



May 22 2023

To whom it may concern,

Below are the resolutions approved by the Federal Socialist Caucus following a series of online meetings, beginning in December 2022, and continuing through May 2023. There are many brand new resolutions in the mix, as well as several re-written ones, all of which address issues that go to the heart of the struggles, sufferings and concerns of the working class and our social allies.

Please present these resolutions (the first 13 are considered by the SC to be priorities), to the next meeting of your local NDP electoral district association, youth club, and/or affiliated union for adoption.

Ask your local organization to submit as many of them as possible, as soon as possible, to the federal NDP for debate and vote at the October 13-15, 2023 NDP federal Convention, to be held in Hamilton, Ontario.

The more organizations that endorse these resolutions, as presently worded, the more likely it is that they will come to the Convention floor for debate and vote. Delegates will be afforded an opportunity to rank motions according to personal preference. The SC encourages folks to rank Socialist Caucus Resolutions at the top of each subject category.

We will be very active at the mics advocating for policies and amendments that best advance the interests of the exploited and oppressed, fighting always for peace, justice, party democracy and the socialist transformation of society.

The SC continues to work with allies across the party to demand that the next convention be hybrid (online *and* in-person), despite the decision of the federal party director that it will be in-person only, thus depriving many delegates of voice and vote access to the gathering due to physical and/or economic obstacles.

Finally, the Socialist Caucus will be running a slate of Socialist candidates for the NDP Executive, if you would like to join the SC team of candidates, or have further questions or applications of interest, please contact the Socialist Caucus at 647-986-1917 or e-mail NDPSocialistCaucus@proton.me.

Sincerely,

The NDP Socialist Caucus Steering Committee



NDP Socialist Caucus Federal Resolutions List 2023

1. Anti-War Resolution

Whereas the war in Ukraine is a leading cause of the soaring cost of living, bloated "defense" spending, and the muzzling of objective reporting, and,

Whereas this forever war is threatening to escalate into a global nuclear confrontation, and

Whereas leading NATO members have blocked attempts at negotiated settlement,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP actively call for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations without preconditions, the cessation of Canadian arms shipments, and serve notice that an NDP government will withdraw support from US and NATO wars, instead directing Canada's resources including military personnel and technology to dealing with humanity's existential threat of climate catastrophe.

2. Against The Confidence and Supply Agreement

Whereas the Liberal-NDP Supply and Confidence agreement undermines the interests of the working class by allowing the Liberals to increase war spending, subsidize big oil and gas, fail to address growing inequality, ignore injustices suffered by Indigenous people, migrant workers and others, and delay promised democratic and social reforms;

Therefore, be it resolved that this body direct the federal NDP caucus of MPs to break immediately with the Liberal government, end the Supply and Confidence agreement, and consider whether to support or oppose government bills on their merits in the interests of the working class, the socially disadvantaged and impoverished, in harmony with nature, and,

Be it further resolved that the Caucus and the party begin immediately to clarify to the working people of Canada that we are unalterably opposed to the capitalist, war mongering, fossil fuel committed austerity focused, back-to-work legislating Liberal Party of Canada

3. Demand Democracy and Accountability in the NDP

Whereas recent actions by NDP officials have undermined democratic functioning in the party and weakened its reputation as a democratic, working class movement;

And whereas, a democratically empowered and actively engaged grassroots base is the indispensable foundation of a sustainable, meaningful, and equitable political movement of the working class,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP denounce the antidemocratic and obstructive proceedings which took place during the 2022 NDP Provincial leadership campaigns in BC and Ontario, and call for the abolition of exorbitant entry fees in Federal leadership campaigns, as well as for the restoration of EDA



membership rights to select election candidates with no party authority to overturn their decision.

Further Be It Resolved that adopted policies are binding on elected officials and staff, and that NDP leaders be subject to recall and replacement for violation of party policies and program.

4. For More Discussion and Participation at Hybrid NDP Conventions

Whereas greater democracy, political pluralism, and grassroots participation are needed within the NDP to restore decision-making to the rank and file;

And whereas it is inaccessible, undemocratic, and burdensome to require all delegates across the country to attend in-person in order to vote at federal convention,

Therefore, be it resolved that all future conventions will be accessible, democratic, membership-driven, hybrid in-person and online, with minimal registration fees and no barriers to access, and will provide accessibility accommodations including mobility and interpretation services.

Further, be it resolved that at least 80% of convention time be dedicated to debate and voting on resolutions from NDP EDAs, affiliated unions, and other grassroots organizations.

Further be it resolved that prioritization of resolutions for debate be decided by a vote of all members.

5. For Democracy and Autonomy in Electoral District Associations

Whereas in a democratic organization, the membership determines the executive and prioritizes from the bottom up, not vice-versa,

And whereas, Electoral District Associations exist not simply as a fundraising tool for elections but to connect members with each other and combine their power into a movement to represent their interests,

Therefore, be it resolved that electoral and executive candidates will be nominated and vetted by the EDA alone, without interference or veto from the top,

Further be it resolved that decision-making over funding rebates, PACs, and financial programs be transferred to local EDA control,

Be it further resolved that only the Federal Council can reverse an EDA decision through majority vote.

6. Amend the Constitution for Socialism & Democracy

Whereas "Socialism" is today a mere background reference in the 2013 preamble of the federal NDP Constitution regarding CCF-NDP roots,

And whereas this preamble mischaracterizes and hides the proudly Socialist, working-class roots of the CCF and implies that the party today uncritically embraces the grossly unjust and undemocratic Capitalist system,



Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal Constitution be amended to include in its preamble that: “Socialism, a cooperative commonwealth in which public ownership and democratic control by working people of the major means of production, distribution and exchange, is the goal of the New Democratic Party.”

And further, that the NDP function as it did in the past according to democratic principles of the CCF wherein membership is the highest decision-making body, including a “political federation” structure for the creation of a cohesive united left-wing mass movement.

7. For Leadership Accountability

Whereas membership should be in charge and leadership should be accountable to them,

And whereas NDP leaders and staff have a duty to adhere to principles of democracy and transparency and are obligated to implement policy passed at Convention,

Therefore, be it resolved that adopted policies are binding on elected officials and party staff and that NDP leaders be subject to recall and replacement for violation of party principles and program,

Further be it resolved to change the Constitution to state that the entire membership, in good standing, be given the right and means to vote on Leadership Reviews only after suitable, adequate, democratic discussion, and that the result of the vote be announced to the membership.

8. For an Eco-Socialist Canada

Whereas, rapid climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity threatens indigenous sovereignty, public health, food security, and human survival itself, and,

Whereas the extraction and burning of fossil fuels is the main threat to human life on the planet, and,

Whereas Capitalism is the root cause of the ecological emergency;

Therefore, be it resolved that the NDP break from colonial petro-politics and fight for policies that prioritize the ecological emergency and eliminate resource dependency,

Be it further resolved that an NDP government wrest power from private corporations by nationalizing resource industries to implement effective climate action and a just energy transition while respecting indigenous sovereignty at home and abroad.

Be it further resolved that the NDP be part of the worldwide struggle for a new international order based on economic democracy, not profit.

9. For Comprehensive Public Healthcare

Whereas health is the absolute right of all, and,

Whereas the subordination of our health to the profit motive leads to higher costs and worse health outcomes for working, disabled, and oppressed people,



Therefore, be it resolved Canada's NDP resolutely opposes privatization of any aspect of healthcare, and advocates a comprehensive, fully funded public health system including vision, dental, pharmacare, mental health, addiction treatment, gender affirming care, and all emergency and preventative services,

The provision of high-quality, optimal hospitals, long term care, rehabilitation, seniors' facilities, and

The provision of robust medical staffing to fully service our health needs and eliminate wait times, and

The implementation of the 30-hour work week for 40 hours pay, COLA clauses for medical wages, and 20 sick days annually to solve staff burnout and inadequate pay.

10. For Nationalized Public Housing

Whereas there is a chronic shortage of affordable housing in Canada, and,

Whereas this shortage overwhelmingly affects working people and marginalized groups, and,

Whereas all market-based efforts to subsidize or incentivize developers and landlords have solved nothing and have only made Canadian homes an asset for speculation,

Therefore, be it resolved that a Federal NDP government would implement the building of sufficient, publicly owned, high quality, environmentally sustainable, union-built housing in livable, walkable communities, available on an affordable, rent-geared-to-income basis,

And further, the NDP demands that the federal government commit to adequately funding the construction and operations of such housing indefinitely as a human right.

11. Nationalize the food industry under workers' control

Whereas large monopoly processors, packers, distributors, and retailers such as Loblaws are enjoying super profits on the backs of consumers, farmers, and employees during the current global economic turmoil,

Therefore, be it resolved that all major grocery chains be nationalized under workers' control, with grocery workers to receive stable work with living wages indexed to cost of living, with farmers receiving a fair return for their labour and input costs, and,

Further, that grocery prices be controlled and lowered to break-even levels and that workers take over planning and procurement of foodstuffs to meet community needs.

12. Solidarity with Palestine

Whereas Palestinians face systemic indignities and injustice from the apartheid State of Israel and,

Whereas the IHRA equates criticism of Israel and support for the Palestinian cause with Antisemitism, and



Whereas Federal NDP policy calls for a ban on all arms shipments to Israel and freezing trade with illegal Israeli settlements;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP strengthen its defense of Palestinian human rights by actively campaigning for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against the Israeli state until Israel ends its illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories, dismantles the apartheid wall, allows refugees to return home, ends its demolition of Palestinian homes and fields, lifts the siege of Gaza, and terminates all apartheid political practices and,

Be it further resolved that the Federal NDP strengthen its efforts demanding that the Liberal government immediately and consistently condemn Israel's intensified war crimes against Palestine and abroad.

13. Nationalize the Big Banks, Insurance companies, and Postal Banking

Whereas the large banks and insurance monopolies in Canada want to maximize profits and do not serve the banking needs of poor, Indigenous, rural and small town Canadians;

And whereas private ownership of banks and insurance companies leads to wasteful spending, higher transaction and consumer costs, and increased corruption,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Federal NDP actively campaign for nationalization of the big five Canadian banks and major insurance companies (including life, home and auto insurance firms) and for the reinstatement of basic personal and small business banking needs delivered through Canada Post branches and online services, to be operated under public democratic control, with compensation to the former owners in the form of low-interest, long-term bonds;

Be it further resolved that democratic management be exercised by an elected council of bank workers, consumers, small business folk, family farmers and the labour movement as a whole.

14. Simplify Taxation for Economic Justice

Whereas current tax laws are regressive, placing the heaviest burden on the already struggling working class while providing generous exemptions, incentives, and loopholes for the already rich, and

Whereas complex tax policies systematically benefit those who can afford to successfully navigate them, entrenching class disparities and driving wealth inequality;

Therefore, be it resolved that all forms of income shall be taxed on the same basis at steeply progressive rates -- no exceptions or exemptions permitted. This includes wages, profits, dividends, interest, rentals, royalties, capital gains, inheritances and increases in asset values.

Tax cheating, including the use of offshore tax havens, will result in asset seizure and imprisonment.



15. For a Guaranteed Livable Income including a Federal Jobs Guarantee

Whereas all people deserve a decent life wherein necessities are met without condition,

Whereas under Capitalism the overarching goal is profit, not human need, and so modern incomes are precarious as are housing, food, and medication,

Whereas, under Capitalism, workers rights, workplace democracy, and political representation are constantly under attack;

Therefore, a Federal Jobs Guarantee shall be advocated by the NDP as part of a Guaranteed Livable Income program. The Income Guarantee provides a universal floor protecting the dignity of all people while the Federal Jobs Guarantee restructures the labour market for worker power through a massive public works program, investing in the real economy of productive goods and services. The NDP must campaign for a federal GLI-FJG program that prioritizes the people's interests by investing in public infrastructure, green energy, reclamation, affordable housing, healthcare, and education to protect our climate and communities.

16. For Free Education and Student Loan Forgiveness

Whereas more than 1.7 million Canadians are burdened by student debt, with an average \$28,000 for a bachelor's degree and \$33,000 for a doctorate;

Whereas over the past 15 years students in Canada have seen tuition rates increase by 45%, leading to insolvency due to student debt;

Therefore, be it resolved that since the NDP considers Education indispensable in fostering a better future for young people, the NDP will actively campaign to eliminate all tuition fees and provide free, universal post-secondary education for all, regardless of a student's financial status or nationality.

Further, be it resolved the NDP will actively campaign for all student debt to be forgiven.

17. Federal Commission on Financial Crime

Whereas the wealthiest in society have the most resources to exploit and corrupt government structures, commit crimes, and avoid accountability;

And whereas widespread problems of tax evasion, money laundering, fraud, embezzlement, and other financial crimes often go unprosecuted, and,

Whereas in a democratic society all are equal under the law;

Therefore, be it resolved that a Federal Commission be immediately established to investigate financial crimes publicly and transparently with the goal of recommending criminal prosecutions and new legislation to prevent predatory and criminal activity within the banking, lending, accounting, insurance, and other financial industries;

Further be it resolved that the Commission will address how corruption and structural coercion within the



financial class is linked to current affordability crises and economic well-being of the majority.

18. Canada out of NATO

Whereas NATO is an aggressive, pro-war, pro-imperialist alliance with a \$3.3 billion budget, subordinate to U.S. policy, highly environmentally destructive, and hostile to democratic rule;

And whereas NATO, contrary to the U.S. pledge in 1990, expanded its membership and nuclear weaponry to the borderlands of Russia;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP condemn NATO wars in Afghanistan, Libya, Serbia, Kosovo and beyond, and its escalation of tensions with Russia over Ukraine -- not to excuse the Kremlin's disastrous, mass homicidal invasion;

Further, be it resolved that the Federal NDP actively campaign to end Ottawa's contributions to the alliance, get Canada out of NATO, remove the NATO nuclear ring around Russia, and disengage Canadian forces from any support role for the U.S., its agenda of ever-growing military spending, resource plunder and economic privatization, and the backing of U.S. client regimes around the world.

19. Scrap F-35 Fighter Jets Procurement

Whereas, the Canadian government's decision to procure 88 F-35 fighter jets at a cost of over \$70 billion further locks Canada into the US military command structure to support offensive NATO operations and,

Whereas, these carbon intensive war machines preclude investments in social, economic, and environmental justice,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP demand the immediate cancellation of the procurement of fighter jets and any similar offensive military hardware and direct funds instead to indigenous reconciliation, affordable and accessible housing, education, and climate action.

Be it further resolved those workers employed in the war industry be re-deployed to new jobs in the green economy.

20. Defund, Disarm, and Disband Police Forces in Canada

Whereas the police suppress indigenous resistance, protect capital from violence caused by capitalism (poverty, mental illness, discrimination), break strikes, attack protests, escalate mental health incidents, and disproportionately incarcerate racialized people while ignoring major corporate crime,

Whereas reform attempts have not reduced victim injuries and deaths or held offending police accountable,

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the NDP advocate the following: The rapid de-funding of police forces in Canada



by 50%, transferring the funds to necessary social services including but not limited to housing, mental health, and addictions treatment; The disarming of police beginning with the removal of all military hardware, gas, pepper and other sprays and guns; The permanent removal of all non-indigenous police forces from indigenous lands; and ultimately, the disbanding of armed, uniformed police forces to be replaced by community-controlled peace services.

21. Share the Work, Shorten the Work Week

Whereas the official work week in Canada is one of the longest in the industrialized world, a situation proven to cause increased stress, illness and lower productivity;

Whereas tens of thousands of new jobs would be created, especially in light of the rampant robotization and automation underway, if the work week were reduced appropriately;

Therefore be it resolved that the Federal NDP actively campaign to:

- a) reduce the work week to 30 hours over 4 days, beyond which overtime rates would apply, without the loss of pay or benefits to workers,
- b) reduce the maximum work week to 35 hours over 4 days, and outlaw mandatory overtime.

22. Invest in Pandemic Protections

Whereas the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic demonstrates insufficient government preparedness, unwillingness to fund systemic public health protections, and poor public health communication;

And whereas the response is causing excess deaths and disabilities (Long Covid), economic and interpersonal hardship, increased wealth inequality, and a particular burden on working class and oppressed people;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Federal NDP advocate pandemic protocols prioritizing working people over corporate profits, including: air ventilation and filtration for indoor public spaces and workplaces measured by current industry standards to combat airborne viruses, mandatory indoor public masking with free N95 respirators, abundant free testing, sufficient tracing and data collection, livable income supports during quarantine periods, and stockpiles of necessary supplies and equipment for current and future pandemics.

Be it further resolved that such protocols will give workers the absolute right to refuse unsafe work with no loss in pay or benefits and appropriately penalize employer violations.

23. Nationalize Air Canada under Workers' Control

Whereas Air Canada was created as a public corporation mandated to reliably serve the traveling needs of Canadians throughout the country at the lowest possible cost, and the since-privatized carrier has significantly raised fares and required bailouts while still cutting service, especially to unprofitable routes, leaving no alternatives to travelers;



Therefore Be it resolved that Air Canada be nationalized under workers' control along with all federally regulated airports in Canada; and that service is reinstated to formerly canceled routes, favoring direct routes over a less resilient "hub and spoke" model; and that flight service is coordinated with a nationalized rail service (as per Canadian National Railways) to provide reliable coverage to cities and towns throughout Canada; and that flights are eliminated on routes that can be reasonably served by rail or bus for reduced CO2 emissions.

24. Regulating Political Parties

Whereas voters are fed up with politics, only 2% of Canadians belonging to political parties, due in part to no requirement for parties to be democratic, parties are outside democratic structures of public governance, and merely registered as private non-profits under the Corporations Act, only requiring a constitution.

Therefore be it resolved the Federal NDP advocate Elections Canada regulate political parties, similar to election finance, for democratic nomination of candidates, election of leaders, development and implementation of ethical code of conduct, party members rights as activists responsible for researching and developing public policy not merely as donors and volunteers.

Further that the regulation of political parties include such things as requiring all candidates have timely access to membership lists, setting dates and timing of elections, oversight of voting to ensure balloting is fair and free, limiting the ability of MPs and party elites to gatekeep and leverage influence.