



CONSERVATIVE
Scott Anderson



NDP
Leah Ellen Main

No responses were submitted

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What concrete steps would your party take to build a more resilient Canadian food system that can withstand geopolitical impacts and climate shocks?

Canada imports over half its food supply, while exporting close to half its domestic production—sometimes importing it again as manufactured products. This interdependency leaves us vulnerable to trade wars, global supply chain disruptions, and climate-related crop failures abroad. Recently, escalating trade tensions, such as U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods and Canada’s retaliatory tariffs, have raised concerns about the affordability and availability of fruits and vegetables.



GREEN PARTY
Blair Visscher

Canada’s food system is far too dependent on global supply chains, leaving us exposed to climate disruptions and geopolitical shocks. The Green Party believes that building resilience starts with investing in local and regional food infrastructure—supporting cooperatively owned processing, storage, and distribution systems that reduce our reliance on imports and keep food production closer to home. We are committed to supporting ecological and regenerative farming practices that enhance long-term productivity while minimizing environmental harm, particularly by reducing dependence on imported chemical inputs. A shift in federal procurement policies will also ensure that public institutions prioritize Canadian-grown food, providing stable markets for local producers. At the same time, we will increase funding for agricultural research focused on climate-adaptive practices, including drought- and flood-resistant crops, water-efficient systems, and regionally appropriate seed development. The Green Party will also pursue trade reform that prioritizes domestic food security over export-driven agricultural models, ensuring Canada’s food system can weather international tensions and climate crises alike.



FOOD & AGRICULTURE: VERNON-LAKE COUNTRY-MONASHEE

What concrete steps would your party take to build a more resilient Canadian food system that can withstand geopolitical impacts and climate shocks?



LIBERAL

Anna Warwick Sears

The Liberals plan to protect and invest in Canadian agrifood workers build a stronger agrifood sector, as well as protect our freshwater resources.

- **The Liberal plan to protect Canada's Nature, Biodiversity, and Water:**
 - Protect our freshwater, including by investing \$100 million in a strategic water security technology fund to advance Canadian R&D, AI, monitoring, and data tools.
- **Liberal plan to protect Canadian agrifood workers and build a stronger agrifood sector**
 - Protect Canada's commitment to supply management and supply-managed sectors such as dairy, poultry, and eggs
 - Making permanent the doubling of the revenue protection for farmers under the AgriStability Program, from \$3 million to \$6 million per farm, in the case of significant revenue drops caused by the impacts of tariffs, extreme weather events, and other external shocks
 - Build more domestic processing capacity, including food processing capacity in rural and remote areas, with a new \$200 million Domestic Food Processing Fund, applicable to both agricultural and fisheries products. This could include processing milk into baby formula.
 - Increase support for farmers, ranchers, and producers to access new markets for their food products with an additional \$30 million in the AgriMarketing Program. This will build on recent successes, including the recent opening of new Agri-Food Offices abroad, which helps our farmers access new markets and diversify away from the United States.
 - Increase the help for farmers and ranchers to buy new, more efficient farm equipment with a \$30 million top up to the Agriculture Clean Technology Program
 - Double the loan guarantee limit, from \$500,000 to \$1 million, of the Canadian Agricultural Loans Act program and expand terms by 5-10 years.
- **Liberal initiative to remove inter-provincial trade barriers**, making it easier to trade within Canada with the other provinces.
- **Help Canadian farmers get their goods to market at low cost**, particularly in Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. We will do this by extending the Extended Railway Interswitching pilot by three years. As part of our commitment to support Canadian workers, we will explore all options to exclude non-Canadian railways from being included in this project.
- **Liberal plan to strengthen food security** by investing in greenhouses, hydroponics, and other controlled environment agriculture that allow us to grow more types of food, here at home. We will work with the private sector to protect Canadian food security.
- **Liberal plan to amend the mandates of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency** to ensure they consider food security and the cost of food in all their regulatory decisions without compromising on health and safety. Currently, these important agencies only look at their respective mandates through a health and safety lens.





FOOD & AGRICULTURE: VERNON-LAKE COUNTRY-MONASHEE

What concrete steps would your party take to build a more resilient Canadian food system that can withstand geopolitical impacts and climate shocks?

(Anna Warwick Sears, Liberal continued)

- **Liberal plan to direct the Canada Infrastructure Bank to prioritize investments in agriculture, fisheries, agri-food, and the food supply chain**, particularly those that improve food security and reduce the cost of food for Canadian families, unlocking potentially billions in investment for the sector.
- **Work with the National School Food Program and provinces and territories to prioritize the purchasing of Canadian food products as much as possible**, supporting our farmers and ensuring Canadian kids have access to local, fresh food grown and caught right here in Canada
- **Work with the Canada Food Inspection Agency to ensure mutual recognition of food safety standards with reliable trading partners**. This will cut red tape to accelerate access to new technology approvals without compromising health and safety.
- **Fishers:**
 - Invest an additional \$250 million in the repair and maintenance of small craft harbours
 - Help our fisheries respond to tariffs and reduce the risk involved in expanding to new markets
 - Protect marine life and clean up our shores
- **Provide disaster mitigation and recovery funding** where infrastructure that connects Canada is under threat. This will help communities get back on their feet after natural disasters that are increasing with climate change.
- **Deploy a made-in-Canada procurement strategy** that prioritizes, whenever possible, Canadian suppliers and supply chains, and limiting bidders from foreign suppliers to bidding only on what we have agreed to in Canada's Free Trade Agreements.



2

How will your party support communities and food insecure households so that people can access adequate, affordable, and culturally appropriate food? What tangible policies will you put in place?

Nearly 1 in 4 Canadians live in food-insecure households. Black and Indigenous families are disproportionately affected, facing food insecurity rates of 40%, a result of structural racism. Food insecurity is strongly tied to poverty, which affects all areas of a person's life and puts strain on local and national supports.



GREEN PARTY

Blair Visscher

Food insecurity in Canada is a direct result of poverty and systemic inequality, not a lack of food. The Green Party recognizes that nearly one in four Canadians—particularly Black and Indigenous communities—are being failed by a system that allows wealth gaps and discrimination to persist. To address this, we will implement a Guaranteed Livable Income to ensure that everyone has the means to afford nutritious and culturally appropriate food. We will support Indigenous food sovereignty by funding land repatriation projects, revitalizing traditional food systems, and investing in Indigenous-led food hubs and programs. Community-based initiatives such as urban agriculture, community fridges, and local food markets will receive increased support, especially in under-served neighborhoods. The Green Party also understands that food must not only be accessible, but reflect the cultural identities of the people it serves. That's why we will work with communities to expand access to culturally relevant foods and ensure these voices lead the way in shaping food policy.



LIBERAL

Anna Warwick Sears

Helping keep money in your pocket:

- Liberals will lower the lowest federal tax rate by 1%, which will save two-income families up to \$825 a year. More than 22 million Canadians will benefit directly from this tax cut, with middle and low-income Canadians benefiting the most.
- **Expanding dental care coverage to Canadians aged 18-64** to provide access to around 4.5 million Canadians saving Canadians around \$800 in dental care costs
- **Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero hunger**
 - The Liberal Government is focused on: Ensuring that Canadians have access to sufficient, affordable and nutritious food, and ensuring that Canadian agriculture is sustainable



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- **Food Policy for Canada** provides the foundation for increased integration and coordination of food-related policies and programs to make progress towards healthier and more sustainable food systems.
 - Vision: All people in Canada are able to access a sufficient amount of safe, nutritious, and culturally diverse food. Canada's food system is resilient and innovative, sustains our environment and supports our economy
- **Canadian Food Policy Advisory Council:** Reports to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and has provided advice on food system issues, including reducing food insecurity.
- **Local Food Infrastructure Fund:** Designed to support local food projects, such as those at food banks and community gardens across Canada, and provide at-risk populations, such as the less privileged and isolated communities, with improved access to healthy foods through investments in infrastructure
- **Opportunity for All – Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy:**
 - The Government of Canada will strengthen Canada's food system by working together with provinces, territories, municipalities, Indigenous partners and stakeholders to develop a National Children's Food Policy and to work toward a national children's nutritious meal program.
- **Work with the National School Food Program and provinces and territories to prioritize the purchasing of Canadian food products as much as possible,** supporting our farmers and ensuring Canadian kids have access to local, fresh food grown and caught right here in Canada
- **Make the National School Food Program permanent**
 - The program is a direct investment in the middle class, making life a little easier for working families, especially as they try to keep up with inflation. It is also a safety net for children who don't always have enough to eat at home.
- **Co-develop evidence-based food security approaches to replace Nutrition North Canada with Inuit and Northern Indigenous leaders**
 - The affordability crisis that all Canadians are feeling is even more extreme in Northern communities. Concrete action that brings real results must be taken to bring down prices and increase access.



3

How will you encourage the next generation to take up farming, while noting that the financial risks that farmers have always taken are now compounded by price pressures and massively unpredictable and unfavourable weather patterns?

Changing weather patterns are already disrupting food production in Canada, with droughts, floods, and extreme weather events becoming more frequent. The average age of Canadian farmers is 56, and new farmers face skyrocketing land costs and limited access to capital. There is a rise in inequality among farmers, with a few making lots of money, while many barely hang on or can't get started. Canada's agriculture sector produces billions of dollars in wealth every year but most of that is captured by fertilizer and seed sellers, fuel companies, land speculators, and grain buyers. An economically just agriculture sector would need to be completely restructured.



GREEN PARTY

Blair Visscher

With the average Canadian farmer now 56 years old, and barriers to entry at an all-time high, it's clear we must act to secure the future of farming. The Green Party is committed to removing the financial and structural obstacles that keep young people, newcomers, and marginalized communities from entering agriculture. We will create a National Land Bank to make publicly owned farmland available for lease-to-own agreements, giving new farmers a real shot at stability. Those who commit to sustainable agriculture for five years will be eligible for student debt forgiveness, recognizing their contribution to food security and climate resilience. Agricultural subsidies will be restructured to support small and medium-sized regenerative farms instead of corporate agribusiness. We will expand access to capital through Green Investment Banks, provide hands-on mentorship, and partner with Indigenous organizations to build knowledge-sharing networks. Farming in Canada must also be future-proof, which is why we will support climate-adaptive farming programs focused on crop diversification, soil regeneration, and water-smart technologies.



LIBERAL

Anna Warwick Sears

- **Liberals plan to actively invest in agriculture and farming, both to help the industry weather the Trump tariffs, but also to be better prepared for the future:**
- **Liberal plan to protect Canadian agrifood workers and build a stronger agrifood sector** with policies to defend supply management, invest in businesses and workers, and cut red tape:
 - Protect Canada's commitment to supply management and supply- managed sectors such as dairy, poultry, and eggs



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- Double the loan guarantee limit, from \$500,000 to \$1 million, of the Canadian Agricultural Loans Act program and expand terms by 5-10 years.
- **Liberal initiative to remove inter-provincial trade barriers**, making it easier to trade within Canada with the other provinces.
- **Liberal plan to diversify Canadian trade by improving Canada's trade enabling infrastructure**
 - Making it easier to get goods to inter-provincial and international trading partners
- **Canadian Agricultural Youth Council (CAYC)**
 - a group of young Canadians providing advice, enabling on-going dialogue on food-related challenges and opportunities, sharing information and best practices, and advising on the strengths and weaknesses of policies and programs affecting the agriculture and agri-food sectors.
- **Help Canadian farmers get their goods to market at low cost**
 - particularly in Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. We will do this by extending the Extended Railway Interswitching pilot by three years. As part of our commitment to support Canadian workers, we will explore all options to exclude non-Canadian railways from being included in this project.
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 - Protect our freshwater, including by investing \$100 million in a strategic water security technology fund to advance Canadian R&D, AI, monitoring, and data tools.



4

What steps will you take, if elected, to make sure that the workers who grow, process, transport, cook, serve, sell and deliver our food all have decent pay and conditions?

From farmers to truck drivers to grocery store workers to restaurant workers to delivery workers, our food chain is held together by low-wage workers, many of whom are migrants who face difficult working conditions and lack pathways to permanent residency. Growing food needs to be valued as respectable work—otherwise there will continue to be incentives to mistreat workers, rely on temporary workers, and underpay this work.



GREEN PARTY **Blair Visscher**

Canada's food system relies on the labour of people who are too often underpaid, exploited, and denied basic protections. As the Green Party candidate, I believe that food workers—whether they are farmers, migrant labourers, truck drivers, grocery staff, or delivery couriers—deserve decent pay and safe, fair working conditions. We will push for permanent residency for all migrant and undocumented workers, ensuring their full participation in Canadian society without fear or exploitation. The Green Party supports a \$25 federal minimum wage to reflect the real cost of living and the essential nature of this work. We will strengthen labour protections across the food sector, guaranteeing paid sick leave, overtime pay, and the right to organize without retaliation. To coordinate this transformation, we will implement a National Food Workers Strategy to set enforceable labour standards, provide sector-specific benefits, and support training and upskilling for workers throughout the food chain. Food work must be recognized for what it is: essential, skilled, and deserving of dignity.



LIBERAL **Anna Warwick Sears**

- Uphold Federal labour standards as outlined in Part III of the Canada Labour Code
- Ensuring employers comply with labour standards
- Improve the Employment Insurance system so workers can more quickly get the support they need
 - Temporarily waiving the one-week EI waiting period.
 - Suspending rules around separation for a six-month period
 - Making it easier to access EI
 - Strengthen our social safety net and ensure no one is left behind
 - As a priority over the next year, we will work to enhance the Employment Insurance system to better reflect the modern workforce with flexible, reliable support.



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(Anna Warwick Sears, Liberal continued)

- **Lowering the lowest federal tax rate by 1% so workers can keep more money in their pockets**
- **By using funds gathered from the retaliatory tariffs to help affected industries and workers most affected by the trade war.**
- **Increase labour mobility for skilled trades people between provinces and territories to address labour shortages**
- **Ensure that Canadian workers impacted by tariffs have the necessary tools to pursue good paying jobs and advance their careers in priority sectors**
 - We will design these supports in partnership with labour, employers, and industry.
- **Protect transfers to individuals (e.g. pensions, EI, CCB payments, etc.) and to provinces and territories** (e.g. Equalization, Canadian Health Transfer, Canada Social Transfer, and Territorial Formula Financing).
- **Protect social programs including \$10-a-day child care, dental care, and pharmacare**
- **Stand up for the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms***, protecting the values it was founded on, which are under threat, and ensuring the protection of our most vulnerable people.
- **Enable Canadians to take more action to affirm their rights** by expanding the Court Challenges Program.
- **Build a Canada where everyone has a fair shot, feels a sense of belonging, and contributes to our shared future by reshaping systems** to better reflect and support all Canadians and make sure that no matter your heritage or identity you can fully participate in Canada.
- **Confront systemic barriers and create opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, Black Canadians, and racialized communities** ensuring equal treatment and access in all aspects of Canadian society.
- **Make funding permanent for the 2SLGBTQI+ Community Capacity Fund** to support community organizations and networks that protect rights and advance equality across Canada.
- **Guarantee equal access to justice for people with disabilities** by developing a Disability Justice Framework to address long-standing inequities, biases, and systemic discrimination against persons with disabilities within the justice system and before the law.

