**In this federal election, Poverty and Housing Matter!**

| **Ottawa Centre****Riding** | **Conservative Party****www.conservative.ca**Leader: Stephen Harper**Candidate:** Damian KonstantinakosDamianKonstantinakos | **Green Party** [**www.greenparty.ca**](http://www.greenparty.ca)Leader: Elizabeth May**Candidate:** Tom MilroyTom Milroy | **Liberal Party** [**www.liberal.ca**](http://www.liberal.ca)Leader: Justin Trudeau**Candidate:** Catherine McKennaCatherine McKenna | **New Democratic Party (NDP)**[**www.ndp.ca**](http://www.ndp.ca)Leader: Tom Mulcair**Candidate:** Paul DewarPhoto - Paul Dewar |
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| **Where do Parties stand on** **Affordable Housing?**row-houses2 | \****Increase the allowable tax free withdrawals*** from RRSP accounts by $10,000 (Home Buyers’ Plan)\****Take concrete action in coordination with provinces*** to curb foreign speculation in Canada’s residential real estate market | \***Create *a******National Housing Strategy***that would provide permanent housing and supports. \***Make** **private developers include a percentage of affordable housing** in their housing projects.  | \***Renew federal leadership** in affordable housing. \***Help build** **more housing units**, refurbish existing ones, renew existing co-operative agreements, and provide operational funding support for municipalities. | \***Prioritize affordable housing** and homelessness across Canada.\***Commit to federal governmen**t **being a “long term stable partner** in building affordable housing”. |
| **Where do Parties stand on** **Poverty****Reduction?****PAG 61** | \****In 2007, Conservatives introduced Workers Income Tax Benefit:*** federal refundable tax credit that boosts the earned incomes of eligible low-income working individuals and families. | \***Establish a *Guaranteed Livable Income*,** to ensure no Canadian falls below an income level needed to live with dignity. | \***Create new *National Child Benefit*** that would combine family tax and transfers*,* with higher annual allowances for low-income families. | \***Introduce *National Poverty Elimination Act***, a federal plan to eliminate poverty with affordable housing, affordable childcare, and reforming *Employment Insurance.*\***Boost *Guaranteed Income Supplement*** by $400 million. |

 **Vote for the candidate in the Party that *speaks to your concerns*!**

**Why should I vote?**

*“We are trying to survive, and politicians do not care about our concerns!”*

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| * People living with poverty sometimes do not vote because we are too busy trying to survive.
* We also feel let down by politicians and feel apathy – we believe that there is no point in voting.
* However, politicians will care about our concerns *if* they know we vote, as they want to get into office.
* So, the more that people living in poverty vote, the more politicians will pay attention to our needs, and address issues like reducing poverty and increasing affordable housing.
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**Politicians pay attention to voters’ concerns, so**

**people living in poverty need to vote to**

**get policies in place to reduce poverty!**

**Voting can mean *REAL* change!**

