

March 27, 2025

Dear Brendan,

Thank you for writing, and for providing us with the opportunity to speak to the issues relevant to your constituency of off-reserve and non-status Indians, Métis, and Southern Inuit living in urban, rural, and remote areas and sharing the Green Party of Canada's platform. We appreciate your continued advocacy.

Please find our response below.

Best regards,

Karine Cambron
Coordinator, Survey and Questionnaire Response Team
Green Party of Canada

1. What is your party's position on the rights and interests of unaffiliated non-status and Métis peoples?

The Green Party of Canada recognizes the unique circumstances of unaffiliated non-status and Métis peoples and is committed to their rights and interests. The party affirms the right of all Indigenous peoples to self-determination, governance, and cultural preservation. Following the 2016 Daniels v. Canada decision, the Green Party acknowledges federal responsibility and urges action beyond jurisdictional disputes to provide meaningful support.

2. How will your party implement the 2016 Daniels v. Canada decision that confirmed the federal responsibility to Métis and non-status Indians?

The Green Party of Canada (GPC) is committed to fully implementing a response to the 2016 Daniels v. Canada decision by ensuring that Métis and non-status Indians receive the federal recognition, support, and services they are entitled to. To uphold the ruling, the GPC will work in close partnership with Indigenous organizations such as the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) and the Métis National Council to ensure equitable access to federal programs. The party will prioritize direct and sustained funding for housing, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for non-status and Métis peoples.

A Green government will include off-reserve and non-status Indigenous communities in national initiatives, ensuring they benefit from the National Housing Strategy, Indigenous child and family services, and post-secondary education support. The party will also support Friendship Centres and grassroots organizations that provide essential services.

Additionally, the GPC will work to enshrine the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) into law and ensure that all policies reflect true nation-to-nation relationships based on respect, rights, and meaningful collaboration.

3. How will your party include off-reserve/non-status Indigenous communities in federal initiatives? (National Housing Strategy, child and family services, post-secondary student support etc.)

The Green Party of Canada is committed to ensuring that off-reserve and non-status Indigenous communities have equitable access to federal initiatives, recognizing their unique circumstances and needs. Our approach is rooted in upholding Indigenous rights, self-determination, and reconciliation. We will prioritize housing, child welfare, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples:

Housing: We will invest in Indigenous-led housing solutions, including land trusts, cooperatives, and urban Indigenous housing programs, while ensuring designated funding to combat homelessness and overcrowding.

Child and Family Services: We will appoint a federal Children's Advocate to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in foster care and ensure that non-status Indigenous children have access to culturally appropriate services.

Post-secondary Support: We will remove the two percent cap on Indigenous post-secondary funding and expand scholarships, grants, and student services tailored to non-status and off-reserve Indigenous students.

Healthcare: We will expand accessible, culturally competent healthcare services, including mental health support and addiction recovery programs, to Indigenous peoples in urban and rural areas.

Economic Opportunities: We will invest in skills training, employment programs, and Indigenous-led businesses, ensuring that off-reserve Indigenous communities benefit from sustainable economic growth and job creation.

By addressing these critical areas, we aim to close socio-economic gaps and support Indigenous communities in building a stronger, self-determined future.

4. How will you work with CAP and PTOs to address issues faced by our peoples such as discrimination, unemployment, homelessness, children in care, overincarceration, etc.?

The Green Party of Canada is committed to working closely with the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) and Provincial/Territorial Organizations (PTOs) to address the systemic challenges facing Indigenous peoples, including discrimination, unemployment, homelessness, children in care, and over-incarceration. We recognize the urgent need for targeted, community-led solutions and will ensure that all policies reflect meaningful consultation and partnership with Indigenous organizations.

We will prioritize:

Guaranteed Liveable Income (GLI): A GLI will help break cycles of poverty, providing financial security to off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples.

Justice Reform: We will eliminate mandatory minimum sentences, expand restorative justice programs, and reinvest in rehabilitation to reduce the over-incarceration of Indigenous peoples.

Child Welfare: We will appoint a federal Children's Advocate to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in foster care and ensure culturally appropriate services.

Housing and Homelessness: We will fund urban Indigenous housing initiatives, increase access to affordable housing, and support Indigenous-led solutions to homelessness.

Employment and Economic Development: We will invest in skills training, Indigenous-led businesses, and partnerships with CAP and PTOs to create sustainable job opportunities.

Through collaboration with CAP and PTOs, we will ensure these policies are driven by Indigenous leadership, fostering equity, self-determination, and reconciliation.

5. Does your party believe CAP should be represented at the annual First Ministers Meetings?

Yes, the Green Party of Canada strongly believes that the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) should be represented at the annual First Ministers Meetings. We are committed to ensuring that all Indigenous peoples, including those represented by CAP, have a seat at the table in national decision-making processes.

Our proposal for a Council of Canadian Governments is designed to bring together federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and Indigenous governments as equal partners in shaping national policies. Indigenous representation must go beyond token participation—true reconciliation requires full inclusion in intergovernmental discussions that impact Indigenous communities.

Furthermore, we respect and uphold the 2018 Canada-CAP Political Accord, which recognizes CAP's role in advocating for off-reserve and non-status Indigenous peoples. Your voice is essential in shaping policies that reflect the needs of all Indigenous communities. We would fully support CAP's participation in high-level meetings such as the First Ministers Meetings.

6. How would your party work with CAP to honour and implement our 2018 Canada-Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Political Accord?

The Green Party of Canada is fully committed to honouring and implementing the 2018 Canada-Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Political Accord in partnership with CAP. We deeply respect the work CAP has done to negotiate this Accord and recognize it as a critical step toward reaffirming

a renewed relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples, one based on rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership.

To uphold this commitment, we will work collaboratively with CAP to ensure their priorities are reflected in federal policies and decision-making processes. Our approach will prioritize meaningful consultation, legislative action, and sustained engagement to advance the rights and well-being of off-reserve, non-status, Métis, and Southern Inuit peoples.

We believe the Accord provides a strong framework for reconciliation, and we will ensure it remains a guiding document in shaping policies that directly impact CAP's constituents. Our goal is a government-to-government relationship that respects CAP's leadership and advocacy.