



Liberal Party of Canada

Proposed 2023 Policy Resolutions



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Note: The following policy resolutions are presented as submitted by Provincial/Territorial Boards, Liberal Party Commissions, and the Liberal Caucus. Registered Liberals from across the country have prioritized the following 20 resolutions through a national online voting and discussion process, and the resolutions below will be presented at the National Convention. **A resolution is not considered a policy of the party unless it has earned majority support as a priority at a national convention.**

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Invest in Innovative Healthcare Systems

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Prince Edward Island)

WHEREAS 4.6 million Canadians in 2019 did not have a family physician;

WHEREAS since COVID-19, family doctors are experiencing increased mental strain;

WHEREAS family doctors are choosing to leave their practice or the medical industry;

WHEREAS medical graduates choosing family medicine has dropped from 38.5% to 31.8% from 2015-2021;

WHEREAS when patients cannot access a family physician, they have to turn to emergency rooms, overwhelming the system;

WHEREAS innovative, automated health technology and best practices could reduce this burden;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Canadian Government to:

- increase funding and work with the provinces and territories to improve access to existing health software and hardware;
- fund new innovative technologies that reduce the burden on family physicians;
- support pilot projects in each province to test innovative systems or best management practices to improve access and service;
- provide a natural licensure system to improve mobility and sharing of expertise;
- fund the development of collaborative health teams for patients with technology to direct them to the best health care provider for their current needs.

Modernization of the *Canada Health Act* to Increase Primary Healthcare for All Canadians

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Saskatchewan)

Endorser: National Women's Liberal Commission

WHEREAS The *Canada Health Act* is intended to “establish criteria and conditions in respect of insured health services and extended health care services provided under provincial law that must be met before a full cash contribution may be made,” and “insured health services means hospital services, physician services and surgical-dental services provided to insured persons,”

WHEREAS Canada is experiencing a deficit of physicians who wish to practice in the role of a Primary Health Care physician (Family Physician), and fewer medical students opting for family practice residency. In Ontario alone 1 million residences can not find a family doctor and 1.7 million will see their family physician retire by 2025.

WHEREAS Nurse Practitioners can provide primary healthcare services to Canadians but are not included as an insured service as per the *Canada Health Act*. They are included in hospital services, thereby limiting their ability to autonomously provide primary health care where there is a need.

WHEREAS Nurse Practitioners have the scope of practice to provide 85% of the same level of primary health care as that of what is seen in a family physician office daily.

WHEREAS Nurse Practitioner annual salary is approximately half of what the average family physician annual income.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to modernize the *Canada Health Act* and include Nurse Practitioners as an insured service.

Primary Health Care Availability

Sponsor: Senior Liberals' Commission and Liberal Party of Canada (British Columbia)

Endorser: Liberal Party of Canada (Ontario)

Whereas millions of Canadians lack access to primary health care and are forced to hospital emergency rooms for basic help.

Whereas Canada lags peers badly in qualifying new primary health care providers.

Whereas there is a significant backlog of foreign trained health care professional already in Canada cannot get into qualification programs.

Whereas there are insufficient qualified health care professionals to meet existing, let alone expanding needs, and this is now a National crisis.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to provide National leadership in the immediate term by tying Canada Health Transfers to:

- Annual Public reporting by provinces/territories on how their Healthcare dollars are spent.
- Setting benchmarks for the retention and hiring of domestic and foreign-trained Nurses, Physicians, Personal Support and other healthcare workers.
- Outcome public reporting for specific agreed reforms/goals where the government of Canada is providing additional funds.
- Take immediate steps to fund and significantly increase the number of qualification residencies with the bulk of those increased qualification residencies aimed at primary health care.

- Take immediate steps to fund, streamline and/or shorten processes, and increase the capacities to qualify foreign trained professionals on an expedited basis, with an emphasis on primary health care.
 - Take immediate steps to significantly increase the number of nursing graduates and very significantly increase the numbers of nurse practitioners available.
 - Negotiate harmonized standards of qualification for health care professionals in the long term to maximize workforce mobility.
 - Have the Government of Canada demonstrate leadership in coordinating and supporting the creation of a Pan-Canadian Health Human Resources Strategy.
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Tax Haven Loopholes

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (New Brunswick)

Endorser: National Women's Liberal Commission

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic significantly increases the economic and social inequalities among Canadians;

WHEREAS Canadians are facing a tremendous wealth inequality in the increasing compensation gap between the wealth holders and workers across the country;

WHEREAS Canadians pay their fair share of taxes every year, while the ultra-rich and affluent billionaires circumvent paying their fair share;

WHEREAS tax loopholes and offshore tax havens benefit only the ultra-rich Canadians and corporations;

WHEREAS recovering the billions of tax dollars lost every year to these loopholes and offshore tax havens would greatly benefit every Canadian by increasing or creating new Government services and investing in historically underserved communities;

BE IT RESOLVED the Liberal Party of Canada ensures that the Government work with international partners to implement a global minimum tax, in order for multinational corporations to not avoid the taxes they owe in Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Liberal Party of Canada take actions to close tax havens and loopholes, and ensure the ultra-rich and their corporations pay their fair share.

Installing Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income (GLBI)

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Manitoba)

Whereas technology and automation have contributed to job displacement and are shown as main contributors to wage stagnation and to the steadily declining share of Canadian workers' income over the last 40 years, with nearly half (42%) of Canadian jobs at high risk of automation in the coming years;

Whereas GLBI can grow Canada's economy more than it costs while ending poverty and increase entrepreneurship by giving everyone the ability to take risks whilst also significantly improving health and educational outcomes;

Whereas conclusions from basic income pilots conducted in Manitoba, Ontario and British Columbia report communities at risk (including Indigenous Peoples and disabled Canadians) were financially secure, those in Japan, showed interest in starting a business increased by 3.9 times, and in South Korea, results showed a 45% increase in local business revenue;

Whereas 60% of Canadians want GLBI over Universal Basic Income;

Be it resolved that a Liberal Federal Government will demand a new "Distributional Fiscal Analysis of a National Guaranteed Basic Income" posted by the Parliamentary Budget Office on April 7th, 2021 with following additions to be completed within the first 90 days of forming government:

- 1) Age of 17 included.
- 2) Scenarios 1, 2 and 3 included not just 1.
- 3) Adjusted for inflation.
- 4) Include the Territories, Reserves and Temporary Workers

Be it further resolved that within 30 days of completed report from PBO, Federal Liberal Government will conduct 270 days of consultations with stakeholders and Canadians then to transition into a Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income bill within 90 days after the consultation period expires.

Transitional Professional Development (TPD) Program

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Alberta)

WHEREAS Canada's commitment to net zero emission by 2050 would incur job insecurity for the workforce trained in traditional energy technologies (oil and gas) as a result of regulations designed to accelerate the transition to green energy;

WHEREAS energy sector companies would be more inclined to hire a new workforce specifically qualified in renewable technologies such as fuel cells, fusion and solar energy instead of retraining its existing employees, resulting in layoffs, rationalized as a necessity for the transition;

WHEREAS existing retraining programs such as EDGE UP do not serve to promote retention of employment for existing oil and gas workers, instead they focus on retraining post-layoff oil and gas workers for jobs in other fields;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) urge the Government of Canada to introduce transitional professional development (TPD) programs for oil and gas sector employees to provision their retraining through this transitional period and resulting in job security leading to a successful transition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to mandate that TPD programs are offered by the employer via a third party.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to incentivize or subsidize TPD programs through the net-zero accelerator fund.

Lifting Canadian Seniors Out of Poverty

Sponsor: Senior Liberals' Commission

WHEREAS:

- According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), approximately 12% of Canadian seniors live in poverty, the vast majority of whom are women (70%), who were unable to contribute to the Canadian or Quebec pension plans because they "worked" at home, raising their children;
- The current maximum federal Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) of \$995.99 a month keeps the income of seniors who are solely dependent on the GIS and Old Age Security below the federally defined low income poverty line.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urges the Government of Canada to increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) to a level that lifts all Canadian seniors out of poverty.

Fairer Access to Telecommunications Infrastructure

Sponsor: Young Liberals of Canada

Endorser: National Women's Liberal Commission

Whereas a 2017 OECD report found that the cost of 2 GB of mobile data in Canada was 85% higher than the average of the 35 member countries analyzed and ranked third-most expensive;

Whereas most cell towers in Canada are owned by large carriers, granting the competitive advantage of being able to create barriers for smaller rivals needing infrastructure to operate on;

Whereas past attempts to foster domestic competition failed, with mobile virtual network operators (MVNOs) lacking infrastructure access and new carriers being the target of acquisitions;

Whereas international carriers capable of offering Canadians more choices are driven out by accusations of preferential treatment if allowed to use infrastructure developed by incumbents;

Whereas provinces with a Crown corporation owning most of the infrastructure (Saskatchewan) or many private carriers competing (Quebec) enjoy lower fees than the national average; and

Whereas carriers operating on leases from independent tower companies is a growing trend in Europe, and this separation allows more efficient infrastructure deployment and increased competition;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the provinces to establish Crown corporations modeled on SaskTel to acquire existing infrastructure and provide Canadians with more affordable public options and allow independent tower companies to construct and lease telecom infrastructure rather than large carriers to create a fairer environment for MVNOs going forward; and

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to welcome international carriers, and adapt the 10% market share cap in the Telecommunications Act and tools in the Investment Canada Act while preserving national security.

A Windsor-Quebec City High Speed Rail Link

Sponsor: Young Liberals of Canada

Whereas the Covid-19 pandemic, worsening climate change and recent global events have rendered urgent the need for Canada to switch away from polluting forms of travel leaving Canadians exposed to the need for expensive and unreliable Oil and Gas products;

Whereas Electric High Speed Rail has proven itself an effective and efficient method of transportation, cheaper, more rapid, and less polluting than cars, buses or aircraft for most trips;

Whereas High Speed Rail can most efficiently connect Canada's large urban centers in the Windsor-Quebec City Corridor while responding to concerns about unreasonably long travel times between Canadian cities;

Whereas High-speed train-based public transit can reduce congestion on major arteries such as the 401, eliminate the need for the construction of new highways such as the planned 413, and rapidly connect and revitalize downtown cores;

Whereas the Windsor-Quebec City corridor offers one of the best opportunities for a high-speed rail line on the continent;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to begin the processes required for the planning and construction of a new, distinct Electric High-Speed Rail line, with an initial development spanning the Windsor to Quebec City corridor and ensure the chosen option is capable of efficiently competing with air and road travel.

Sustainable Coastal Communities Initiative

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Nova Scotia)

WHEREAS Canada has the longest coastline in the world with over 7 million people living in coastal communities.

WHEREAS coastal communities are seriously affected by environmental changes, sea level rise, ocean warming, and marine pollution, affecting marine resource distribution and economic viability.

WHEREAS increasing coastal erosion is degrading human habitations and infrastructure.

WHEREAS coastal communities have decreasing populations, as people leave from loss of economic opportunities, threatening Canada's cultural and social fabric.

WHEREAS many coastal communities cannot access integral services due to closures and over concentration in larger urban centres.

WHEREAS Canada's international promises to create additional marine protected areas directly affect coastal community livelihood and viability.

WHEREAS Coastal communities provide unique critical cultural, social and economic assets.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Canadian Government to undertake a comprehensive review of Canada's coastal communities with:

- a. Consultations with coastal communities on sustainability and critical services access,
- b. Identification of environmental threats,
- c. Identification of vulnerable coastlines and infrastructure,
- d. Identification of changing marine resource stocks, and the impact on local economies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to develop policies and Action plan to:

- a. Identify and support programs to strengthen and protect Canada's coastal communities from degradation.
- b. Implement cooperative coastal community planning and infrastructure development plans in partnership with provinces and territories.
- c. In cooperation with coastal communities, develop programs for coastal environmental monitoring and stewardship.
- d. Develop a national strategy for delivering critical services to coastal communities and promote sustainable coastal community economic development.
- e. Encourage new Canadians to settle in coastal communities.

Creating Livable, Walkable Cities to Fight Climate Change

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Ontario)

Whereas studies have shown that making cities more walkable and bikeable improves residents' health and quality of life, decreases cost of living, and allows for cities to more effectively meet emission reduction goals;

Whereas across the world countries are attempting to make their cities more walkable and bikeable in an effort to achieve the benefits mentioned;

Whereas in order to remain economically, socially, and culturally competitive with the rest of the world, the Government of Canada must incentivize cities to enact policies that make their communities more walkable and bikeable;

Whereas cities often face the perception that prioritizing active transportation and greening in commercial areas will have a negative financial impacts on businesses;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada will urge the Government of Canada to create a fund that will cover the costs to incentivize the closure of major commercial streets to car traffic and test the scalability of such projects across cities in Canada.

Canadian Wastewater Resolution

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Nova Scotia)

Endorser: National Women's Liberal Commission

WHEREAS wastewater is Canada's largest source of water pollution, with over 150 billion liters of either undertreated or untreated wastewater entering the environment yearly.

WHEREAS wastewater negatively impacts human, environmental, and economic health due to the presence of chemicals and toxins such as phosphorus, mercury, arsenic, and chromium. As well, bacterial contaminants like ammonia, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and covid 19 have been found in wastewater which affects aquatic habitat and species, recreational water, drinking water, and the fisheries.

WHEREAS changes in population size and density and effects on human and environmental health require continuous re-evaluation of best practices and efficiency of wastewater treatment. and environmental and human safety.

WHEREAS vast differences exist in the quality and extent of wastewater collection and treatment within water bodies including lakes/rivers/oceans are receiving wastewater that even if treated still contain some level of pollutants. Some of Canada's most famous water bodies, like Niagara Falls, are at risk. As well, collected wastewater solids and contaminants from the treatment often end up in landfills or burned, releasing further pollutants into the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide and methane.

WHEREAS Canada's Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER) has not been updated since January 2015.

BE IT RESOLVED that a review of Canada's wastewater treatment regulations be undertaken, and a revised act be introduced clarifying Canada's regulations guided by best practices and updated standards to develop, monitor, maintain, and regularly evaluate the health of Canada's water bodies while reducing pollution entering the water systems.

Human Rights

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (New Brunswick)

WHEREAS human rights are rights that we all have by virtue of our shared humanity and are an important part of the social fabric of Canadian society;

WHEREAS Canada is a signatory and has ratified various United Nations International Human Right Treaties, protocol and declarations;

WHEREAS globally, there continues to be many economic, cultural, social, and ethnic groups around the world who face persecution and oppression;

WHEREAS advocacy and diplomacy efforts on fostering and upholding human rights, democracy, and international law are among the priorities and commitments of the government of Canada's foreign policy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government to play an active role on the international stage to support refugees and advance human rights globally, by ratifying the Protocols to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government to take steps to ensure Canada is not funding the oppression of peoples through Canada's trade or overseas development assistance.

Lower the Federal Voting Age to 17 Years Old

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Alberta)

WHEREAS youth in Canada vote at lower rates than any other age group;

WHEREAS polling stations are often located at high schools, a feature that could combat some of the traditional challenges, such as accessibility, faced by potential voters;

WHEREAS in 1970, the federal voting age was lowered from 21 to 18, in a bid to increase the

voter turnout rates;

WHEREAS past LPC policy proposals lowering the federal voting age to 16 haven't been successful and have proven unpalatable to the general public;

WHEREAS providing greater opportunities to participate in the political process strengthens democracy;

WHEREAS voting is habit-forming and by expanding access to the ballot box, we can ensure strong civic turnouts for generations to come;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) urge the Government of Canada to amend section 3 of the Canada Elections Act to state that "Every person who is a Canadian citizen and who on polling day is 17 years of age or older is qualified as an elector."

Combating Disinformation in Canada

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (British Columbia)

Whereas the United Nations Secretary-General recognizes disinformation as an "existential risk to humanity;"

Whereas online information sources are the source of most disinformation aimed at and/or available to Canadians.

Whereas those who produce misinformation seek to undermine trust in people and institutions, including mainstream media and governments.

Whereas one recent poll found 44% Canadians believe much of the information from news organizations is false and 71% believe official government accounts of events are untrustworthy.

Whereas the demand for information 24/7 has increased the need for programming contemporaneously with the loss of advertising revenue to on-line platforms.

Whereas to reduce costs, mainstream media no longer employs as many reporters with extensive knowledge of particular subject areas, and fills content with opinion programming rather than news, and

Whereas the result has devalued mainstream media as a source of news and information.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Liberal Party of Canada:

- Request the Government provide additional public funds to support advertisement-free news and information reporting by Canadian media through an arm's-length non-partisan mechanism.

- Request the Government explore options to hold on-line information services accountable for the veracity of material published on their platforms and to limit publication only to material whose sources can be traced.
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Protecting Whistleblowers from Retaliation

Sponsor: National Women's Liberal Commission

WHEREAS whistleblowers provide defences and safeguards against political and financial wrongdoing, and limit the harm done through incompetence or corruption;

WHEREAS without robust whistleblower protection both the public and private sectors are denied information about wrongdoing such as negligence, fraud, misinformation and other misconduct;

WHEREAS most workers in Canada who reveal wrongdoing have no legal protection and are at high risk of retaliation and reprisals; 1

WHEREAS current federal legislation is ineffective and focused primarily on government employees, ignoring the private sector almost entirely;

WHEREAS non-disclosure agreements intended to protect intellectual property and trade secrets can be misused to silence victims of wrongdoing and whistleblowers;

WHEREAS among the whistleblowers who have dared to expose health, environmental, financial, surveillance and corruption scandals in Canada are several women who have paid a heavy price for their courage and integrity;

WHEREAS according to the non-profit Government Accountability Project, Canada is the only country of the 60 it evaluated that fails to meet every one of the 20 criteria used to judge protections; 2

WHEREAS the standard bearer on this issue is the 2019 European Union Whistleblower Protection Directive, which all EU member countries are required to implement;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to follow the example of the European Union Whistleblower Protection Directive by enacting legislation to protect whistleblowers that includes:

- guaranteed due process;
- legal assistance;
- protection against criminal or civil liability for breaking non-disclosure agreements and securing evidence;
- reversing the onus of proof with respect to reprisals, by requiring employers to prove that action against a whistleblower is not retaliatory.

Food Security and Agriculture Support

Sponsor: Rural Caucus

Endorser: National Women's Liberal Commission

WHEREAS we are standing at the dawn of a global food crisis provoked by a perfection storm of climate change, land degradation, water shortages, fragile global supply chains and geopolitical instability.

WHEREAS Canadian households consume 75% of agriculture and food products from imports, mainly from the United States Southwest region which is at severe risk of increased water constraints and droughts.

WHEREAS while the US, EU and OECD countries are gearing up for tomorrow's food crisis by increasing agriculture supports, Canada has reduced its level of support to farmers over last two decades.

WHEREAS the new Sustainable Canadian Agriculture Partnership and its new Resilient Agriculture Landscape Program mark a positive policy shift towards increasing our direct support to farmers and sustainable agriculture.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to (1) increase direct payments to farmers (including fisheries) that provide ecological goods and services, such as ecosystem services or carbon sequestration in agricultural soils, as well as to incentivize them to adopt less resource intensive practices, and (2) orient such direct payments towards initiatives that will boost agricultural investment and innovation and enable the transfer of knowledge, technology, and skills.

Investing in Canadian Defence and Security

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Quebec)

Whereas the conflict in Ukraine rejects the beliefs underpinning the international order and flouts international laws.

Whereas since 1945, the Canadian Armed Forces have aided our allies with different operations in varying roles and responsibilities by providing aid, support and military training (such as in Operation UNIFIER around the world thanks to our forces' expertise and knowledge.

Whereas our current defence and security policy's vision was established prior to February 24, 2022.

Whereas the serious lack of new investment in the Canadian defence sector over the past decades makes facing current and future challenges more difficult.

Whereas new military technologies present a serious threat given increasingly frequent and sophisticated cyber threats and attacks.

Whereas Canadian security and prosperity remain Canada's primary strategic interests.

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to:

- Increase its defence budget to 32 billion dollars and massively invest in renovating NORAD infrastructure.
 - Establish and invest in private industry and university partnerships to adapt and modernize Canada's academic defence and security programs via innovations.
 - Modernize and adapt its defence and security strategy and policy by accounting for recent events and threats in the northern regions and on the international stage.
 - Invest in and strengthen Canadian defence and security in the Pacific Ocean and the Great North.
 - Inspire young people to view the army as an innovative, inclusive workplace where they can pursue a specialized, multidisciplinary career.
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Fixing the Labour Shortage and the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Sponsor: Rural Caucus

WHEREAS Canada's demographic profile – with an aging population – means that labor shortage is likely to take root. The alarm bell is already ringing. According to Statistics Canada, over the past decade the working-age population – aged 20 to 64 – has increased by 8% in the country, while those aged 65 and over have jumped by 42.3%! Additionally, more than 1 in 5 (21.8%) persons in the labour force are aged 55 to 64 and are likely to retire soon.

WHEREAS confronted by a current labor shortage and a wave of retirements over the upcoming decade, Canadian employers need to brace themselves.

WHEREAS the government does have one tool to combat this labor shortage: the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. For this tool to prove effective, the government needs to streamline the application process for Canadian employers to fill labour shortages.

WHEREAS the House of Commons Committee on Immigration has made several recommendations to improve the program, such as allowing all work permits to last three years and all foreign workers to temporarily return home.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to streamline the Temporary Foreign Worker Program process to better fit the needs of Canadian business and foreign workers and fill labour shortages, including creating a Trusted Employer System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to strategically leverage our successful immigration pilot programs, such as the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot and the Atlantic Immigration Pilot and move forward on the Municipal Nominee Program.

Energy Export Strategy for NATO

Sponsor: Liberal Party of Canada (Saskatchewan)

WHEREAS Canada is a global defender of democratic values, economic freedom, equality, and self-determination;

WHEREAS Russia's reckless and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine offends all of those values;

WHEREAS Canada is working steadfastly with our allies in NATO to provide military and financial support to Ukraine;

WHEREAS Russia is seeking to reduce NATO resolve in Europe by cutting off supplies of energy to our allies;

WHEREAS Germany and our other NATO allies are working to reduce dependence on Russian energy;

WHEREAS Canada is able to expand its ability to provide our European NATO allies with energy in the form of liquified natural gas, alongside exports of renewable energy sources and liquified hydrogen;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada will develop a policy framework to expeditiously build critical infrastructure to enable Canada to export energy to our NATO allies.