of the City of Ottawa's requests regarding expanding the Highway 17/174, an interchange along the 416 highway at Barnsdale Road, and a pedestrian bridge at Huntmar Drive, among others, and if re-elected, we will continue to work with you to find solutions to these and the other challenges the City of Ottawa faces with regards to its infrastructure.

We look forward to working closely with the federal government and our municipal partners on the design details of this next phase of funding.

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