

OSSTF DISTRICT 10

MP Candidate Questionnaire

Q1: If elected as Member of Parliament, identify your top three (3) priorities and explain their importance.

A1: 1. Affordability - It is getting harder for those in our community to afford to thrive. We plan on implementing strategies, such as pharmacare that allow Canadians not to have to worry about some of the rising costs in life and focus on the things that are important to them.

2. Climate Crisis - The future of the planet relies on our ability to face the climate crisis. For Sarnia-Lambton this means more than consumer changes, but also investing in the Green Economy and the transition of jobs from the fossil fuel industry to green alternatives, including a focus on transitioning skills to the new industry as well as more accessible job training for life long education to upgrade skills to fit into the new economy.

3. Opioid Crisis - The opioid crisis is affecting a huge amount of members of our community and it is time for a compassionate solution to the issue. We believe that a sustainable solution includes addressing the root causes of addiction problems, removing the stigma and holding those fueling the crisis to account.

Q2: Mental health is a growing concern across Canada. What would you do differently to make sure there is adequate funding to address the crisis of children and youth mental health across this country?

A2: Mental health has a huge impact on the youth in our community. Mental health care should be available at no cost for those who need it and we at the NDP are working towards that. More accessibility to mental health services by eliminating cost. We also plan on developing a mental health strategy that will work to ensure every community has access to services that they need.

Q3: Will your government continue to increase broadband development and implementation to ensure there is equity of access for all school boards across the country?

A3: Yes. We are committed to expanding cell coverage and delivering reliable, affordable broadband internet to our community as it is vital to the future of Sarnia Lambton.

Q4: What kinds of support, staff, and programming do you feel are essential to meet the needs of children with special needs? What steps would you take to ensure these supports are provided?

A4: We need to make sure that we keep educational assistants in the classroom guaranteeing that students have the one-on-one support they need to succeed. We'd like to engage the stakeholders, such as, students, parents/guardians, support staff, principals, to ensure that we address all needs in the community. The federal New Democrats will also implement, after consultation with Canadians, a national Autism strategy that will coordinate support for research, ensure access to needs-based services (including in schools), promote employment and much more.

Q5: How would you and your party work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples in Canada toward the full and effective implementation of the Calls to Action of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission? What place do you see this having in public education?

A5: Our party will work closely with those in the indigenous community to effectively implementing the Calls to Action, including allowing indigenous communities to do the leading. Public education is involved in many ways in this process, first by closing the education gaps many indigenous peoples face by implementing equitable access to education, backed by federal investments and infrastructure, so no student will be forced to learn in dangerous environments as we have witnessed in Kashechewan First Nation. Secondly, we will also work with the provinces to establish Indigenous history education programs for all Canadians, based on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action 62 and 63.

Adam Kilner, NDP Candidate for Sarnia-Lambton



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