

Federal Election 2015: Party Policy Comparison

ISSUES	 CHP	 Conservative	 Liberal	 NDP	 Green
Same Sex Marriage	<p>Marriage is “The voluntary union of one man and one woman, to exclusion of all others.”</p> <p>Would call a Parliamentary inquiry into the social consequences, particularly to children.</p> <p>Would repeal Bill C-38</p>	<p>Promised in the 2005-2006 campaign to defend the traditional definition of marriage: one-man-and-one-woman; broke that promise by merely asking MPs whether they wanted to re-open C-38. They said “no,” and it was dropped.</p> <p>Broke promise to defend marriage with legislation.</p>	<p>After just two weeks of sham “hearings”, the Liberal government of Paul Martin forced Bill C-38 through the House by “whipping” the Cabinet; this redefined marriage to include same-sex relationships.</p>	<p>Strongly supports same-sex “marriage”</p>	<p>Supports same-sex “marriage”</p>
Age of Consent for Sexual Intercourse	<p>Raise age of consent to 18</p>	<p>Raised age of consent to 16</p>	<p>The party has voted against raising the age of consent</p>	<p>Opposes increase to age of consent. Some advocate lowering age of consent for anal sex.</p>	<p>No policy statement found</p>
Child Pornography	<p>Would eliminate “artistic merit” defense for possession of child porn</p>	<p>Opposes “artistic merit” excuse for possession of child porn</p>	<p>Supports “artistic merit” excuse for possession of some child pornography</p>	<p>Supports “artistic merit” excuse to possess some child porn</p>	<p>No policy statement found</p>
Life Issues	<p>Amend the criminal code of Canada to protect all innocent human life from conception to natural death</p>	<p>Prime Minister Harper has said: “I will use whatever influence I have to ensure that no legislation on abortion comes into Parliament.” In an interview on CBC in January of 2011, he reiterated his firm opposition to allowing Parliament to even discuss abortion. The Conservative Party thus defends the abortion industry.</p>	<p>Liberal Party actively opposes any measures to protect the unborn... even to opposing justice for unborn victims of violence.</p> <p>Leader Justin Trudeau will not allow any Liberal MPs to vote pro-life.</p>	<p>Strongly pro-abortion.</p>	<p>Pro-abortion. Elizabeth May said, “It is vital that safe, legal abortions be available to the women of Canada – and the world.”</p>
Roxanne’s Law	<p>Supports ‘Pre-born Victims of Crime’ legislation</p>	<p>Mr. Harper and 21 Conservative Cabinet ministers voted against ‘Roxanne’s Law’. He stated, “As long as I am Prime Minister, a Conservative government will not re-open the abortion debate and any legislation regarding abortion will be defeated.”</p>	<p>Opposes any measure to limit a woman’s ‘right to choose’ including justice for unborn victims of violence.</p>	<p>Opposition to Unborn Victims of Crime law.</p>	<p>No stated policy on Unborn Victims of Crime legislation</p>

ISSUES	CHP	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green
<p>Motion 312 - A private member's motion, in 2012, calling for the re-examination of when a pre-born baby becomes a person.</p>	<p>Supports Parliamentary re-examination of when life begins, using modern knowledge of the development of a baby. CHP position: life begins at conception.</p>	<p>Prime Minister Harper opposed the motion. He did allow a free vote.</p>	<p>Liberal Party allowed a free vote but is solidly opposed to discussion that could in any way restrict access to abortion.</p>	<p>NDP allowed a free vote but the party is solidly opposed to any discussion that might affect unlimited access to abortion.</p>	<p>“The Green Party opposes any possible move by the Harper Conservatives to diminish the right of a woman to a safe, legal abortion. We fully support a woman's right to choose,” said Elizabeth May</p>
<p>Sex selective abortion Motion 408 - was deemed non-votable by a committee appointed by Mr. Harper.</p>	<p>Supports Motion 408</p>	<p>Harper spoke against Motion 408</p>	<p>Stephane Dion said in Committee, “For my party, the subject is abortion.”</p>	<p>Strongly opposed to Motion 408</p>	<p>No stated opinion found</p>
<p>Family Taxation</p>	<p>Eliminate all tax disadvantages to single-income families. Allow income-splitting. Eliminate income tax and replace with Fair Tax (national sales tax)</p>	<p>A few subsidies and programs proposed. Allowed income-splitting for seniors.</p>	<p>A few subsidies and programs proposed</p>	<p>Supports women in the workforce and disparaging of single-income families</p>	<p>No stated policy found</p>
<p>Day Care</p>	<p>A “Family Care Allowance” of \$12,000 (\$1,000 a month) for any family with children under 18 living at home if one parent stays home to raise the children. This plan would also apply to Elder care and family care for a disabled family member.</p>	<p>Pays \$1,920 annually directly to each family for care of children under 6. Families with children 6-18 years will receive \$720 per year.</p>	<p>Advocates government-funded institutional national day care plan similar to Quebec's, estimated at \$5-15 billion of new taxes. (Quebec's plan cost taxpayers 33 times what was predicted.) Short-term family care offset for income loss. They would scrap the Universal Child Care benefit and start the Canada Child Tax Benefit. This would give up to \$5400 to a low income family, earning less than \$150,000 with one child under 6.</p>	<p>Advocates government-funded institutional national day care plan. Promise \$15 per day toward 370,000 additional day care spaces</p>	<p>They would incorporate workplace childcare by offering a tax break for employers who offer daycare spaces.</p>
<p>Health Care</p>	<p>Stronger focus on preventative health care Retain single gov't payer plan but open competition for delivery of services. Eliminate funding for abortion and destructive lifestyles. Fund redesign of hospitals to current state of the art single room facilities to reduce hospital induced infections and deaths.</p>	<p>Wants to return more responsibility for health care to provinces; failed attempts to seriously reduce waiting times</p>	<p>Strong support for state-monopoly on health care delivery</p>	<p>Strong support for state-monopoly on health care delivery</p>	

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Accountable Government	Strengthen powers and independence of Auditor-General and other gov't watchdogs	Passed the Accountability Act. Broke 13 promises in their "Accountability Act" so far.	Chretien and Martin gov'ts produced crisis of confidence in federal gov't integrity		
Guns, Gun Registry and Crime	Opposed the long-gun registry; calls for increased mandatory penalties for the criminal use of firearms. Supports the rights of citizens to protect themselves and their families. Supports restitution for crimes.	Repealed long-gun registry legislation; increase penalties around criminal use of firearms; put more officers on the street	Strong advocates of gun control.	Strong advocates of gun control	
Environment	Focus on real pollution; air, water, and soil. Considers water vapour and CO2 beneficial to life and agriculture. Opposes "climate geoengineering" radical green agenda, which would lead to "global dimming". Also concerned about the moral environment.	Advocates expensive and inefficient carbon "capture and storage" implemented various pollution and chemical regulations in last Parliament	"Green Shift" and Kyoto-type plans; advocates a 'carbon tax' on fossil fuel use, which would increase the cost of everything that is moved to market.	Advocates Cap-and-Trade and Carbon credits market. Opposes further development of Oilsands	Advocates Cap-and-Trade and Carbon credits market. Opposes further development of Oilsands
Taxation	Eliminate Income tax and replace with a "Fair Tax" on consumer items.	Lower corporate taxes. Targeted tax cuts and credits.	Would raise corporate taxes.	Would raise corporate taxes. Targeted tax cuts and credits.	Would raise corporate taxes. Targeted tax cuts and credits.
Defence of the Constitution	Restrain judicial activism, affirm Preamble of the Constitution	Ignores Preamble of the Constitution; Has failed to use the Notwithstanding Clause to defend human life	Ambivalent at best to judicial activism; ignore Preamble of the Constitution	Ambivalent at best to judicial activism; ignore Preamble of the Constitution	No stated policy
Public funding of political parties	Opposes the concept; if public funding continues, it should not unfairly benefit the largest parties	Receives the largest amount of taxpayer money	Endorses the concept	Endorses the concept	Has benefited from the per-vote subsidy, which has now been phased out