

2019 Federal Election: Science Policy Questionnaire

We invite leadership candidates to respond to the following questions to demonstrate to Canadians how they will advance science and the use of evidence in government decision-making.

Question 1: Evidence-informed decision-making

- a) What do you see as the value of scientific evidence in informing decision-making at the federal level in Canada?
- b) If you are elected, how will you ensure government decisions are based on the best available evidence?

Question 2: Capacity for Federal Science

- a) Do you believe that current levels of federal support for public science are sufficient to meet the federal government's responsibilities?
- b) If not, what will you do to increase public science capacity at the federal level?

Question 3: Encouraging investment in scientific research and development

- a) Do you believe that investment by Canada's private sector in scientific research and development is sufficient?
- b) If not, what would you do to increase it?
- c) Do you think there is sufficient federal support for scientific trainees in Canada (e.g. Master's, Doctoral and Postdoctoral trainees?)
- d) If not, how do you plan to support scientific trainees?

Question 4: Openness and transparency in federal processes

- a) Federal [Scientific Integrity Policies](#) have been recently implemented to ensure federal scientists can talk freely about their work to the public. What, if any, are your plans to implement and monitor adherence to these policies?
- b) Are you in support of increased transparency around sharing of evidence used to inform policy decisions?
- c) If so, how will you increase openness and transparency?
- d) What are your perspectives on open data and open science?

Question 5: Government science advice

- a) Canada currently has a Chief Science Advisor and a number of Departmental Science Advisors. Do you commit to continuing the role of Chief Science Advisor (CSA)?
- b) If so, what role do you foresee science advisors and science advisory structures playing in your government?

Question 6: National Science and Technology (S&T) Policy

- What do you believe is the most important science and technology issue facing Canada at this time?
- Do you believe that Canada needs a new or updated national S&T policy?
- If so, how will you go about developing and implementing one?

Question 7: Our Changing Climate

- Do you consider climate change an emergency?
- Canada's climate is changing at a higher rate than the rest of the world. What are your plans to respond to Canada's changing climate?
- Canada no longer has a dedicated funding stream for climate and atmospheric science. What is your plan to ensure we have the climate science necessary to make informed policy decisions?

*The Questionnaire has been distributed by Evidence for Democracy as a part of the **Vote Science** campaign. Responses can be sent to Kimberly Girling, Research and Policy Director at Evidence for Democracy:*

Kimberly@evidencefordemocracy.ca

Please provide input by October 9th 2019

Questionnaire Supporters



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