

2 October 2019

Dear Matt,

Thank you for writing, for providing us with the opportunity to speak to your community and share the Green Party of Canada's platform, and for your advocacy. Please find our response below.

Best regards,

Kat Lorimer
Policy Researcher
Green Party of Canada

NFHC ASK

We are seeking a commitment to develop and implement a National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Strategy that outlines how the government can actively promote these activities, including re-establishing the Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel AND government support to elevate the status of National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day.

The Green Party recognises the importance of these activities to Canadians and is happy to allow its Members of Parliament to celebrate the traditions of hunting, trapping, and fishing in Canada. We will work with all affected groups to ensure fair, sustainable access to these activities.

NFHC ASK

We are seeking a commitment to take a strong position and action on organized crime, gangs, other illegal firearms activities and the associated root causes of firearms-related crime, AND not implement any general bans on firearms.

The Green Party believes we must achieve a balance between the rights of law-abiding gun owners and the right of every Canadian to live in safety, without fear of being the victim of gun violence. The Green Party respects the legitimate ownership and use of firearms by hunters and farmers.

We need to strengthen measures to combat gun smuggling and the possession of banned weapons. We must ensure that law-abiding citizens pursuing legal activities in target shooting or hunting are free from unreasonable fees and the threat of criminalization.



Green Party MPs will:

- Provide increased support for Integrated Border Enforcement Teams made up of officers from the RCMP, Canada Border Services, U.S. Customs, and the U.S. Coast Guard in their gathering of intelligence and arresting of gun smugglers;
- Put strict measures in place for those who attempt to cross the Canada/U.S. border with illegal firearms. Ensure that gun smuggling is prosecuted as a gun crime of the highest order rather than as only a customs violation;
- Ensure that gun crime charges are not dropped to facilitate convictions on lesser charges;
- Review the registry for restricted firearms in consultation with gun clubs, hunter organizations, and First Nations. We will ensure that law-abiding citizens do not have their firearms unreasonably confiscated; and
- Work with target shooting organizations to establish safe and protected locations where target shooting can be practiced.

NFHC ASK

We are seeking a commitment to prohibit the movement of live cervids within and between provinces/territories and across international borders AND phase out cervid farming with appropriate compensation for producers.

The Green Party will work with stakeholders, provinces, and conservation agencies to ensure there are sufficient plans in place to prevent the spread of CWD. Greens will examine the current scientific evidence and are willing to implement the phase-out of cervid farming and transport of live cervids across borders if required.

NFHC ASK

We are seeking a commitment to create and invest in fish and wildlife enhancement funding programs, AND explore new models for long-term revenue generation strategies to support fish and wildlife conservation.

Several hundred animal and plant species are currently on federal and provincial lists of species at risk of extinction with more added every year. The most common cause of their decline is destruction of habitat due to economic activity and urbanization. Rarely are species removed from the list. Often their status continues to decline, despite their protected status. Green MPs will:

- Increase funding to federal departments to dramatically ramp up the development and implementation of endangered species recovery plans required by legislation, placing tight deadlines on completion and invoking emergency powers of the federal government to protect species when provincial governments fail to do so.
- Protect a minimum of 30% of freshwaters, oceans and land by 2030.
- Commit \$100 million annually over the next four years to create Indigenous-led protected and conserved areas and fund stewardship of these lands and waters by Indigenous guardians.



- Increase funding to Parks Canada to ensure that the ecological integrity of our national parks is maintained, and where necessary restored, and that heritage sites are fully protected and maintained.

We are committed to working with conservation agencies, government departments, provinces and territories to develop new funding programs as required.

NFHC ASK

We are seeking a commitment to establish permanent and sufficient funding for consistent, integrated, and prioritized education and outreach, early detection, and rapid response efforts to fight aquatic invasive species.

The Green Party is committed to addressing the threat of invasive species by developing stringent, science-based protocols for the prevention of the introduction of new species and the spread of known invasives. We will ensure there is sufficient funding for monitoring and enforcement of these protocols.

