

# **OSSTF District 10**

## ***MP Candidate Questionnaire***

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

A1: If offered the privilege of serving Lambton-Kent-Middlesex as your Member of Parliament, I would prioritize **(1) Strong action to combat and prepare for climate change, (2) building strong relations with Indigenous Peoples and (3) supporting farmers and municipalities to ensure that we have the infrastructure we need to prosper and grow.** Climate change will be the defining issue of the next generation and we need to take action now to ensure we are doing what we can to prepare for the future and limit our greenhouse gas emissions. All of Lambton-Kent-Middlesex benefits when First Nations are actively engaged as partners in community development and I will work hard to support collaboration and community cooperation. Lastly, as a rural riding we need to ensure that we have well maintained infrastructure and access to broadband internet to build our economy and strengthen our communities. I will be a champion for local infrastructure needs to ensure that Lambton-Kent-Middlesex continues to grow and prosper.

**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: During the last mandate, the Liberal government made significant, needed changes to Canada's health care system, with \$11 billion in new funding targeted to home care and mental health. We recognize that anxiety and depression are on the rise in Ontario youth. In consultation with provincial governments, we will set clear national standards for access to mental health services, so that young people, and all Canadians, can get access to the mental health services they need, right away. We plan to invest \$6 billion over the next 4 years to strengthen Medicare and the public health system.

**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: The Liberal Party of Canada will ensure that every Canadian has access to high-speed internet by 2030. In order to ensure that every person in Canada has access to reliable high-speed internet we will move forward with building a fully connected Canada including rural communities. This ambitious plan will help businesses grow, create new jobs and connect more people to the resources, services and information they need to build a better future. We will also work with telecom companies to reduce the cost of wireless services by 25% over the next 4 years.

**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 will double the Child Disability Benefit to support parents who care for special needs children: \$2800 in extra help, with up to \$5664 in total financial support available each year, giving more than 150,000 children and their families more money to help with the costs of care. This tax-free benefit helps parents to support children with conditions such as learning and speech disabilities, psychological disorders and autism spectrum disorder, among others.

**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: The Liberal Party of Canada has committed to the full implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We will invest in building stronger Indigenous communities and closing the gap in services, including eliminating all long-term drinking water advisories by 2021. We will also ensure the protection of Indigenous Languages through the implementation of the Indigenous Languages Act. We will establish a National Treaty Commissioner's Office in collaboration with Indigenous partners to ensure that Canada implements the spirit and intent of the Treaty relationship. Education is one of the most important factors in achieving reconciliation will work with educators to ensure that they have the tools they need to strengthen knowledge and understanding of the unique circumstances and contributions of Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

Jesse McCormick  
Your local Liberal Candidate  
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex



OSSTF/FEESO  
District 10