About this guide

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This survey was spearheaded by Transition Kamloops as a riding-specific information tool for voters in Kamloops—Thompson—Nicola and Kamloops—Shuswap—Central Rockies.

Questions were developed collaboratively with ten allied organizations: Armstrong Spallumcheen Climate Action, Chase and Area Farmers Institute, Chase Environmental Action Society, Kamloops Food Policy Council, Kamloops Naturalist Club, Palestine Solidarity Kamloops, Propolis Housing Cooperative, Shuswap Climate Action Society, Shuswap Food Action Society, and Speak Up Self-Advocacy Awareness Society. Collectively, our supporters number in the thousands across both ridings.

Which riding are you in?

Riding boundaries have changed since the last election. Make sure you know which riding you're in! Just pop your postal code into the <u>Election Canada tool</u>. There is a lot of other info there as well, including advance voting dates and times, as well as polling locations.

If you are interested in reading the responses from candidates in Kamloops—Shuswap—Central Rockies, please click <u>here</u>.

Candidate list for Kamloops—Thompson—Nicola

Frank Caputo (Conservative Party of Canada)
lain Currie (Liberal Party of Canada)
Chris Enns (People's Party of Canada)
Miguel Godau (New Democratic Party)
Jenna Lindley (Green Party of Canada)

Conservative candidate Frank Caputo (the current incumbent MP) and Green candidate Jenna Lindley did not provide survey responses, despite multiple reminders over the period of a week. Thus, this tool lists only the responses of Iain Currie (Liberal), Chris Enns (PPC), and Miguel Godau (NDP), and provides the voting record of the incumbent, Frank Caputo (CPC).

We encourage voters and organizations to follow up directly with the candidates who have not responded via their publicly-listed contact information.

- Frank Caputo (Conservative): votefrankcaputo@gmail.com
- Jenna Lindley (Green): greenteam@greenparty.ca

The main Election Day is April 28th. Please get out and vote!

Q1 Building Performance

Question 1: Most of the 619 people who died in BC during the 2021 heat dome were elderly and low-income tenants living in homes that lacked cooling systems. Buildings are not only a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, but also critical to public safety in a changing climate. What will your party do to improve the energy performance and climate resilience of the existing building stock, to both reduce emissions and protect people during extreme weather?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Opposition Motion (Bloc Quebecois) (Climate change) That the House: (a) stand in solidarity with and express its support for all those affected by the current forest fires; (b) acknowledge that climate change is having a direct impact on people's quality of life, and that it is exacerbating the frequency and scale of extreme weather and climate events (floods, tornadoes, forest fires, heat waves, etc.); (c) recognize that the federal government must do more to combat climate change, prevent its impacts and support communities affected by natural disasters; (d) call on the federal government to invest more in the fight against climate change, which is at risk of becoming increasingly expensive for both the public and the environment; and (e) demand that the federal government stop investing in fossil fuels and develop incentives, while respecting the jurisdictions of Quebec and the provinces, to promote the use of renewable energy and public transit. Vote #368 — Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): Mark Carney's Liberals have committed to funding home retrofits and lowering utility bills while making it easier for low- and middle-income households, including renters to adopt heat pumps and energy efficiency upgrades including insulation upgrades, heat pump installation and window replacements.

Chris Enns (PPC): Housing should have cooling systems. No Canadian should be dying from heat while inside their home. We would encourage provincial and local authorities (as this is their jurisdiction) to consider a tenancies update, which could require tenanted residential to have cooling systems. Owner-occupied housing is a separate issue and we would not force owners without tenants to purchase cooling for themselves.

Miguel Godau (NDP): The NDP response to the climate crisis involves major investment in climate adaptation and disaster preparedness, including retrofitting of existing building stock, building energy efficient affordable new homes, all of which will protect people during extreme weather and rebuild after climate disasters. We'll also develop a national climate disaster insurance program for high-risk properties and for damage not covered by private insurers.

Q2 Inclusion

Question 2: What specific policies would you support to allow individuals with diverse abilities to live in dignity, including increased employment opportunities and increased access to safe, affordable housing?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Bill C-64 – Pharmacare Act (Vote #794) – Opposed

Bill C-223 – Guaranteed Livable Basic Income (Vote #859) – Opposed

Bill C-22 Canada Disability Benefit Act (Vote #250) — Supported

Opposition Motion-NDP Cost of living relief for Canadians (<u>Vote #914</u>)— Opposed Bill C-31 — An Act respecting cost of living relief measures related to dental care and rental housing. Short title: Cost of Living Relief Act, No. 2 (Targeted Support for Households) (<u>Vote #205</u>) — Opposed

Opposition Motion-NDP (<u>Vote #39</u>) – Measures to help Canadians with the cost of living – Opposed

Bill C-78 – An Act respecting temporary cost of living relief (affordability) Short title: Tax Break for All Canadians Act (Vote #904) – Opposed

Opposition Motion-NDP (Reducing home heating costs) (Vote #447) — Opposed

Opposition Motion-NDP (Measures to lower food prices) (Vote #798)- Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): One of the key planks in our new Liberal strategy for Canada is making housing more affordable. This includes actually building housing as well as partnering with Indigenous communities, provinces, territories and developers. Specifically, we are committed to doubling the pace of new housing construction over 10 years; facilitating conversion of existing structures into affordable housing; and reintroducing the Multiple Unit Rental Building cost allowance.

Chris Enns (PPC): Supporting all Canadians regardless of their diverse abilities and individual restrictions is paramount. We will prioritize Canadian employment, and work to phase out temporary foreign labour. Many of those jobs could be filled by individuals with diverse abilities but employers are receiving a federal subsidy to hire foreign labour. This practice must end.

Miguel Godau (NDP): Canadians living with diverse abilities face barriers in their everyday lives — whether it's when looking for work, making ends meet or getting the care they need. The NDP pushed the Liberals to include income support to lift people with diverse abilities out of

poverty. We believe no one should have to make impossible choices because they can't afford to live.

Q3 Fossil Fuels

Question 3: There is now research suggesting that natural gas (methane) can emit as many GHGs as burning coal, and that liquefied natural gas (LNG) can emit 33% more than coal. These emissions, along with the environmental damage caused by fracking, indicate that these are not suitable bridge fuels. What policies, if any, would you put in place to end our reliance on fossil fuels and reduce Canada's carbon emissions by half by 2030, and reach net-zero by 2050?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Opposition Motion NDP – (subsidies for the oil and gas sector) (Bill would reduce subsidies) Vote #99) – Opposed

Bill C-234 – Amend the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act (federal carbon tax exemption for on-farm use of fossil fuels) aimed to exempt natural gas and propane use for on-farm activities, such as grain drying and barn heating, from the federal carbon tax (<u>Vote #289</u>) – Supported

Carbon Tax Opposition Motions – CPC-led motions to repeal/reduce carbon tax (<u>Votes #176</u>, #238, #253, #345, #416, #441, #481) – Supported

Bill C-235 – Building a green economy in the Prairies (Vote #236) – Opposed

Bill C-50 – Net-zero economy jobs strategy (Vote #738) – Opposed

Opposition Motion (Bloc Quebecois) (Climate change) That the House: (a) stand in solidarity with and express its support for all those affected by the current forest fires; (b) acknowledge that climate change is having a direct impact on people's quality of life, and that it is exacerbating the frequency and scale of extreme weather and climate events (floods, tornadoes, forest fires, heat waves, etc.); (c) recognize that the federal government must do more to combat climate change, prevent its impacts and support communities affected by natural disasters; (d) call on the federal government to invest more in the fight against climate change, which is at risk of becoming increasingly expensive for both the public and the environment; and (e) demand that the federal government stop investing in fossil fuels and develop incentives, while respecting the jurisdictions of Quebec and the provinces, to promote the use of renewable energy and public transit. Vote #368 - Opposed

Bill C-380, An Act to amend the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (Plastic manufactured items) CPC (the motion to reverse the ban on single use plastics) (<u>Vote #909</u>) — Supported

Bill C-375, CPC Motion: <u>An Act to amend the Impact Assessment Act</u> (federal-provincial agreements). Second reading and referral to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development. (This Bill would exempt some projects from the Environmental Assessment Act) – Supported

C-49, An Act to amend the Canada—Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Act and the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act – (<u>Gov't motion</u> to support and regulate further development of offshore energy) – (Vote #788) – Opposed

Bill C-57

Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, 2023 (<u>Vote #627</u>) (objected to carbon tax reference) – Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): We have to take a measured approach to reaching net zero. That means working with the oil and gas sector to reduce their emissions in a cost effective and efficient manner and remain cost competitive over the long-term; and investing in clean energy to reduce our reliance on other sources.

Chris Enns (PPC): Humans are a minor player in climate change, but a major player in environmental damage. For example, the mining of 'green' battery-minerals consume and contaminate water, land, and ecosystems. We will prioritize implementing practical solutions to make Canada's air, water and soil cleaner, including bringing clean drinking water to remote First Nations communities. In addition, we will withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord and abandon unrealistic greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Miguel Godau (NDP): Human-caused climate change is real - we've had massive wildfires, floods, heat domes. The Conservatives reject climate science, Carney is backtracking and the Liberals have failed to meet a single GHG reduction target. We'll take strong action on the climate crisis plan that regulates and seeks compensation from harmful impacts of fracking, safeguards jobs, lowers bills, and builds a better future, keeping the industrial carbon price, eliminating oil/gas subsidies, reinvesting billions into a national retrofit plan—lowering energy costs for millions of families.

Q4 Farming & Food Security

Question 4: The high price of farmland makes it unaffordable for farmers. Droughts, floods, extreme weather, and fire make food production increasingly challenging. How would your government incentivize, diversify, and enhance the domestic agrifood sector in Canada (including small- and mid-scale producers) in order to enhance food security?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Bill C-234, titled An Act to amend the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, aimed to exempt natural gas and propane used for on-farm activities, such as grain drying and barn heating, from the federal carbon tax. (Vote #289) — Supported

M-110 (National strategy to reduce food waste and combat food insecurity) – Food waste and insecurity strategy – Opposed (<u>Vote #860</u>)

Bill C-317 – Flood and drought forecasting (Vote #801) – Supported

Bill C-322 – National school food program (Vote #478) – Opposed

Bill C-252 – Prohibit food/beverage marketing to children (Vote #429) – Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): We've committed to: • Increase support for ranchers, farmers and producers to access new markets with an additional \$30 million in the AgriMarketing Program • Protect and support Canadian agri-food industry with a \$200 million Domestic Food Processing • Fund protection for farmers under the AgriStability Program increasing from \$3 to \$6 million

Chris Enns (PPC): I was working on a food quality and security policy prior to the election. I would seriously consider the halt of land sales to non-Canadian entities. This will bring prices down, and ultimately land ownership is a sovereignty issue. I would also explore and invest in year-round agriculture. Greenhouses are a way to extend the growing season significantly. Further, I would stop subsidizing commodity crops like canola and find ways to incentivize farmers back to growing healthy food products.

Miguel Godau (NDP): The NDP will work on a climate change plan with farmers that works for farmers. Create a Pan-Canadian Food Strategy that will make us a leader in sustainable food production. Invest in sustainability projects in farming communities to help them respond to climate change, protect biodiversity and bolster Canada's agricultural sovereignty, while enhancing our global competitiveness.

Q5 Non-Market Housing

Question 5: In the 1970s and 80s, federal investment in non-profit and co-operative housing helped build rental homes that remain persistently affordable today. The Federal Housing Advocate has called for at least 20% of Canada's rental stock to be non-market. How will your party ensure that today's housing investments create real and lasting affordability — and how will you advocate for our riding to help meet this non-market housing goal?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Opposition Motion-CPC (<u>Vote #309</u>) – Home ownership and renting affordability – Supported (Criticism: Critics argued the motion focused too heavily on deregulation and market-based solutions, neglecting affordable and non-market housing options. It was seen as adversarial toward municipalities and lacked clear support for renters or equity-focused housing policy.) Motion did not pass.

Opposition Motion-CPC (Federal sales tax on new homes)— Federal sales tax exemption for new homes under \$1M – Supported (Vote #915). Motion did not pass.

Concurrence with the <u>Fourth report</u> of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (on Housing Accelerator Fund and measures to increase housing availability) (Vote #372) - Opposed. Motion passed.

lain Currie (LPC): I am thrilled to be part of Mark Carney's Liberal Party commitment to the Build Canada Homes Program, which will restart federal homebuilding in Canada as a true partner rather than just a funder. Here at home, my focus will be to be a strong voice in government, ensuring these programs kickstart building affordable and supportive housing. I continually hear from voters that this is a priority – and it's a priority for me too.

Chris Enns (PPC): Our party is committed to reducing demand until supply can catch up. That means a moratorium on immigration while more housing is constructed. We can only build homes so fast, unless we change the definition of 'housing' to otherwise temporary structures. We must also reduce red-tape. The modern home is delayed by local planning departments. Further, new building codes require a lot more material inputs than before, and it takes more time by the labour force to install them.

Miguel Godau (NDP): Our plan doubles the Liberals with a reasonable plan to tackle the scope of the problem, replacing the Liberals temporary program with a permanent \$16 billion national housing strategy, building homes and protecting good-paying jobs. We'll also offer long-term, low-interest mortgages through CMHC reducing monthly costs and cut tens of thousands of dollars over the life of a mortgage. We'll build rent-controlled homes on public land – to help people find homes they can afford. We'll bring in national rent control: ban fixed-term leases, renovictions, and price-fixing and landlord collusion.

Q6 Indigenous Reconciliation

Question 6: This federal riding lies on unceded First Nations territories — land that was never surrendered or ceded by treaty. What specific actions has your party taken, or will it take, to advance Indigenous self-determination and land rights in the context of unceded territories like this one? How have you personally supported reconciliation and Indigenous sovereignty in your work to date?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Bill C-29 – National Council for Reconciliation Act (Vote #230) – Supported

Bill C-226 – Environmental racism and environmental justice (Vote #288) – Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): There is more to be done – both to acknowledge and right past wrongs and implement the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee, as well as to embrace the opportunities afforded to everyone if we partner government-to-government with Indigenous Nations to deliver projects and programs that advance shared economic, cultural and environmental wealth.

Chris Enns (PPC): We want a new relationship with First Nations. Specifically, we want to replace the paternalistic Indian Act, which keeps indigenous people in a state of dependency and allows the federal government to control most aspects of their lives. We also want to promote the self-reliance of First Nations communities, to explore individual property rights on reserves, and to partner with First Nations in order to progress identified economic opportunities.

Miguel Godau (NDP): New Democrats will continue to: Push for the implementation of Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Actions and MMIWG Calls for Justice. Negotiate with First Nations leaders across the country on settlements that respect all First Nations kids who need support. Work with communities to lift all long-term boil water advisories and ensure that there are jobs in communities to manage water treatment facilities. Make sure all communities trying to find truth and justice for the genocide that took place in residential schools have the supports they need.

Q7 Israel/Palestine

Question 7: Will you commit to supporting a two-way arms embargo on Israel and ending Canadian involvement in illegal Israeli settlements?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Opposition Motion - NDP, Canada's actions to promote peace in the Middle East (Vote #658) — Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): Canada does not provide arms to Israel and we are committed to maintaining that.

PPC - Chris Enns (PPC): Yes.

Miguel Godau (NDP): YES. The NDP has led the Parliamentary work on all five demands of the Vote Palestine campaign, but we have more to add. New Democrats also support sanctions on Netanyahu and his cabinet members who have enabled genocide in Gaza. We also support all ICC and ICJ investigations into war crimes and genocide and would uphold ICC warrants. New Democrats also want the safe return of all hostages, peace and justice for everyone in the region.

Q8 Ecosystem Protection

Question 8: Canada has made a commitment to protect 30% of its terrestrial land base and aquatic ecosystems by 2030. What steps will your government take to uphold this commitment?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

C-248 (Opposition Motion - NDP) – An Act to amend the Canada National Parks Act (Ojibway National Urban Park of Canada) (Vote # 305) — Supported

Bill S-5 – Canadian Environmental Protection Act - Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act (<u>Vote #338</u>) – Opposed

Bill C-33 – Strengthening the Port System and Railway Safety in Canada Act - Transportation modernization (Vote #411) – Opposed

Bill C-249, An Act respecting the encouragement of the growth of the cryptoasset sector CPC (Vote #222 - Conservative) – Supported

(Research shows that the cryptoasset sector is highly dependent on fossil fuels and has major environmental impacts on climate, water and land.)

lain Currie (LPC): Clearly, protection of land and aquatic ecosystems is fundamental to our commitment to climate resiliency. It's a complex and multi-layered approach that involves multi-disciplinary discussions and management with all levels of government, scientists, land owners, and others.

Chris Enns (PPC): This sounds nice. Biodiversity is important. However these types of agreements can erode our sovereignty. What happens when 30% is impossible for some of the smaller signatories, does Canada need to make up for them? How could this eventually affect our land use patterns, our agriculture? I'm not familiar enough with the details of the 30x30 initiative to comment further.

Miguel Godau (NDP): NDP is committed to Global Biodiversity Framework, protecting 30% of our land and oceans by 2030 because science shows that nature needs our help. Currently, our protected areas consist of 12.1 percent of the nation's landmass and freshwater is considered conservation areas, 13.8 percent of Canada's territorial waters are conserved, including 8.9 percent designated as protected areas. We'll accelerate action to meet the target while the Liberals and Conservatives just talk about more pipelines.

Q9 Transit and Active Transportation

Question 9: Roads and highways get the lion's share of infrastructure funding. What will your party do to ensure public transit and active transportation receive the federal investment needed to reduce emissions and improve access?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Opposition Motion (Bloc Quebecois) (Climate change) That the House: (a) stand in solidarity with and express its support for all those affected by the current forest fires; (b) acknowledge that climate change is having a direct impact on people's quality of life, and that it is exacerbating the frequency and scale of extreme weather and climate events (floods, tornadoes, forest fires, heat waves, etc.); (c) recognize that the federal government must do more to combat climate change, prevent its impacts and support communities affected by natural disasters; (d) call on the federal government to invest more in the fight against climate change, which is at risk of becoming increasingly expensive for both the public and the environment; and (e) demand that the federal government stop investing in fossil fuels and develop incentives, while respecting the jurisdictions of Quebec and the provinces, to promote the use of renewable energy and public transit. Vote #368 - Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): First and foremost, I think it's important to celebrate what a Liberal government has already done, which is investing in public transit at 10x of the prior Conservative government. Just this year, \$14.9 billion was invested, and the first permanent public transit fund was created.

Chris Enns (PPC): I have been a longtime supporter of mass transit and long-range rail networks. I have enjoyed their utility while travelling and living abroad in Europe and Australia respectively. Canada can do more, but it will be difficult and costly. Our topography is an issue, as are ridership estimates outside of cities. The implementation is also local/provincial jurisdiction. Ottawa can help by getting out of their way and reducing bureaucratic red tape.

Miguel Godau (NDP): The NDP believes in fare-free transit, and we'll start moving in that direction to lower commuting costs for workers. The NDP will modernize and expand public transit across Canada, with the goal of electrifying transit by 2030 to cut emissions. The NDP will be an active partner in scaling up bus and train service between communities—something rural communities and commuters both need. We will make funding for public transit permanent through the Canada Public Transit Fund available right away to support municipalities to move forward on their transit projects.

Q10 Water

Question 10: Do you commit to treating freshwater as a public trust and not allowing it to be sold or used as a bargaining chip?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic: No related items found

lain Currie (LPC): Yes

Chris Enns (PPC): Yes

Miguel Godau (NDP): YES

Q11 Electoral Reform

Question 11: The proportional electoral systems most commonly recommended for Canada would allow voters to select candidates by name (not just by party) and maintain geographic ties between MPs and their constituents. Do you support bringing in proportional representation so that the number of seats a party gets in Parliament reflects its share of the popular vote (e.g., 40% of the vote = 40% of the seats)?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

Motion M-86 – Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform (Vote #634) – Opposed

Bill C-14 – Electoral representation amendment (Time allocation for Bill C-14, An Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1867 (electoral representation) (Vote #95) – Opposed

Bill C-210 – Bill C-210 Right to Vote at 16 Act - Lowering the voting age (Vote #179) – Opposed

lain Currie (LPC): I support the idea of reforming our electoral system but I do not believe that this is an achievable goal in the short- or medium-term given our entrenched system.

Chris Enns (PPC): Yes

Miguel Godau (NDP): Yes. NDP policy supports proportional representation, the principle that the percentage of seats should reflect the percentage of votes for that party. FPTP creates false majorities, most voters don't elect anyone to represent them and it distorts results, breeding cynicism and regionalism. PR engenders party cooperation and better policy decisions. The Liberals and Conservatives break promises on electoral reform or do not support it. Our democracy and voters deserve better.

Q12 Evidence-Based Leadership

Question 12: Will you sign Evidence for Democracy's "Pledge for Evidence-Informed Leadership"?

Frank Caputo (Incumbent, CPC): DID NOT RESPOND

Voting record on items related to this topic:

2nd reading of Bill C-249, An Act respecting the encouragement of the growth of the crypto-asset sector CPC (Vote #222 - Conservative) – Supported

lain Currie (LPC): At first glance it seems entirely reasonable, but I will need to review it before signing on.

Chris Enns (PPC): I would. I agree with the pledge. However, I'm not yet sure if the organization backs scientific inquiry or sciencism.

Miguel Godau (NDP): YES