

**Ontario 2011 Provincial Election
Comparison of Four Major Political Party Platforms
October 2011**

The following table compares the platform positions of the four major provincial political parties with RNAO's key expectations for the next government as set out in *Creating Vibrant Communities: RNAO's Challenge to Ontario's Political Parties*.¹ Platform commitments in the table are based on the policies and costing available from the four party websites. Only those commitments that address demands in RNAO's own platform are included. Numbers in brackets correspond with the platform page on which the commitment is made. Unless otherwise specified, expenditure commitments are annual levels that would be reached after four years.

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u> ²	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u> ^{3 4}	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u> ^{5 6 7}	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u> ⁸
A. Strengthen Social Determinants, Equity and Healthy Communities				
Implement Poverty Reduction Plan with multi-year sustainable funding	Increase the Ontario Child Benefit from \$1,100 to \$1,310 in 2013. (47)		Push for expanded Canada Pension Plan and develop an Ontario Retirement Plan. (15) Create a new dental care program that will provide emergency dental care to 50,000 low-income adults each year using unspent funds from the government's 2008 Healthy Smiles Ontario program. (Affordable Housing and Anti-Poverty Plan)	
Monitor poverty reduction plan to ensure action for those historically	Will set the next poverty reduction target to continue making		Take prompt action on the recommendations of the Commission for the	

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS²</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{3 4}</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{5 6 7}</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS⁸</u>
over-represented in poverty	progress on this important issue. (47)		Review on Social Assistance and develop a new five-year poverty reduction strategy with targets in 2013. (Affordable Housing and Anti-Poverty Plan)	
Increase minimum wage to \$13.25/hour with annual cost of living increases	Create advisory committee representing both business and workers to recommend on minimum wage increases and report prior to 2012 Ontario Budget (http://www.news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2011/02/2011-minimum-wage-rate-set---highest-of-canadian-provinces.html)		Increase minimum wage to \$11.00 this year and index to the cost of living. (26)	
Enforce Employment Standards Act to improve protection of vulnerable workers			Increase Employment Standards enforcement. by hiring 30 new enforcement officers (26).	
Work with federal gov't to expand EI eligibility and benefits	Continue to work closely with the federal government to ensure review of the EI system will end longstanding discrimination against Ontario's workers and businesses and complement Ontario's			

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS²</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{3 4}</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{5 6 7}</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS⁸</u>
	own reforms to social assistance. (51)			
Transform social assistance from punitive rules, and raise rates significantly to reflect actual cost of living	Building on the government's Poverty Reduction Strategy, a review of social assistance programs was launched in November 2010 and is being led by Frances Lankin and Munir Sheikh. The review, which will be completed by June 2012, will: (1) recommend ways to improve people's ability to find and keep jobs and guarantee security for people who cannot work; (2) examine and determine the effectiveness of social assistance in Ontario and its role in relation to other parts of Canada's income security system; and (3) provide for a system that is simple to understand, easy to access, financially sustainable and accountable to taxpayers http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ontariobudge	Allow those who receive Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support assistance who work part-time to keep more of their benefits and ease their transition from social assistance to a job. (30) Streamline the social assistance system rules. (30) Require those who are entitled to receive assistance to reside in Ontario for one year before collecting benefits. (30) Lifetime ban for the "worst repeat offenders of welfare fraud". (33)	Immediately increase OW and ODSP rates to ensure they keep up with inflation while the review of social assistance is conducted. (Affordable Housing and Anti-Poverty Plan) 50 per cent increase to the Work-Related Benefit for all ODSP recipients with employment earnings (up to \$150/month). End the clawback on the first \$300 of monthly earnings for ODSP recipients who take a job (the benefit will last for the first 12 months of employment). (26)	

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS²</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{3 4}</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{5 6 7}</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS⁸</u>
	ts/2011/ch1c.html#c1_secC_SA)			
\$100/month Healthy Food Supplement				
Legislate human right to adequate housing				
Implement Ontario Human Rights Commission recommendations to address rental housing discrimination				
Fast-track housing plan, including new affordable housing, renovate existing stock, community-based housing and services	<p>Consider options for delivering a new housing benefit for Ontarians who are struggling. (47)</p> <p>Work with municipalities, non-profits and developers to identify opportunities to help create affordable housing. (47)</p>		<p>Phase in a new housing benefit over five years that will help almost 200,000 low-income individuals and families to better afford their rent. When fully phased in, the average benefit will be \$96/month for individuals and \$120/month for families. The program will cost \$240 million a year when fully implemented.</p> <p>Commit to a 10-year affordable housing plan to build 50,000 new affordable housing units. With sustained provincial funding reaching \$150 million a year, this will build over</p>	

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS²</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{3 4}</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{5 6 7}</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS⁸</u>
			14,000 units in the next four years. (Affordable Housing and Anti-Poverty Plan)	
Implement provincial breastfeeding strategy				
Fully implement <i>With Our Best Future in Mind</i> report	Ensure any family that wants their child to attend full-day kindergarten will be able to do so by 2014. That's 50,000 students now and growing to 250,000 in 2014. (17)	Implement full-day kindergarten for all four and five-year olds by 2014. (21)		
Increased presence of school nurses				
Advocate for national affordable, regulated, not-for-profit child care program				
Build new affordable child care spaces	Work with partners to modernize Ontario's childcare system and support centres as they transition to offering affordable care to families with younger children. (48)		A two-year \$250 million dollar investment in child care to freeze child care fees and keep centres from closing.	
Equitable access in public education, freeze tuition fees and increase access to needs-based grants for post-secondary	30 per cent across-the-board, postsecondary undergraduate tuition grant. That means – every year – the families of five out of six students will save	Require colleges and universities to compete for up to 60,000 post-secondary spaces, finding new ways to ensure access, affordability and		Freeze tuition for 2012-2013 while maintaining university and college budgets, index tuition to rate of inflation from 2013-2015. (5)

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS²</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{3 4}</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS^{5 6 7}</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS⁸</u>
	\$1,600 per student in university and \$730 per student in college.(46)	excellence. (22)		
Strengthen human rights protection including list gender identity as prohibited ground of discrimination and harassment, and sexual orientation as prohibited ground of harassment				
Other: Not specific to RNAO platform but consistent with RNAO's advocacy				
Advocacy for healthy public policies to address childhood obesity ⁹	Create a Council on Childhood Obesity whose goal will be a 20 per cent reduction of the childhood obesity rate within 5 years. Provide all elementary school children with a healthy snack program, exposing more students to fresh, nutritious foods and building healthy eating habits. Double the Children's Activity Tax Credit from \$50 to \$100 per child. (37)		"Make it easier to make healthy choices...start by providing support to new moms, ensuring mandatory physical education in secondary school classrooms, banning advertising of junk food aimed at children and making calorie labeling on menus in large chain restaurants the law". (39)	Coordinate a comprehensive healthy school food program. (11)

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
B. Building Sustainable, Green Communities				
Implement climate change plan with target reduction of greenhouse gases of at least 25% from 1990 by 2020 and 80% by 2050	Finish replacing coal with cleaner energy by 2014. (27)	Meaningful and practical efforts to address climate change, including closing coal plants by 2014, make government buildings more efficient and work with other levels of government to “ensure Ontario is doing its part to combat climate change.” (26)	Develop a plan within the first year for Ontario to meet climate targets of 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020. (Env 12) Phase out coal-fired electricity by 2014 and place coal plants on emergency stand-by only until they are phased out. (Env 5)	
Dramatically increase green share of energy and reduce consumption through conservation	Continue Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) program to provide guaranteed rates for renewable energy. (26) Move forward on clean sources of energy like wind, solar and pumped storage that will create jobs. (27)	Remove HST from home hydro and home heating. (4) Remove debt retirement charge from hydro bills. (4) Unplug smart meters and end mandatory time-of-use pricing. (5) Open and fair process for alternate energy sources	Invest in comprehensive energy efficiency programs and conservation, not nuclear mega-schemes. Rebates of up to \$5,000 for people to retrofit their homes. (Env 4-5) Remove HST from hydro, home heating and	Reinstate and expand the home energy savings program as part of comprehensive Green Building Program. (7) Increasing generation targets for combined heat and power, remove barriers to encourage investment in innovative technologies in

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
	<p>Become North America's leading maker of electric vehicles. (1) Accelerate plan to have five per cent of all new cars electric by 2020 and invest \$80 million in the charging stations and infrastructure required to support them. A rebate will also make buying an electric car more affordable. (29)</p>	<p>like solar, wind and biomass that demands affordable prices and respects local decisions.(5) End the feed-in tariff program and scrap the \$7 billion green energy Samsung deal. (6)</p>	<p>gasoline. (12) Will exceed the current targets for renewable energy with 10,700 MW in 2018 and 5,000 MW additional green power by 2030. Maintain the feed-in-tariff for small and community-based projects. Target additional capacity of 5,000 MW of combined heat and power over the next ten years. (Env 8)</p>	<p>conservation, efficiency and a new smart grid. (7) Increase incentives for low-emission, fuel-efficient and electric vehicles. (7)</p>
<p>End all coal burning at power plants by 2012</p>	<p>Finish replacing coal with cleaner energy by 2014. (27)</p>	<p>Complete closure of all coal power plants by 2014. Use the soon-to-be-closed coal plants as sites to provide newer, cleaner energy from sources like natural gas or biomass. (25)</p>	<p>Phase out coal-fired electricity by 2014 and place coal plants on emergency stand-by only until they are phased out. Assess alternative ways of powering the plants using biomass and invest in transition plan for the workers. (Env 5)</p>	
<p>Cancel plans for construction of new nuclear plants</p>		<p>Invest in nuclear energy, subject to the most rigorous safety standards in the world. (5)</p>	<p>Will not build new nuclear plants and will carefully assess the need to refurbish existing reactors. (18, Env 8) Will conduct a comprehensive environmental assessment that looks at safety and cost before we</p>	<p>Oppose construction of new nuclear plants and prohibit cost overruns from nuclear projects being passed to ratepayers and taxpayers. (7)</p>

Speaking out for health. Speaking out for nursing.

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
			proceed with any electricity plan. (18)	
Phase in carbon tax and other environmental levies			Make polluters responsible for their emissions. Ontario would join the Western Climate Initiative so firms could trade into a continental cap and trade plan. Revenues from cap and trade would be reinvested in reducing carbon emissions. (Env 12)	Reward efficient use of resources and responsibly balance our finances with a revenue neutral tax on waste, pollution and carbon emissions. (5)
Ensure any cap and trade system include a tight cap on permits to reach emissions targets				
Proceed with promised expansion of rapid transit, review highway expansion	Expand GO train service by delivering full-day, two-way GO service on all corridors – the equivalent of 71 million fewer car trips annually. Provide a money back guarantee to customers who experience a 15-minute arrival delay.(42)	Invest more than \$35 billion on transportation infrastructure, with balance between public transit and cars (“stop war on cars”) (11).	Freeze transit fares for four years (14). “We will share the cost of operating transit equally with municipalities“. (14) Invest in new transit projects and upgrades. (15)	Implement a sustainable transportation plan, including incentives for ride-sharing, more high-occupancy lanes and tax credits for public transit users. (7)
Expand support for active transportation such as safe for cycling		Invest \$10 million to improve provincial parks and make more accessible. (26)	Ensure all major developments are accessible by transit and other active modes of transportation, and provide facilities for	Incentives for people to pursue healthy lifestyles, support outdoor education and athletic programs. (9)

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
			cyclists. Create province-wide cycling infrastructure fund for investments in bike lanes, bike storage and bicycle tourism. Require drivers to stay at least one metre away from cyclist on the move. (Env 10)	
Tough regulations under Toxics Reduction Act			Reverse exemptions and ensure all industrial activities and emissions are posted on the Environmental Registry for public comment. (Env 14)	
Full implementation of Cosmetic Pesticides Act and regulations, phase out golf course exemption				
Strengthen source water protection, recognize human rights to safe, clean drinking water	Defend Ontario's precious water resources for future generations with a Great Lakes Protection Act and launch a fund that will reduce water pollution and make beaches cleaner. (44)		Designate Minister responsible for protection of the Great Lakes and establish clear objectives and legislation to ensure all government decisions protect the quantity and quality of the Lakes. (Env 14)	
Self-determination for Aboriginal communities to provide with control over		Allow First Nations and local municipalities to keep revenue from the Mining Tax for any new	Planning process for the North that includes open consultation and full land use planning with all	

Speaking out for health. Speaking out for nursing.

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
their own resources		mines that are developed. (24) Twice-yearly meetings between Premier, Senior Ministers and First Nations Leaders to address investment and jobs in north. (N6)	parties – First Nations, workers, municipalities – at the table. (Env 14)	
Ban sale of bottled water in publicly-owned places				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
C. Enhancing Medicare				
Enforce the Canada Health Act and principle of publicly-funded, not-for-profit health care	Support a new, ten-year Health Accord, negotiated among provinces and territories, with priorities, accountability and clear goals. (50)	“Committed to publicly-funded health care”. (17)	Hitting patients with user fees or forcing them to look to private healthcare isn't a solution. Fees only make it harder for you to get the care you need and, in the long-run, do not save our province money. (31) (35) Eliminate ambulance fees. (35)	
Support the federal government's use of its power to withhold health transfers when violations of Canada Health Act occur				
Commit to prevent private for-profit clinics from delivering medically necessary health-care services				
Commit to equitable and publicly operated and financed hospitals and community health facilities with no disadvantage to those in rural, remote or low income areas				
Impose a moratorium on private-finance, for-profit alternative financing and procurement (AFP) or “P3” projects in the hospital sector		Change the way services are delivered to get better deal for taxpayers, including competitive bidding for support services like food		

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
		preparation or laundry in public institutions. (14)		
Request the Auditor General to conduct a full review into the financial details of current AFP deals and make all financial aspects of AFP.P3 contracts fully transparent				
Ensure that publicly financed and built hospital projects follow evidence-based guidelines for health-care facility design and construction				
Establish 50 additional nurse practitioner-led clinics by 2015 as part of commitment to primary care for all Ontarians	Provide same day and expanded after-hours access for family health care. (49) Re-design Ontario's primary care and homecare system to provide every senior with access to doctors, nurses and other health professionals who will provide better services, such as house calls and check-in by telephone and online.(31)		50 new family health-care clinics that will provide 24/7 health-care services to 250,000 people by 2015. (38)	Support doctors, nurse practitioners and other health professionals for family/community care clinics that are integrated with public health. (9)
Adequately fund age-appropriate care from home and community care, long-term care and hospital care	\$60 million annually to allow health-care providers to visit seniors and others who otherwise could not leave their	Double the Caregiver Tax Credit for those who care for an elderly or critically ill family member. (3)	Eliminate the waiting list for long-term care for those with complex medical needs. (36) Give seniors supports so	Ensure that seniors receive the continuum of care they need where they want it by improving

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
	<p>homes. (49)</p> <p>Provide a Health Care Coordinator who will facilitate care between specialists and family doctors, hospitals and the community to help seniors who've been hospitalized within the previous 12 months. (31)</p> <p>Seniors who are at risk of injury or illness will have improved access to Personal Support Workers to provide them with the care they need at home. Provide up to three million hours of additional care for those in need. (31)</p>		<p>they can stay in their home. (36)</p> <p>Fund one million hours of home care over four years and eliminate the wait list for home care. (36)</p>	<p>home care, transitional care, assisted living and long-term care. (9)</p> <p>Create case managers in family clinics to proactively coordinate the care seniors need. (9)</p>
<p>Increase funding of home care services, including homemaking and professional services</p>	<p>Create a new Family Caregiver Leave, giving working Ontarians up to eight weeks of job-protected time away from work to help a family member who can't care for themselves because of serious injury or illness. (32)</p> <p>Create a Healthy Home renovation tax credit</p>	<p>Increase investment in home care, providing families with more control over services. (19)</p>		

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
	<p>worth up to \$1,500 annually to help seniors live in their own homes. (32)</p> <p>Work with Ontario's municipalities to give seniors the option to defer property tax increases for as long as they choose to stay in their home. Any increase in property tax would be deferred until the house is sold. (32)</p>			
Abandon competitive bidding as a method of allocating funding for home care and health service providers		Give home care users the choice to stay with provider they have or pick a new government funded home care provider who better meets their individual needs. (19)	Will conduct a comprehensive review of home care policy with a goal of creating a new and publicly owned and accountable home care system that reduces management and administration costs by 20 percent. (37)	
Advocate for a comprehensive national home care strategy	Will work for a new, 10-year Health Accord negotiated among provinces and territories that would focus on health care reforms designed to meet the needs of our growing seniors population. (50)			

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
Take a leadership role in advocating expansion of Medicare to include a national pharmacare program			Will make “Health costs, especially drug costs, a priority in upcoming negotiations around a new national health accord”. (35)	
Guarantee hospital and health services funding, including community and primary care, and invest in collaborative programs that meet community needs and reflect inflation and population growth		Will introduce a series of patient-centred reforms that make the patient, not administrators, the focus of health care system. (17) “Encourage health-care providers like doctors, nurses, nurses practitioners, and physician assistants to work collaboratively, particularly in underserved areas to meet patients’ needs”. (19)	Cut emergency room wait times by half (32) Will work closely with hospitals to address the underlying causes of backlogs and long wait times. (32)	
Ensure models of nursing care reflect the best evidence and provide continuity of care and continuity of caregiver from the most appropriate provider				
Require all hospital consultancy contracts to be approved by Local Health Integration Networks		Eliminate the 14 LHINS. (14)	Crack down on consulting and consultant expenses and give the Ombudsman oversight of hospital and health spending to ensure patients are being respected” (34)	Open government consulting contracts up to scrutiny by posting all details online. (13)

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
			Eliminate LHINs and replace them with effective local decision-making. (34)	
Invest in health services research to improve system effectiveness, health human resources impacts and outcomes, and the use of technology and treatment alternatives to manage costs				
Ensure equitable access to long-term care when and where it is needed, including a 30-day guarantee of access to a LTC home or supportive housing	As announced in 2009 Budget, will redevelop 35,000 older LTC beds over the next 10 years to ensure equitable access to quality LTC homes. (http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/pub/industry_annual/annual_rep09_10/annual_rep09_10.pdf)	Expand long-term care with 5,000 new LTC beds in addition to the 35,000 coming on stream in next 10 years. (19)	Eliminate wait list for long term care for those with complex medical needs. (36)	
Legislate and fund a daily minimum of 4 hours of direct nursing and personal care for LTC home residents, attached to average acuity				Support all long-term care facilities to provide services in compliance with provincial standards. (9)
Require a daily minimum of 0.5 hours of activation and recreational programs for each LTC home resident				
Establish by regulation a LTC home staffing model with at least one NP for every 200 residents and 20% RNs, 25% RPNs and				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
55% personal support workers				
Fund a registered nurse dedicated to infection control in every LTC home				
Recognize that physician assistants are not the answer to the need to provide high-quality, client-centred, cost-effective health care utilizing all health-care professionals to their full scope			Relieve the pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms by supporting other health professionals, like nurse practitioners, and the creation of innovative health care clinics” .(38)	
Develop an integrated and seamless mental health-care system and addiction services	<p>Continue comprehensive approach to mental health with focus on kids, touching the lives of 50,000 young Ontarians. Then focus on prevention, early identification and services for adults.(38)</p> <p>Increase fines on those who sell tobacco to kids to the highest level in the country. Those who repeatedly flout the law will be prohibited from selling tobacco and lottery tickets. Build on our contraband strategy to choke off the supply of cheap illegal tobacco sold to our kids by doubling</p>	<p>Put the patient at the centre of health service delivery, especially for people who have a mental illness who too often get lost in the system. (17)</p> <p>Crack down on the sale of illegal tobacco by increasing border enforcement, working with First Nations to close unauthorized manufacturing facilities and increase policy search and seizure powers relating to tobacco products. (33)</p>		

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
	our enforcement efforts. (36)			
Implement secure funding for professional education in mental health and addictions across all professions				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
D. Improving Access to Nursing Services				
Commit to increasing Ontario's RN workforce by additional 9,000 FTEs by 2015	"We remain committed to hiring more new and full-time nurses". (31)	Redirect dollars that have been spent on administration (such as LHINs), "health care fraud" and "waste" and reinvest in nurses, doctors, health care technology and other frontline care. (20)	"Ensure dollars are invested in frontline care". (34)	"Support doctors, nurse practitioners and other health professionals for family/community care clinics that are integrated with public health". (9)
Fund 350 additional nurse practitioner (NP) positions in each of the next 4 years			Increase support for nurse practitioners to relieve pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms (38).	
Commit to achieve 70% full-time employment for all nurses in all health-care sectors by 2015				
Equalize remuneration and working conditions for RNs working in the hospital, primary care/family practice, home care, public health and long-term care sectors				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
Strengthen the Occupational Health and Safety Act to adopt an inclusive and evidence-based definition of workplace violence such as the one incorporated in RNAO's Best Practice Guidelines				
Whistleblower legislation to protect those who report incidents or potential incidents of violence in the workplace				
Equalize power bases that contribute to workplace violence, including transforming Medical Advisory Committees into inter-professional advisory committees				
Support continued full integration of nurse practitioners by amending legislation, regulations and policies to allow NPs to use their full knowledge, skills and experience to practice to their full scope			Increase support for other professions, like nurse practitioners to relieve pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms. (38)	
Provide base funding for expanded practice nurses such as nurse				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
endoscopists				
Support Clinical Nurse Specialists and new and emerging roles for nurses				
Invest in an additional 25 Registered Nurse First Assists per year				
Maximize the use of RNs knowledge, skills and experience by authorizing them to practice to full scope, including prescribing, selling and compounding drugs, communicating a diagnosis, ordering simple x-rays, and setting or casting simple bone fractures or joint dislocations			Increase support for other professions, like nurse practitioners to relieve pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms (38)	
Develop a health human resources strategy for rural, remote and northern communities		"Encourage health-care providers like doctors, nurses, nurses practitioners, and physician assistants to work collaboratively, particularly in underserved areas to meet patients' needs". (19)	Forgive debt of new doctors practising in under-served communities. (38)	
Expand the 1:1 tuition reimbursement to new nursing graduates who				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
choose to relocate to northern, rural and underserved communities to include RN and RPN graduates from all regions of the province				



<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
E. Building a Nursing Career in Ontario				
Reject international recruitment of nurses as a health human resources strategy				
Ensure nurses and other health professionals who voluntarily and without pressure choose to make Ontario their new home face no systemic barriers to practice		Reduce barriers for potential new Canadians, particularly those who settle in small towns. Improve transparency of foreign credential recognition. (12)		
Permanent funding for existing upgrading and bridging programs for nurses who make Ontario their new home		Tax credit for employers who sponsor language training. (12)		
Increase funding of first-year nursing programs to enable 500 admissions	Create 60,000 more post-secondary spaces (including nursing) in addition to the 200,000 new spaces already created. (20)	Create up to 60,000 post-secondary spaces in Ontario. (22)		
Fund universities to increase PhD entries by 10/yr and Masters by 100/yr				
Endowment for 3-year doctoral fellowships for nurses, for 15				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
applicants/year				
Fund to graduate 350 nurse practitioners/yr			Increase support for other professions, like nurse practitioners to relieve pressure on family doctors and emergency rooms.(38)	
More generous loans and scholarships to make nursing education accessible to all qualified Ontarians	30 per cent across-the-board, postsecondary undergraduate tuition grant. That means – every year – the families of five out of six students will save \$1,600 per student in university and \$730 per student in college.(46)	Raise the threshold on financial support to make college and university education more accessible for middle-class families. (22)		
Increase Nursing Education Initiative (NEI) by \$500 for total \$2,000/nurse/yr				
Continued funding of Nursing Graduate Guarantee for all sectors and regions				
Mid-career nursing strategy to retain mid-career nurses				
Expand Late Career Nurse (80/20) Initiative to all nurses over 55 in all sectors and regions				

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
F. Embracing Our Democracy, Strengthening Our Public Services				
Ensure fiscal capacity to deliver essential services by building progressive tax system and revenue sources that encourage environmental and social responsibility	<p>Return Ontario to a balanced budget by 2017-18. (54)</p> <p>Build on the work of the Drummond Commission to continue to reform public services without sacrificing health care or education and without leading to higher taxes. (55)</p> <p>Reject cross-the-board cuts. Will reduce the size of the Ontario Public Service by an additional 1,500 employees by 2014, Find \$200 million in savings at major agencies by 2014. (55-56)</p>	<p>Lower personal income tax by 5% on first \$70,000 taxable income. (3)</p> <p>Reduce corporate tax rate from 11.5% to 10% by 2013. (9)</p> <p>Balance budget no later than 2017-2018. (12)</p> <p>Cut government spending every year by 2% except in priority public services of health and education that will grow. Reductions in the size of the bureaucracy will mostly be achieved by not filling vacant positions. Vital frontline positions in health, education and public safety will be protected. (13)</p> <p>Reduce the regulatory burden by at least 30%, esp, for small business and farmers. (8)</p>	<p>"We will save nearly \$400 million annually by cutting high-priced consultants, capping public sector CEO salaries, and conducting an expenditure review". (46)</p> <p>Stop cutbacks to corporations with no strings attached. (23)</p> <p>Reward companies that create jobs or invest in staff training with tax credits. (24)</p> <p>Reduce small business tax. (25)</p> <p>Make a "Buy Ontario" law so that government spending goes to Ontario producers. (25)</p> <p>Take the HST off hydro, home heating and gasoline. (12)</p> <p>End waste and lower electricity prices by merging hydro agencies and capping their CEO's pay. (17)</p> <p>Expand support for energy saving home</p>	<p>Lower income taxes on families and local businesses to stimulate job creation. (5)</p> <p>Delay additional tax cuts for large corporations until after budget is balanced in 2015 (14)</p> <p>Balance budget by 2015. (5)</p> <p>Budget for growth in health care, hold other program spending at 2010-2011 levels. (14)</p>

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
			retrofits and make environmental choices more affordable. (18)	Reduce red tape for small and medium-sized businesses so they continue to create jobs. (5)
Reject fire sale of publicly owned Crown Corporations		Eliminate the 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). (14) Close the Ontario Power Authority (OPA). (5) Government assets and property will be evaluated. (13)		
Phase in environmental levies, such as carbon tax to achieve environmental objectives and support essential services		Eliminate eco taxes on everyday items (light bulbs, batteries, laptop). (3)	Make polluters responsible for their emissions. Ontario would join the Western Climate Initiative so firms could trade into a continental	Revenue neutral [carbon] tax on waste, pollution and carbon emissions to reward efficient use of resources. (5)

<u>RNAO Position</u>	<u>LIBERAL PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>PC PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>NDP PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>	<u>GREEN PLATFORM COMMITMENTS</u>
			cap and trade plan. Revenues from cap and trade would be reinvested in reducing carbon emissions. (Env 12)	
Stop negotiation of trade deals that are not transparent, open to public consultation, protect health care and other programs, and do not restrict ability of government to regulate in public interest				
Reject trade deal with European Union and restricts Canada's right to keep public control of vital services				
Put ratification of Ontario-Quebec Trade and Cooperation Agreement on hold pending full public consultation				
Oppose pan-Canadian Agreement on Internal Trade that would further deregulate and threaten public services				

¹ Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (2010). *Creating Vibrant Communities: RNAO's Challenge to Ontario's Political Parties*.
<http://www.rnao.org/Page.asp?PageID=924&ContentID=3176>

² Ontario Liberal Party. (2011). *Forward Together: The Ontario Liberal Plan 2011-2015*. Author.
http://www.ontarioliberal.ca/OurPlan/pdf/platform_english.pdf.

³ Ontario Progressive Conservative Party. (2011) *changebook*. Author: <http://www.ontariopc.com/changebook/>.

⁴ Ontario Progressive Conservative Party. (2011), *changebook NORTH*. Author. <http://www.ontariopc.com/changebook-north/>.

⁵ Ontario New Democratic Party. (2011). *Change that Puts People First: Ontario's New Democrats Plan for Affordable Change*. Author.
<http://ontariondp.com/en/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/NDP-Platform-2011-OUTLINE-small.pdf>.

⁶ Ontario New Democratic Party (2011). *Affordable Green Choices*. Author. <http://ontariondp.com/en/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/NDP-EnvironmentalPlatform-2011.pdf>. (Env)

⁷ Ontario New Democratic Party. (2011). *Affordable Housing and Anti-Poverty Plan*. Author. <http://ontariondp.com/en/ontario-new-democrats-release-affordable-housing-and-anti-poverty-plan#>.

⁸ Green Party of Ontario. (2011). *It's Time: A Five-Point Plan for Ontario's Future*. Author: http://gpo.ca/sites/gpo.ca/files/gpo_platform_2011.pdf.

⁹ Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (2005). *Primary Prevention of Childhood Obesity*. Toronto: Author.
http://www.rnao.org/Storage/12/620_BPG_childhood_obesity.pdf