

# OSSTF DISTRICT 10

## *MP Candidate Questionnaire*

- Q1: If elected as Member of Parliament, identify your top three (3) priorities and explain their importance.
- A1: First we need to deal with the climate emergency that is affecting everyone in this area. It is important to make sure that we can build an economy to deal with the flooding and the rain that is affecting farmers and residents.  
Second we need to deal with the housing crisis in our area that is creating a problem for those on a low income. This will be done with an affordable housing policy.  
Third deal with the changes necessary to create a carbon free economy that we need to stop the climate emergency. This needs to be done to stop the damage happening before it is too late.
- 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: It is important to increase funding for mental health. Also establish a national mental health strategy and a suicide prevention strategy to address the growing anxieties regarding inequality and affordability
- 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 need to increase the amount of affordable high speed internet available as it is necessary to create a future that is more energy efficient. This is especially important in rural areas like ours.
- 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 provide people trained with the latest information available to help children with special needs. I would make sure the province has the funding to provide this as it is a provincial issue.
- 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: We would implement the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as the recommendations from the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. This would be done by working in partnership with the Assembly of First Nations and providing the necessary funding.

It is necessary to educate non-Indigenous Canadians the issue of residential schools. Also on the histories, customs, traditions and cultures of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples of Turtle Island. We should also work on creating monuments to the victims.

**Mark Vercooteren Green Party Candidate for Chatham-Kent--Leamington**