

#12. 22nd September...The Writ Has Dropped!...the election is underway!! Overview of Party Platforms (Bloomberg)! ...and Good News from Corporate Knights

Federal Candidates Update...

Richmond Hill Candidates

Liberal (incumbent)...Majid Jowhari
Conservative...Costas Menegakis

NDP...TBD

Green...Iccha Kohil

PCP... Igor D. Tvorogov

Aurora Oak Ridges Candidates

Conservative (Incumbent)...Leona Alleslev
Liberal...Leah Taylor Roy

NDP...Aaron Brown

Green...Timothy Flemming

PCP... Anil Dasaratha

THE WRIT HAS DROPPED as of 11th September...well it really isn't a drop!!!

Nothing has actually dropped, of course — and there's a lot more than just a single writ involved.

In fact, writs are drawn up for each of the country's 338 ridings for a federal election. A writ is a formal written order instructing the returning officer in a single electoral district to hold an election to select a member of Parliament. It specifies the day the names of the candidates must be officially recorded and sets a polling date.

Looking for a quick overview of where the parties stand...Bloomberg provides an easy place of reference. <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/2019-federal-election-platform-tracker-where-the-major-parties-stand-so-far-1.1308714>

Canadian voters will head to the polls on Oct. 21 after what is expected to be a heated federal election campaign.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is aiming for the Liberals' re-election in the wake of the SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. scandal, while Andrew Scheer's Conservatives, Jagmeet Singh's New Democrats and Elizabeth May's Green Party jockey for power.

Most parties are expected to release their full election platforms after campaigning officially kicks off. But some proposals and party stances have already been released.

Here's a look at what each of the four main national parties have promised so far on the major issues affecting the economy, business and your finances. BNN Bloomberg will keep this platform guide updated as more details are announced.

CANADIANS IN EVERY RIDING SUPPORT CLIMATE ACTION, NEW RESEARCH SHOWS

"Canada is gearing up for a big election this fall and climate policy will likely be at the centre of debate. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberals are trumpeting their carbon pricing policy, while Andrew Scheer's Conservatives want to get rid of it. Meanwhile, Elizabeth May and her newly relevant Greens think Canada must do more to manage the climate crisis.

But where do Canadian voters stand on this issue? Our research team, based at the Université de Montréal and the University of California Santa Barbara, has new public opinion data to answer this question. Using recent statistical and political science advances, we can estimate Canadian opinion in every single riding across the country (except for the less densely populated territories, where data collection is sparse). And we've released an online tool so anyone can see how their local riding compares to others across the country."

[BNN Bloomberg...2019 federal election platform tracker: Where the major parties stand so far...updated 17th September](#)

Energy policy the biggest election issue for viewers

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Conservatives

- Repeal Bill C-69, which overhauls the review process for resource projects in Canada
- Eliminate the Trudeau government's carbon tax
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- End Bill C-48, which bans oil tankers that are carrying more than 12 500 metric tons of crude oil along northern British Columbia
- Enact legislation to clarify roles of proponents and governments in consultations
- End foreign-funded interference in regulatory hearings
- Provide certainty on approval timelines and schedules

Greens

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent by 2030 and to zero by 2050
- Cancel the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion
- Make electric vehicles affordable, expand charging stations and ban the purchase of new internal combustion engine vehicles by 2030
- Mandate energy retrofits for all buildings by 2030
- Regulate the CPP Investment Board to require divestment of coal, oil and gas shares

Liberals

- Ban **single-use plastics** by 2021
- Offer new incentives to buy electric cars, including up to \$5,000 on new vehicles under \$45,000 (**as per budget 2019**)

NDP

- Introduce federal incentives for zero-emissions automobiles
- Electrify transit and other municipal fleets by 2030.
- Power Canada with net carbon-free electricity by 2030 and move to 100% non-emitting electricity by 2050 by creating a Canadian Climate Bank to increase clean energy investments
- Ban single-use plastics.
- Continue carbon pricing, including rebates to households that fall under the federal backstop plan; roll back the breaks to big polluters

People's Party of Canada

- Find a **private buyer** for the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project
- Repeal Bill C-48 and Bill C-69
- **Scrap** the federal carbon tax

- **Withdraw** from the Paris Accord, an international agreement to fight climate change signed in 2016

- **Remove subsidies** for green technology

Good News on Climate Change...from Corporate Knights

(Cape Town, South Africa): The global movement to divest from fossil fuel companies and invest in climate solutions announces a major milestone today, **as the total assets pledged to divestment crossed Eleven Trillion Dollars (US)**. Campaigners marked this milestone with the release of a new report, '\$11T and counting: new goals for a fossil-free world.' **The rapidly accelerating pace of divestment commitments is striking: while it took two years to shift the first USD 2 trillion, the most recent USD 2 trillion has taken just under 6 months.**

The release of the report coincides with the start of Financing the Future, a global divest-invest summit being held in Cape Town on 10th and 11th September 2019. With over 300 delegates from 44 countries in attendance, the conference is designed to build power among divest-invest advocates on every continent, working to accelerate the flow of capital out of the fossil fuel industry, and into a 100% renewable energy future, with a

particular focus on ensuring energy access for the 850 million people globally who lack access to electricity.

'Americans are waking up': two thirds say climate crisis must be addressed

Two-thirds of Americans believe climate change is either a crisis or a serious problem, with a majority wanting immediate action to address global heating and its damaging consequences, major new polling has found.

Major CBS News poll released as part of Covering Climate Now, a collaboration of more than 250 news outlets around the world to strengthen coverage of the climate story.

Amid a Democratic primary shaped by unprecedented alarm over the climate crisis and an insurgent youth climate movement that is sweeping the world, the polling shows substantial if uneven support for tackling the issue.

More than a quarter of Americans questioned in the new CBS News poll consider climate change a “crisis”, with a further 36% defining it as a “serious problem”. Two in 10 respondents said it was a minor problem, with just 16% considering it not worrisome at all.

More than half of polled Americans said they wanted the climate crisis to be confronted right away, with smaller groups happy to wait a few more years and just 18% rejecting any need to act.

“Americans are finally beginning waking up to the existential threat that the climate emergency poses to our society,” said Margaret Klein Salamon, a clinical psychologist and founder of the Climate Mobilization Project. “This is huge progress for our movement – and it’s young people that have been primarily responsible for that.” But while nearly all of those questioned accept that the climate is changing, there appears to be lingering confusion over why and scientists’ confidence over the causes. **Most Americans say climate change is at least a serious problem, and a majority think people need to address it right now**

Age is another key variable. **While 70% of 18- to 29-year-olds think climate change is a serious problem or crisis, just 58% over 65 concur.** Younger people are far more likely to consider it a personal responsibility to address the climate crisis and to believe that a transition to 100% renewable energy is viable.

Young people have been galvanized by climate science being taught in schools as well as a spreading global activist movement spearheaded by Greta Thunberg, the Swedish teenager who started a wave of school walkouts to demand action. Thunberg recently arrived in the US on a solar-powered yacht, ahead of a major United Nations climate summit in New York on 23 September.

This generational divide even cuts across party affiliation, with **two-thirds of Republican voters aged under 45 considering it their duty to address the climate crisis, according to the CBS poll. Just 38% of Republicans aged over 45 feel the same.**

“Younger Republicans are much more convinced climate change is a crisis and are supportive of action than older Republicans – which has big implications for the future of the party,” said Leiserowitz.

Around three-quarters of all respondents said they understand that climate change is melting the Arctic, raising sea levels and causing warmer summers. A further two-thirds accept that hurricanes will be made more severe by global heating. Hurricane Dorian, which recently devastated parts of the Bahamas, made 38% of Americans more concerned about the climate crisis, with 56% unswayed.

Leiserowitz said that the relationship between extreme weather events and concern over climate change is a complex one, with people already worried the most likely to say that their alarm has increased when a major storm or flood hits.

Regardless of concern over climate change there appears to be **skepticism among Americans about how much humans can do about it**. Just 19% said humans can stop rising temperatures and the associated impacts, with nearly half thinking it possible to slow but not stop the changes and 23% refusing to believe humans can do anything at all.