

A Review of Election Surveys Conducted by Canadian Organizations and Associations

October 9, 2008

Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada, has done a review of surveys and questionnaires conducted by civil society organizations and associations across Canada that are aimed at getting the leaders of the five main political parties to express their views on a wide range of issues. The issues range from poverty to health to culture and arts to the environment.

We found that, in all instances, the Conservative Party has refused to participate, despite participation by the other parties. The Conservative Party has consistently neglected to respond to questions from Canadians about its stance on issues that are of great importance to voters within this election. Below is a list of surveys along with a list of which parties have responded.

1. **Make Poverty History**

Asked all 5 party leaders to respond to questions about their plans to reduce poverty nationally and internationally. All parties responded except the Conservative party.

www.makepovertyhistory.ca/ontherecord

For more information on this survey contact Dennis Howlett at Make Poverty History - (613) 241-5293.

2. **Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development**

Sent out a 7-question survey about how Canada should confront the AIDS epidemic at home and abroad. All parties responded but the Conservative Party.

www.aidslaw.ca/publications/interfaces/downloadFile.php?ref=1382

3. **Canadian Medical Association**

Asked all 5 parties to respond to questions about Canada's physician shortage, mental health issues, innovation and information technology, access to prescription drugs, health and the environment, and the sustainability of the health care system. All parties responded except the Conservative Party.

www.cma.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/87393/la_id/1.htm

4. Canadian Conference of the Arts

Sent a list of questions concerning cultural policy, specifically dealing with each party's priorities for arts and culture funding, program creation or revision, advancing the socio-economic status of artists/ art professionals, and enhancing the production of Canadian art and culture at home and abroad. All parties have replied except the Conservative Party.

www.ccarts.ca/en/election2008/electoral.htm

For more information on this survey contact Alain Pineau, National Director of the Canadian Conference of the Arts - Phone: (613) 238-3561 Ext. 12

5. Directors Guild of Canada

Sent a list of questions concerning investment in film, t.v. and new media, increased access to markets, copyright, ownership, labor issues, and censorship to all 5 parties. NDP, Liberal and Green Parties responded directly to the questions, while the Bloc and Conservative did not respond directly. www.dgc.ca/page.php?id=571

6. Canadian Council for International Cooperation

Surveyed the five federal parties on what they would do to end global poverty and injustice. The Liberals, NDP, Greens and Bloc responded. The Conservative Party did not respond.

www.ccic.ca/e/005/2008_election.shtml

For more information on this survey contact Patrick Leclerc, Communications Co-ordinator - 613-241-7007 ext. 301 or Katia Gianneschi, Media Relations 613-241-7007 ext. 311.

7. Canadian Federation of Students

Questionnaire focused on post-secondary education funding, tuition fees, research grants, aboriginal funding and education, and access to information. All parties responded but the Conservative Party. www.voteeducation.ca/fd/english/parties.php

8. Canadian Firearms Institute

Survey focused on firearm related issues, firearm policies and the firearm registry. The Liberal Party and NDP responded, the Conservative party did not.

www.itsnowornever.ca/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

9. PIAC, CIPPIC, National Anti-Poverty Organization and other groups

Asked parties to respond to a survey about competition and telecommunications.

(Oct 8 Due Date)

www.piac.ca/telecom/major_parties_asked_to_support_consumer_rights_in_telecommunications/

10. Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Sent the five major party leaders a questionnaire, asking each party to outline its plans to address key issues facing Canadian businesses. As of October 9, all but the Conservative Party had responded. www.chamber.ca

11. The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)

Asked parties to respond to a questionnaire on their commitment to higher education and university research. The NDP, Liberals and Greens responded, the Bloc and the Conservative Party did not.

www.universitiesmatter.ca/2008/10/03/three-out-of-five-federal-party-leaders-respond-to-questions-on-higher-education-and-research-priorities/

12. Equiterre, EnJeu, Nature Québec, RNCREQ, Vivre en ville

Asked leaders a series of questions regarding environmental issues. All parties responded except the Conservative Party.

www.equiterre.org/docs/Questionnaire_environnemental_federales08.pdf

13. Tomorrow Today Group of Canada's 11 largest environmental organizations

Asked parties to provide video responses to 6 questions about environmental policy and climate change policy. All parties responded except the Conservative Party.

www.tomorrowtodaycanada.ca/election/en/

14. Sierra Club and Greenpeace Canada

Asked parties to answer questions on a variety of environmental issues. All parties responded except the Conservative Party.

www.sierraclub.ca/national/vote-canada/2008/election-survey.html

For more information on this survey contact Jean Langlois, Sierra Club of Canada at (613) 241-4611 or cell: (613) 266-5326.

15. Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)

Produced an Election Primer sent to the 5 parties asking questions about promoting and protecting parks, public land and water, marine protected areas and land use projects. All of the parties responded to the primer except the Conservative Party.

<http://cpaws.org/news/archive/2008/10/leaders-respond-to-cpaws-elect.php>

16. PowerUP Canada

Asked parties to survey questions on steps the federal government could take to deploy technologies and stimulate market solutions to global warming. All parties except the Conservative Party responded.

www.powerupcanada.ca

For more information, contact:

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