

April 15, 2025

Dear Grand Chief Kyra Wilson,

Thank you for writing and for providing us with the opportunity to speak to the mental health and healing needs in First Nations communities, and share the Green Party of Canada's platform. We appreciate your continued advocacy.

Please find our response below.

Best regards,

Marie Bu Jacobsen  
Survey Team  
Green Party of Canada

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## **PART 1: HONOURING THE TREATIES, FIRST NATIONS' RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

### **1. What concrete actions will your party take to ensure the full implementation of outstanding Treaty obligations in Manitoba, including land transfers, resource revenue sharing, and jurisdictional recognition?**

We will:

- Put in place all 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Add the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to Canada's constitution.
- Recognize Indigenous sovereignty over their lands.
- Identify federal and Crown lands for return to Indigenous ownership.
- Support revenue sharing, economic reconciliation, and land-based self-governance.

We support meaningful consultation and shared decision-making with Indigenous nations.

**2. Will you commit to a Cabinet Directive mandating the resolution of outstanding Treaty obligations, including pre-1975 Treaties, and convene a First Ministers meeting to ensure their full implementation before Modern Day Treaties are pursued?**

We will make sure that:

- Federal actions strengthen, not weaken, existing Treaties.
- Treaties signed before 1975 get the same respect and support as modern Treaties.
- Federal and provincial governments work together to fulfill Treaty obligations.
- Indigenous-led efforts to protect and enforce Treaties receive full support.
- New agreements do not take away rights from earlier Treaties.

True reconciliation starts by keeping the promises already made.

**3. How will your party accelerate the resolution of outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claims and ensure that all promised lands are transferred to reserve status without further delay?**

While our platform does not outline a specific plan for TLE, we will:

- Support Indigenous-led efforts to resolve land claims.
- Work in true nation-to-nation partnership to remove delays in land transfers.
- Respect and uphold existing Treaty obligations.
- Reject colonial doctrines and support Indigenous land rights.
- Back the return of federal and Crown land to Indigenous ownership.

Justice requires fulfilling the promises Canada has made.

**4. What measures will your party take to resolve jurisdictional conflicts between federal and provincial governments and their various departments to ensure First Nations' full governance over Treaty lands and resources, including protection from unauthorized extraction activities?**

We support full Indigenous governance over Treaty lands and resources.

If elected, we will:

- Recognize Indigenous laws and land-use plans.
- Support Indigenous-led protection and management of land and water.
- Provide stable funding for Indigenous stewardship programs.
- Work in partnership with Indigenous governments to manage lands and resolve conflicts.
- Transfer Crown lands where appropriate.
- Respect Indigenous decisions about resource projects on their territories.

Indigenous Peoples should have the final say on what happens on their land.

**5. If elected, how would your government plan to address the lack of clarity on First Nations' jurisdiction in the UNDA Action Plan and ensure First Nations' governance over lands and resources?**

We will:

- Recognize Indigenous sovereignty and law over self-defined lands.
- Transfer Crown lands for Indigenous-led stewardship.
- Support Indigenous-led management of fisheries, forests, and conservation areas.
- Update federal rules to align with Indigenous legal systems.
- Fund Indigenous co-governance and land-use planning.
- Expand Indigenous-led environmental assessment and oversight.

True reconciliation means restoring authority to First Nations over their lands.

**6. If elected, how will your government ensure adequate financial resources and ongoing engagement with First Nations to support the successful implementation of the UNDA Action Plan?**

We support UNDRIP and know that long-term funding and true partnership matter.

We will:

- Fund Indigenous-led services and programs.
- Support housing, education, and land-based work.
- Work Nation-to-Nation with Indigenous governments.

We're committed to lasting support and real engagement.

**7. If elected, how would your government uphold the principle of Free, Prior, and Informed consent to ensure that First Nations have a real say in decisions affecting their lands and resources?**

We support the principle of free, prior, and informed consent.

We will:

- Recognize Indigenous sovereignty over lands and resources.
- Transfer Crown land to Indigenous ownership.
- Respect Indigenous laws and land-use plans.
- Fund Indigenous-led conservation, including Guardians programs.
- Ensure Indigenous nations can say yes or no to projects that impact them.

True reconciliation means First Nations lead decisions about their lands.

**8. If elected, would your government commit to supporting a tripartite approach to implement the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry?**

We support working together with First Nations, provinces, and the federal government. We have not proposed a tripartite plan, but we want shared decision-making. We support Indigenous-led justice.

**9. If elected, how would your government support regionally developed First Nations led approaches to justice and public safety?**

We support First Nations-led justice and safety solutions. We will fund Indigenous-led healing, prevention, and self-governance. We support all justice recommendations from the TRC and MMIWG reports. First Nations have the right to create their own justice systems - systems based on their values and traditions.

**10. If elected, will your government commit to co-developing legislation with First Nations in Manitoba to recognize and fund First Nation policing as an essential service and not a program to ensure that First Nation policing services meet, if not exceed, the same standards applied to police services off-reserve.**

We support co-developing laws with First Nations, including for policing.

- Indigenous policing should be an essential service.
- We support stable, long-term funding for Indigenous-led services.
- Policing on reserves should meet or exceed the same standards as off-reserve services.

**11. Given the AMC's advocacy for searching the Prairie Green and Brady Road Landfills to recover remains of missing Indigenous women, what measures will your party implement to ensure the government provides adequate resources and support for these comprehensive searches while maintaining a transparent and respectful process for the impacted families and First Nations.**

We honour the families and communities calling for justice in the face of profound loss. If elected:

- We support the 231 Calls for Justice and believe in full, respectful investigations.
- While we haven't made a specific promise about the Prairie Green and Brady Road searches, we support Indigenous-led efforts.
- Families deserve truth, transparency, and support.

**12. Considering the AMC's call for a First Nation-developed Red Dress Alert system to address the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit individuals (MMIWG2S+), what steps will your party take to implement and support a regional First Nations-led approach to this alert system, ensuring its full integration into local and regional frameworks to raise awareness and facilitate timely responses?**

We support the 231 Calls for Justice. That includes First Nations-led responses to the MMIWG2S+ crisis.

While we haven't proposed a Red Dress Alert system yet, we support Indigenous-led safety initiatives.

We believe any alert system should be made together with First Nations and work well with local and regional systems. We will therefore listen to and act on community-led solutions.

**13. Recognizing the AMC's emphasis on the urgent need for sustainable, long-term funding and accountability to combat the MMIWG2S+ crisis, what concrete actions will your party undertake to address systemic violence against First Nations women, girls, and Two-Spirit individuals, and how will you ensure these initiatives are supported by sustained funding for community-driven solutions?**

We want to end the unfair treatment and harm against Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people. If elected, we will:

- Put in place all 231 Calls for Justice.
- Support Indigenous-led healing centres and justice programs.
- Invest in trauma care, housing, mental health, and cultural services.
- Provide long-term, stable funding for community-led solutions.
- Work in true partnership with First Nations to ensure safety, justice, and dignity for all.
- Make sure funding supports solutions rooted in Indigenous knowledge and leadership.

True justice means listening, providing the necessary resources, and acting - together.

**14. If elected, what actions will your party take to work in partnership with First Nations Peoples to ensure all 231 Calls to Justice are implemented in a timely manner through a transparent and accountable process?**

We are committed to implementing all 231 Calls for Justice from the MMIWG Inquiry.

We will:

- Fully implement the Calls as part of our justice and reconciliation work.
- Invest in a national strategy to end gender-based violence.
- Ensure long-term funding and Indigenous-led oversight.

- Act on systemic racism in policing and justice.
- Work transparently, in partnership with First Nations.
- Prioritize accountability and clear timelines.

We believe the path to justice must be guided by Indigenous voices and backed by lasting political action.

## **PART 2. CREATING THRIVING ECONOMIES AND CLOSING THE INFRASTRUCTURE GAP**

### **1. If elected, what concrete steps will your party take to improve First Nations' access to capital so they can fully participate in economic opportunities and overcome barriers imposed by systemic discrimination and outdated policies?**

We will strengthen First Nations' access to capital by prioritizing economic reconciliation.

- We will support major investments in Indigenous-led economic development and entrepreneurship.
- We will expand federal support for Indigenous land ownership and business initiatives.
- We know there are barriers, and we want to fix them — even though we haven't listed every solution yet.

We will work together to create solutions.

### **2. If elected, how will you ensure that First Nations have meaningful partnerships and equitable access to federal programs that support economic self-sufficiency and long-term prosperity?**

We want to build strong economic partnerships with First Nations.

- We will support more funding for Indigenous-led land ownership and businesses.
- We will make sure federal contracts go to Indigenous-owned companies.
- We will ensure that all programs be co-developed with Indigenous governments.
- First Nations will help lead the design and delivery of economic programs.
- Our focus will be on long-term support that builds self-sufficiency and respects Indigenous priorities.

Our goal is to listen, work together, and back Indigenous leadership all the way.

**3. Given the economic uncertainty stemming from U.S. trade policies and their potential impact on Manitoba's economy, how will your party guarantee that First Nations Leaders are actively included in economic decision-making processes at all levels and see them as rights holders vs stakeholders? What measures will you take to support First Nation-led economic initiatives that strengthen self determination and economic resilience?**

We see First Nations as rights holders, not stakeholders.

- We support Indigenous-led economic development and decision-making.
- We will strengthen Nation-to-Nation partnerships.
- Indigenous governments will shape economic policy that affects them.
- We support Indigenous leadership in energy, housing, land, and conservation.

We haven't outlined export or trade policies, but we support economic self-determination. We will work with First Nations to build economic resilience and opportunity in a changing global landscape.

**4. If elected, what concrete steps will your government take to ensure that all First Nations have equal and affordable access to internet and mobile connectivity, considering there are First Nations in Manitoba, especially those in remote and isolated regions, who do not have access to these platforms? How will you ensure that these projects prioritize First Nations led solutions rather than top-down government approaches that have historically overlooked First Nations' needs and governance?**

We will:

- Expand broadband access in rural and remote areas, including First Nations communities.
- Support Indigenous-led approaches to connectivity, not top-down government models.
- Make sure projects reflect Indigenous priorities and leadership.
- Work with First Nations in ways that respect their knowledge, needs, and leadership to close the digital gap.

**5. What steps will your government take to address the critical housing needs of First Nations, both on and off reserve, and ensure adequate funding for new housing units and repairs, including addressing the roles of CMHC and ISC in delays and challenges?**

We haven't proposed changes to CMHC or ISC, but we want to fix delays and barriers by giving more control to Indigenous communities.

We will:

- Invest in Indigenous-led, community-owned housing projects.
- Provide direct funding not tied to market-based models.
- Support modular, climate-resilient homes that reflect local needs.
- Transfer federal land to Indigenous housing groups.

**6. How will your government support First Nations in gaining more control over housing design and delivery, ensuring that solutions meet the unique needs of First Nations while addressing the challenges posed by CMHC and ISC's policies and processes?**

We want First Nations to have full control over housing design and delivery.

We will:

- Support a “For Indigenous, By Indigenous” housing strategy.
- Offer long-term funding.
- Transfer federal land for Indigenous-led housing.
- Use direct funding, not market-based systems.
- Back housing models like co-ops and land trusts.
- Help build homes that fit local needs and culture.
- Let communities set their own priorities.

This approach puts decision-making in the hands of First Nations, not government agencies.

**7. If elected, how will your party ensure that First Nations' jurisdiction is respected and integrated into emergency management strategies and planning going forward?**

First Nations will be a part of the decisions that affect their safety and territory.

We will:

- Work in a Nation-to-Nation partnership.
- Create a national emergency response framework that includes Indigenous governments.
- Provide stable, long-term funding for Indigenous-led emergency planning.
- Expand support for remote and vulnerable communities.
- Respect Indigenous leadership in land and resource management also during crises.



**8. How will your party support the development of First Nations-led emergency management frameworks, including capacity-building and funding, to ensure that First Nations are equipped to respond to and manage disasters within their First Nation?**

Yes, we support First Nations-led emergency planning.

We will:

- Work in true partnership to support local control.
- Expand funding for climate adaptation and disaster response.
- Launch regional grants for emergency planning and resilience.
- Include First Nations in a national emergency response framework.
- Support Indigenous-led emergency plans by building local skills and trusting community knowledge.

**PART 3. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**1. How does your party plan to support the contributions First Nations make to environmental stewardship and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA)?**

We support Indigenous-led conservation and stewardship.

We will:

- Provide long-term funding for Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas and Guardian programs.
- Expand co-management of parks and protected areas.
- Support Indigenous leadership in caring for land, water, and cultural sites.
- Respect Indigenous laws and governance over their territories.
- Replace federal fishery control with Indigenous-led stewardship.
- Strengthen co-governance through frameworks like the Oceans Act.

Indigenous Peoples should lead in the protection of their lands.

**2. If elected, what steps would you and your government take to meaningfully co develop and engage title and rights holders on climate policy and legislation and advance First Nation-led climate action and leadership?**

We want to work with Indigenous People to shape climate policy together.

We will:

- Work Nation-to-Nation on climate strategies that respect Indigenous rights and leadership.
- Support Indigenous-led conservation and climate action through long-term funding.
- Involve title and rights holders in environmental decision-making.
- Recognize and strengthen Indigenous governance over lands and waters.
- Integrate traditional knowledge in biodiversity and climate planning.

Indigenous Peoples should help lead climate work because they are some of the most affected by it.

**3. In what ways have you supported efforts toward achieving a just transition away from fossil fuels toward renewable energy sources (i.e., solar, wind, geothermal)? How would you ensure that First Nations inherent and treaty rights are acknowledged and upheld in this process and what steps would you take to ensure First Nations are equity partners in this transition?**

We want a transition that puts Indigenous Peoples at the centre.

We support:

- First Nations-led renewable energy projects and ownership.
- Training and jobs in clean energy for Indigenous communities.
- Nation-to-Nation partnerships and respect for land rights.
- Strong environmental oversight and Indigenous-led land restoration.

A fair transition means sharing power, respecting treaties, and backing Indigenous leadership.

**4. How will your party ensure meaningful consultation with First Nations on mining projects?**

We support early, meaningful consultation with First Nations on all mining projects. We will increase funding to support Indigenous participation and leadership. Projects must respect Indigenous rights, knowledge, and land. Decisions will be shared. Consent and accountability are key.

**5. What steps will your party take to ensure that Free, Prior, and Informed Consent is respected in all mining activities on First Nations treaty and ancestral lands?**

No mining should happen on Indigenous lands without clear consent. We will follow UNDRIP, respect Indigenous laws, and support shared decision-making. First Nations will be informed and have to agree before any project starts. Their right to say yes or no will be respected.

**6. How will your party address the environmental impacts of mining, particularly water pollution and destruction of lands, in the context of critical mineral extraction?**

We will make sure mining protects land and water. Companies must clean up their mess and cover the cost. We support stronger rules, Indigenous-led monitoring, and using traditional knowledge to guide decisions. Mining must be safe for people, nature, and future generations.

**7. What measures will your party put in place to ensure that result in equitable, long term benefits for First Nations?**

We will make sure First Nations benefit from resource projects. We support Indigenous ownership, jobs, and local decision-making. Projects must reflect Indigenous laws, knowledge, and priorities. We back long-term funding, strong consultation, and shared profits. Benefits should last — not disappear when the project ends.

**8. How will your party work with First Nations to ensure that their sovereignty and treaty rights are respected in the development of critical mineral strategies and future resource extraction projects?**

We will work with First Nations to make sure their rights and land are respected. We support shared decision-making and Indigenous leadership. No mining should happen without consent, and First Nations must benefit from the projects in the long run.

**PART 4. BUILDING RESILIENT AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

**1. If elected, what concrete actions will your party take to ensure a long-term, sustainable funding model that upholds the principles of substantive equality and allows First Nations in Manitoba to fully implement their laws under Bill C- 92?**

We support fair and stable funding so First Nations can use their own child welfare laws under Bill C-92. We believe funding should go straight to communities, without delays. We will work with First Nations in Manitoba to make sure the funding matches their needs and goals.

**2. Given the overrepresentation of First Nations children in care and their increased likelihood of later involvement in the criminal justice system, what specific policies and investments will your party implement to prevent child apprehension, support First Nations-led child welfare solutions, and break the cycle of systemic harm?**

We will support First Nations-led child welfare. That means funding housing, healing, and mental

health programs. We support Jordan's Principle and the TRC and MMIWG Calls. Our goal is to stop harm and keep families together. Children should grow up safe and supported in their own communities.

**3. What is your party's position on the current state of the Jordan's Principle Initiative, and what specific actions will your government take to address the backlog of requests, and ensuring that true needs based regional funding models are identified and allocated?**

We support full funding for Jordan's Principle. No child should be denied care. We will work with First Nations to fix delays, remove red tape, and build long-term, needs-based funding.

First Nations should lead the work. Regional funding must match local needs and support their right to make decisions for their own communities.

**4. How will your government strengthen the enforcement and accessibility of Jordan's Principle, ensuring that all First Nations children - whether on or off reserve - receive equitable access to services without delay or bureaucratic barriers?**

We will make sure all First Nations children get the help they need, without delays or red tape. That means full funding, simple processes, and support for Indigenous-led services. We'll work with communities to build fair systems that match their real needs.

**5. If elected, would your government uphold the Canada Early Learning and Child Care Act?**

Yes, we will uphold and strengthen the Canada Early Learning and Child Care Act. We support public, affordable, and high-quality child care for all. We want:

- More funding.
- Better pay for workers.
- More spaces.
- Full support for Indigenous-led child care based on what communities need.

**6. If elected, would your government maintain the ongoing federal investments for the Early Learning and Child Care Act?**

Yes, we will keep and strengthen funding for the Early Learning and Child Care Act. That means stable support for affordable child care and more spaces across Canada with full backing for Indigenous-led programs shaped by community needs.

**7. If elected, would your government support the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs mandate to advance First Nations control and jurisdiction over social development and services, such as Early Learning and Child Care?**

Yes, we support First Nations control over social services, including early learning. We support the

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs' mandate. First Nations must have the power and support to run services their own way, based on their laws and values.

**8. If elected, how would your government ensure sustainable workforce and capital investments to support First Nations Early Learning and Child Care priorities?**

We will support Indigenous-led early learning, by funding long-term staff training, better wages, and safe, green buildings. First Nations will lead, and we'll invest in the people and spaces they need. Funding will be stable and flexible, so each community can build the system that fits their priorities.

**9. How will your government ensure that First Nations have equitable access to education that supports economic development and social well-being?**

We will support First Nations in running their own schools and programs. This means more funding, fewer barriers, and learning that includes First Nations languages, cultures, and priorities. Education should help every child feel proud, grow strong in their community, and have real chances for jobs and a good life.

**10. What measures will your party implement to improve and expand First Nations' access to financial resources alongside education initiatives?**

We will make sure First Nations have the money they need for education and jobs. That means more funding for schools, support for students, and job training. Programs run by First Nations themselves. Communities know what works best — we'll support their plans with stable and fair funding.

**11. If elected, what steps would you take to address the mental health and substance abuse crisis in First Nations?**

We will support mental health and addiction care led by First Nations. That means more funding for local healing programs, more Indigenous health workers, and better access to care close to home. We want to build care based on culture, respect, and support.

**12. What steps will your party take to close the health disparity gap between First Nations and non-Indigenous populations?**

To close the health gap, we will support care led by First Nations rooted in their knowledge and needs.

We will:

- Give more funding to Indigenous-led health care.
- Bring better care to remote areas.
- Train more Indigenous health workers.
- Make sure services are safe, fair, and respectful of Indigenous cultures.

**13. Will your party support long-term, sustainable funding for First Nation-led healthcare initiatives?**

Yes, we support long-term, stable funding for First Nation-led health care.

This includes:

- Backing Indigenous-run services.
- Removing barriers to access.
- Funding trauma and addiction programs.
- Ensuring care is culturally appropriate.

We will work with First Nations to build strong, community-based health systems.

**14. If elected, how will your party ensure that First Nations governments receive stable and equitable core funding to support long-term sustainability, strengthen governance, and build the capacity of their administrations?**

We will make sure First Nations governments get funding they can count on. This funding will support strong leadership, local services, and long-term planning. We'll work with First Nations to make sure the money meets their needs. We will help build healthy, self-governed communities.

**15. What specific actions will your government take to address the overrepresentation of First Nations People in homelessness statistics and ensure that housing benefits, support services, and culturally relevant programs are available to First Nations?**

We will support housing built and run by First Nations. That means long-term funding, more affordable homes, and safe places that meet local needs. We'll also make sure First Nations can get the help they need, such as health care and support in their own communities.

**16. If elected, how will your government collaborate with First Nations governments and residential school survivors to co-develop a comprehensive framework that ensures the identification, preservation, and investigation of unmarked mass burial sites occur in accordance with human rights standards, with proper legal protection, documentation, and accountability? Furthermore, now will your government address the recent funding reductions to ensure that First Nations have the necessary resources to undertake this vital work?**

We will work with survivors and First Nations to find and protect unmarked graves. Survivors will lead the work. We will make sure the sites are legally protected, properly documented, and that there is full accountability. We will restore funding cuts and ensure long-term support for this vital work.

**17. Given the critical need to preserve and revitalize First Nations languages and cultural heritage in Manitoba, how will your government collaborate with First Nations leadership, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals to ensure sustainable funding and support for initiatives led by organizations like the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs? Specifically, what measures will you implement to recognize and uphold First Nation concepts of heritage, ensuring equitable support compared to non-Indigenous heritage programs?**

We will support First Nations in leading language and culture programs based on their own values. This includes long-term funding for groups like the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people as part of the work. First Nations heritage will be treated equally compared to all others.

**18. If elected, how will your government ensure that no province or territory can pass legislation that violates the rights of Two-Spirit and transgender First Nations children, and what concrete measures will you implement to protect their access to gender affirming care and safe, inclusive environments?**

We will make sure Two-Spirit and trans First Nations children are safe, respected, and supported. That means:

- Funding gender-affirming care.
- Creating inclusive schools and services.
- Stopping provinces or territories from passing laws that take away their rights.

We'll work with First Nations to protect every child.

**19. If elected, what steps would your government take to work with First Nations' communities to ensure access to culturally appropriate mental health and addictions treatment is available to First Nations living in their communities?**

We will fund and support Indigenous-led mental health and addiction services that includes trauma healing, land-based programs, culturally safe care, and local control.

We'll train more Indigenous health workers and work with First Nations to create services that reflect their needs, values, and ways of healing.