

All Together Now: Key Issues

Austerity Agenda - Track Record & Campaign Promises

			
<p>Has expressed some elements of an austerity agenda. However, has a history of implementing a hard austerity agenda.</p> <p>Made significant cutbacks in the 1990s to spending, particularly to public services, aimed at repaying debt, and reduced provincial transfer payments for health care, education, etc.</p> <p>Moved away from explicit austerity agenda in the 2015 election platform: campaigned on the need for investment, particularly in infrastructure, jobs, and innovation, which would maintain some level of deficit. Budget 2019 forecasts continued deficits.</p> <p>In government, made investments in these areas, in public services like child care, and in improvements to EI, and committed to establish national pharmacare.</p> <p>Supports privatization (e.g., Canada Infrastructure Bank), though it denies what it is doing is privatization (see Privatization section).</p>	<p>Has more consistent austerity agenda and pledges to balance budget.</p> <p>Harper government was known for its austerity agenda, including cuts to public services and public sector jobs, underfunding and fragmenting health care, and restricting employment insurance.</p> <p>Supports privatization and usually admits they favour privatization.</p> <p>2019 election platform commits to balance the budget over 5 years.</p> <p>Emphasizes cutting taxes or offering tax credits rather than investing in public and social spending.</p> <p>Has made few commitments to public and social spending, e.g., increasing health transfers.</p>	<p>Supports public investment and public and social services.</p> <p>Generally, supports investment in public services, social services and programs.</p> <p>2019 election platform includes commitments to invest in public health care, including universal pharmacare, affordable housing, post-secondary education, universal child care, retirement security, enhancing EI, and creating green jobs.</p> <p>Largely opposes privatization, but has no position on social impact bonds.</p> <p>Notably campaigned in 2015 on balancing the federal budget.</p>	<p>Supports some public investment and pledges to balance budget.</p> <p>Largely opposes privatization, but has no position on social impact bonds. How the party views new forms of privatization is concerning.</p> <p>2019 election platform emphasizes government spending in green economy (e.g., infrastructure, worker training), with some commitments on public and social services (e.g., pharmacare, mental health, housing, and post-secondary education).</p> <p>Commits to creating a guaranteed minimum income program, which involves replacing current income supports.</p> <p>Commits to balance the budget over 5 years.</p>