

## Election 2015 Candidate Survey from GSA : Entry # 278

### Information about you

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#### Riding

Vancouver South

#### Party

Green Party of Canada

### Survey Questions

#### 1. In light of the recent Marathassa oil spill in English Bay, what do you see as the top three priorities for improving marine oil spill preparedness and response on BC's west coast?

The Green Party is committed to improve marine oil spills preparedness and response on BC's West Coast. Our top priorities are : 1) A Legislated Ban on Supertankers on BC coast. 2) Restore Funding for Spill responses , no more a 1-800 line ringing in far away places in Gatineau, Que and Montreal for BC Spill emergencies !! 3) Re open the essential Coast Guard stations , in Kitsilano , Tofino, Comox, .. our Coast Guard operations stations along our West Coasts are vital in all the immediate needs to rescue missions .

#### 2. What specific actions can the federal government take to ensure that local communities are meaningfully involved in oil spill planning and response?

3 Specific actions today have to be : 1) A Co-ordinated national response to the law enforcement and emergency management issues , 2) A framework for the Co-operation and strategic directions for the policing and emergency services of Australia and New Zealand , 3) Best practices in police policies and operations and in emergency management across jurisdictions .

#### a) The establishment of a Citizens Advisory Council to facilitate citizen input into and oversight of Canada's marine oil spill preparedness and response regime?

Yes , this establishment is fully supported to ensure the citizen input is a public and loud voice . We all know that the OIL companies have been making a profit from pipelines and tankers , but it is always the citizens often end up paying the price for the OIL companies's oil spills disasters ...

#### b) Federal funding for local governments to ensure that they are adequately prepared to play their part in a coordinated spill response, and manage the impacts of an oil spill on their community?

Yes, Green Party MPS will increase funding to the Public Safety Canada and the Joint Emergency Preparedness ( JEPP ) program to implement the city , municipal , territorial and provincial emergency preparedness plans , education , training programs and local emergency infrastructure ( such as an oil spill response system ..... ) . Simplify the process and application process at the Public Safety Canada and expand the eligibility criteria for funding through JEPP .

Canadian Emergency Preparedness College training programs funding will be increased.

### **3. Do you support or oppose Kinder Morgan's proposed TransMountain pipeline expansion project?**

Green Party fully opposes Kinder Morgan TransMountain Pipelines expansion , we stand firmly against it for its purpose to get raw bitumen ( dilbit ) from the oil sands to port . This expansion will increase Oil Tankers on our BC coasts , threaten our ecosystems and economies. Green Party MPs advocate to ban on Supertankers on BC coasts .

### **4. What are your views on the National Energy Board's pipeline review process, including its current TransMountain review?**

The National Energy Board pipeline review process is broken - Bill C-38 is a disastrous omnibus budget bill that the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act was not accepted by the Harper Government. Instead chose to use NEB , now the process has been reduced to largely a paper exercise ( by removing the opportunity for oral cross-examination) . Elizabeth May is an intervenor in the Kinder-Morgan National Energy Board hearing process , hope that citizens of BC can have a say about the increasing bitumen-loaded tankers in our BC waters .

### **5. What are the three most important steps the federal government should take to tackle climate change?**

What we can do to tackle climate change :

- 1) NO more oil sands expansion .
- 2) A price on Carbon through a National Energy Strategy . A Carbon Fee and Dividend Plan is the smartest and most effective method to shift away from the massive fossil fuels consumption . To replace dependency on fossil fuels , Green Party promotes the Clean Energy and Renewable Energy across Canada ( major improvements to be implemented in the electricity grids ) .
- 3) Invest in infrastructure in renewable and clean energies.

### **6. Would you support a cumulative effects assessment to provide information on the combined impacts of all oil, coal and LNG projects currently proposed for the Georgia Strait region?**

yes , Green Party will support a cumulative effects assessment for this project .

### **7. How should the federal government address the chronic problem of derelict vessels spilling fuel and releasing other contaminants into the marine environment?**

Our Green Party candidate Paul Manly said wrote : Derelict and abandoned vessels pose a serious threat to our environment of BC coastal communities , but the federal government has been reluctant to act. The Transport Canada Ship-Source Oil Pollution Fund can only be used for clean up after a spill has occurred, that 's too late .

Green Party stands by the principles

- 1) POLLUTERS must pay and be held responsible for their actions.
- 2) Precautionary Principle and empower the Canadian Coast Guard to take action in situations where the vessels have been abandoned in substandard conditions and pose a threat to our environment.
- 3) Federal Legislation must protect our local economies which depend on the vital roles played by our harbours in the fishing , tourism, transportation industries .
- 4) Legislation to hold the owners of derelict vessels responsible but empowers Transport Canada and Coast Guard , before any environmental disasters .

### **8. Do you have any additional comments or activities you would like to share with our supporters?**

The Green Party of Canada is committed to restoring EVIDENCE- BASED decision making and ensuring that unfettered access to PUBLIC SCIENCE. Public science belongs to the people. It is not for the communication specialists in the PM Office to decide what our publicly funded information becomes known. In June 2015 , Elizabeth

May introduced in the Public Access to Science Act to make all publicly funded scientific research publicly accessible by law . As Ms. May said at the time : " My bill will ensure that NO PRIME MINISTER can ever bury government science again . While this problem is not new, the Harper Years have seen a shocking burial of evidence into places where Canadians will never see it. The work our scientists do is too important to be hidden from view , simply because it is inconvenient to the Prime Minister 's agenda . The challenges we face require an OPEN and TRANSPARENT engagement with the FACTS . "

We need to lift the cloud of darkness recently placed on the federal public service , where scientists have been forbidden from sharing their findings with the public . The challenges we face are existential. We need all the evidence we can muster to design the best possible policies to meet them. It is irresponsible to hide evidence because it is inconvenient.

Please join me , Elain Ng, Vancouver South Green Party riding , on October 3rd 2015 Saturday , at Thornton Park ( 1166 Main Street , Vancouver ) from noon to 2 pm . Our RALLY TO STAND UP FOR OUR COAST. BECAUSE WE LIVE HERE . Thank you .