





The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Ontario Chapter (CPTU) has developed a report card on each party platform. These grading scores were the result of consultations within the African-Canadian community. Add your comment to any party position with a grade to make our voices heard on the issues that matter to our community in this election!

Economy and Finances

BLACK VOTES MATTER!



				
	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green
Economy and Pocketbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduced corporate taxes to 15% now costing \$14 billion/yr. •Increased limit on TFSA contributions to \$10,000. <i>Comment: Corporate Tax cuts and increases to TFSA limits widen racial income inequalities.</i> Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Raise income taxes for those making over \$200,000 annually. •Increase CPP benefits. <i>Comment: Lack of commitment to \$15/hour minimum wage furthers racialization of poverty.</i> Grade: C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Re-instate \$15/hour federal minimum wage. •Increase corporate tax rate to 17% from 15% •Increase Canada Pension Plan (CPP) benefits. <i>Comment: Fair \$15/hour minimum wage rate then index for inflation.</i> Grade: A+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Create jobs plan through investment in renewable energy and infrastructure •Will establish \$15/hour federal minimum wage. •Expansion of CPP. •Increase corporate tax rate to 19% from 15% Grade: A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •\$5 billion/year in funding for infrastructure programs. <i>Comment: Canada remains the only major industrial country with no national transit strategy – one of the reasons for GTA gridlock</i> _____ Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Expand infrastructure by encouraging pension funds to invest in domestic urban renewal projects. <i>Comment: We need to invest more in our decaying public infrastructure</i> _____ Grade: B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Develop a public transit strategy with the provinces. •Give cities an extra cent of the federal gas tax (\$420 million/year). <i>Comment: Infrastructure projects create jobs and promote clean energy</i> Grade: B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provide \$6.4 billion/year for municipal infrastructure projects. •Invest in public transit and rail <i>Comment: Public transit sustains a clean energy economy</i> _____ Grade: B+
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Return to a surplus in the 2015-2016 fiscal year. <i>Comment: Harper government cut thousands of public sector jobs resulting in massive layoffs and weak economy</i> _____ Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Balance the budget by the 2019-2020 fiscal year. <i>Comment: The Liberal government, under Paul Martin, cut public services like Harper has done to reduce deficits.</i> Grade: C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Balance the budget by the 2016-2017 fiscal year. <i>Comment: Priority should be on job creation and public services rather than balanced budgets.</i> Grade: C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Gradually pay down the debt while maintaining public services for social and environmental needs. <i>Comment: We need to maintain and expand public services</i> Grade: C
	Government Finances			

Sources: The Globe and Mail; The Toronto Star; Party websites; CBC News; Leap Forward Manifesto, AFN "Closing the Gap".



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Environment and Justice

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	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green
 Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Favour sector-by-sector regulations to cut greenhouse gas emissions. <i>Comment: _Canada is the only country to withdraw from Kyoto, taking no action on climate change_</i> Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with provinces to fight climate change by setting a price on carbon emissions. •\$200 million/yr to develop green technologies <i>Comment: A bolder vision is needed_</i> Grade: B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cap-and-trade emissions reduction plan. <i>Comment: _Make polluters like oil producers pay through progressive carbon tax_</i> Grade: B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon fee with proceeds recycled to the public. •Cut emissions by 40% from 2005 levels by 2025. <i>Comment: _Proceeds of Carbon tax should support communities_</i> Grade: B+
 Aboriginal Peoples – First Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •5667 million over 5 years for Aboriginal people for community development. <i>Comment: Failure to initiate inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women promotes racism.</i> Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Establish a national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women. •Work on “nation-to-nation” basis with First Nations. <i>Comment: _Nation-to-Nation Kelowna process promotes mutual respect_</i> Grade: B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Adopt a “nation-to-nation” approach. •Call a public inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women. <i>Comment: _makes strides to end violence against Indigenous women/girls_</i> Grade: B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Establish a national inquiry on missing and murdered Aboriginal women •Act on recommendations of Truth and Reconciliation Commission. <i>Comment: _National Inquiry a First Nations priority_</i> Grade: B+
 Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Increased penalties for minor crimes •“Life means life” for crimes of a “brutal nature.” <i>Comment: So-called “tough on crime” agenda resulted in mass incarceration of peoples of African descent and of Indigenous peoples.</i> Grade: F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Legalize marijuana. •Restrict mandatory minimum sentences to serious and violent offences. <i>Comment: Bill Blair as a Liberal candidate reflects lack of concern over “caging” and mass incarceration</i> Grade: C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •De-criminalize marijuana. •Hire an additional 2,500 front-line police officers. <i>Comment: More police officers does not respond to the demands of Black Lives Matter Movement for community development</i> Grade: C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Legalize/regulate marijuana. •Repeal mandatory minimum sentences. •Oppose attempts to privatize prisons in Canada. <i>Comment: _Good position to oppose for-profit prisons_</i> Grade: B

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Education and Health

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	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green
<p>Childcare door-to-door</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand Universal Childcare Benefit now totaling 4.4 billion/yr. Family "Income-splitting" tax cut for parents Delay eligibility Old Age Security to 67 from 65. <p><i>Comment: _Reducing pension benefits impacts seniors_</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to childcare. Re-instate long-form census Restore door-to-door mail delivery. Restore eligibility of old age security to age 65. <p><i>Comment: _Long form census supports employment equity, but failed to deliver on childcare_</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15/day national childcare Re-instate long-form census Restore door-to-door mail Return eligibility for Old Age Security to age 65. <p><i>Comment: National public child-care long past due and promotes women's equality_</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop affordable & predictable housing support and reduce homelessness. Restore door-to-door mail Re-instate long form census <p><i>Comment: _Housing is a basic human right_</i></p>
<p>Social Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doubling the federal grant provided through Registered Education Savings Plans <p><i>Comment: _Private savings plans benefit the wealthy_</i></p>	<p>Repayment of financial assistance according to income earned after graduation.</p> <p><i>Comment: _Stronger commitment to equal access needed_</i></p>	<p>Have dialogue with provinces to make sure post-secondary education is affordable & accessible.</p> <p><i>Comment: _Make access to education a right_</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt forgiven over \$10,000. Abolish tuition fees for post-secondary education by 2020. <p><i>Comment: _good steps to reduce tuition fees and student debt_</i></p>
<p>Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase annual health funding to provinces by 3%/year. <p><i>Comment: _Conservatives refuse to defend the Canada Health Act against private interests seeping into public healthcare delivery_</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renew federal role protecting the national health care system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$500 million to hire health-care professionals and add new medical clinics Invest \$1.8 billion over four years in senior's care. Universal public prescription drug plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand public health insurance to cover prescription drugs & dental. Establish a national seniors strategy with Guaranteed Living Income
<p>Health</p>	Grade: F	Grade: B	Grade: A+	Grade: B+

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BLACK VOTES MATTER!

Governance and Security



Conservative

Liberal

NDP

Green

Security and Anti-terrorism

- Bill C-51 increases power of CSIS and RCMP to conduct surveillance
- Comment: Bill C-51 infringes upon our human rights and promotes Islamophobia.*

Grade: **F**

- Oppose sending fighter jets to fight ISIS.
- Support Bill C-51.
- Comment: _ Voting for Bill C-51 undermined our privacy and human rights*

Grade: **F**

- Oppose Canadian involvement in fight against Islamic state
- Will repeal Bill C-51.
- Comment: _ Voting against Bill C-51 was a principled position_*

Grade: **A+**

- Repeal Bill C-51.
- More oversight of anti-terrorist agencies.
- Oppose purchasing F-35 stealth fighter jets.
- Comment: _ Will repeal Bill C-51_*

Grade: **A+**



- Favours elected Senate or scrapping it.
- Adopted Fair Elections Act
- Comment: Duffy trial exposes Conservative corruption. Fair Elections Act "restricts voter participation"*

- Overhaul electoral process by changing first-past-the-post system.
- Strengthen Access to Information Act.
- Comment: Racialized MPs under-represented in first past the post electoral system_*

Grade: **B+**

- Abolish the Senate.
- Bring in proportional representation.
- Comment: Proportional representation will increase the number of MPs who are of African descent. Senate should be abolished.*

Grade: **A**

- Create Council of Canadian Governance with federal government, First Nations, provinces, and cities.
- Consult the public on proportional representation.

Governance

Grade: **F**

Grade: **B+**

Grade: **A**

Grade: **B+**



Foreign Affairs and Defense

- Increase national defense budget, \$360 million/year for Mid-East military missions
- Closed 9 Veterans Affairs offices
- Comment: Closing Veterans Affairs offices was dishonorable*

Grade: **F**

- Exert Canadian support for multinational institutions.
- Re-open Veterans Affairs Service offices.

Grade: **B+**

- Promote peacekeeping
- Only join UN-mandated military operations.
- Re-open Veterans Affairs offices.
- Comment: _ Veterans should be entitled to access public services.*

Grade: **B+**

- Re-align defense spending with focus on disaster systems and toward UN peacekeeping.
- Re-open Veteran's Affairs offices

Grade: **B+**

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Immigration, Labour and Human Rights

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<p>Immigration & Migrant Workers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill C-24, Increased length for pathway to citizenship • Temporary foreign workers to be removed after 4 years without permanent status. • <i>Comment: Migrant workers exploited</i> <p>Grade: F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes aspects Bill C-24. • Full review of Temporary Foreign Worker program. • 400 million to improve immigration system. <p>Grade: B</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes Bill C-24 • Moratorium of temporary foreign worker's until blatant abuses of program stopped. • <i>Comment: We should ensure protection for all workers</i> <p>Grade: B</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes Bill C-24, which allows Minister to revoke citizenship • Temporary Foreign Worker's Program exploits migrant workers <p>Grade: B</p>
<p>Labour and Human Rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undermined right to organize, bargain and strike with back-to-work legislation and weakened Canada Labour Code • <i>Comment: Unions are targeted, along with other organizations that question the Conservatives</i> <p>Grade: F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose conservative push to make it harder to form a union – Bill C-525 • <i>Comment: Lack of commitment to federal minimum wage</i> <p>Grade: C</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose conservative attacks on right to form a union. • Repeal changes that infringe on federal public service workers' right to free collective bargaining. • <i>Comment: Strongest labour rights position</i> <p>Grade: A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight gender based discrimination. • <i>Comment: Racism and all other forms of discrimination must be challenged. We need a bold labour and human rights vision for Canada.</i> <p>Grade: C</p>
<p>Syrian Refugee Crisis</p>	<p>Bring 10,000 Syrian & Iraqi refugees over four years.</p> <p><i>Comment: Bombs will not resolve Syrian Refugee Crisis</i></p> <p>Grade: D</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring 25,000 government sponsored Syrian refugees to Canada. <p>Grade: B</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring 10,000 government sponsored Syrian refugees, while removing cap on private sponsorship. • Will end military mission in Syria and Iraq • Comment: Ending war in Syria essential to peaceful recovery. <p>Grade: B</p>	<p>Bring 25,000 refugees to Canada.</p> <p>Overhaul refugee protection system to ensure Canada is seen as a welcoming and compassionate home for people fleeing violence</p> <p>Grade: B</p>

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