

April 23, 2025

Dear Ian Bushfield,

Thank you for writing, for providing us with the opportunity to speak to the values and concerns of secular British Columbians, and share the Green Party of Canada's platform. We appreciate your continued advocacy and your commitment to an inclusive and rights-based democracy.

Please find our response below.

Best regards,

Marie Bu Jacobsen
Survey Team
Green Party of Canada

1. Climate change: With the end of the consumer carbon tax, how will your government meet our climate targets?

We support carbon pricing and would not end the carbon tax. We believe polluters should pay.

To meet climate targets we will:

- Keep and improve carbon pricing while returning revenues to Canadians.
- Phase out fossil fuel use and infrastructure.
- Invest in 100% renewable electricity and energy-efficient homes.
- Expand green public transit and clean transport.
- Support nature-based solutions and Indigenous-led climate action.
- Enforce strong, science-based emissions targets across all sectors.

Climate action must be fair, ambitious, and driven by the public good.

2. Reproductive rights: How will your government expand access to abortion and contraceptives?

We support reproductive rights and access to care. Every person should have safe, timely, and barrier-free access to abortion and contraceptives.

To expand access, we would:

- Provide free contraception and expand reproductive health services nationwide.
- Ensure abortion remains legal, accessible, and free from political interference.
- Support national standards for sexual health education.
- Fund family planning counselling through public health systems.
- Recognize reproductive care as a core part of universal health coverage.

Reproductive rights are human rights and we will defend them.

3. End-of-life rights: How will your government work to remove barriers to medical assistance in dying?

We support access to medical help in dying (MAID). Every competent adult with a terminal illness should have the right to choose a peaceful end to their life.

To remove barriers, we would:

- Amend the Criminal Code to allow MAID with clear and compassionate conditions.
- Ensure access is safe, patient-centered, and guided by medical professionals.
- Protect the rights of individuals to make end-of-life decisions with dignity.
- Uphold strict safeguards to ensure informed and voluntary consent.

End-of-life care should respect autonomy, reduce suffering, and reflect each person's values.

4. LGBTQ2S+ rights: How will your government meaningfully protect LGBTQ2S+ rights from provincial bills that threaten the safety of trans and gender-diverse youth?

We support LGBTQ2S+ rights.

We will:

- Make sure Canada's laws clearly protect people based on gender identity and expression.
- Fully carry out a national plan to stop gender-based violence, with special support for LGBTQ2S+ youth.
- Enforce the ban on conversion therapy and help survivors get justice.
- Make sure all youth can access gender-affirming care, mental health services, and inclusive education.
- Stand against any law, federal or provincial, that puts LGBTQ2S+ youth in danger.

Everyone deserves to be safe, respected, and supported.

5. Religious charities and tax exemptions: Will your government implement the House of Commons Finance Committee's recent recommendation to amend the Income Tax Act to provide a definition of a charity which would remove the privileged status of "advancement of religion" as a charitable purpose? Will your government repeal the clergy residence deduction?

The Green Party does not support the House of Commons Finance Committee's recommendation to remove "advancement of religion" as a charitable purpose under the Income Tax Act.

We believe that churches and religious organizations should continue to qualify for charitable status when their activities are truly charitable and not political.

We also do not currently support repealing the clergy residence deduction.

We are committed to fairness in the tax system, but this particular deduction is not a priority for repeal. Our focus remains on ensuring that all tax benefits serve the public good and do not privilege political advocacy.

6. God in Government: Does your party support ending the daily prayer in the House of Commons and removing references to god from O Canada and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?

We do support:

- Keeping church and state separate.
- Respecting both freedom of religion and freedom from religion.
- Making sure the government includes and respects everyone, no matter their beliefs or non-beliefs.