

THE PARTIES

Each of the major parties in Ontario, the Progressive Conservatives (PCs), the Ontario New Democratic Party (NDP), the Liberal Party of Ontario (LPO), and the Green Party of Ontario (GPO) has their own vision for how to address health care challenges informed by their own unique context. Here we provide background information to help you understand how each party views this election and their priorities.

Progressive Conservative Party

- Initially elected on a mandate of smaller government and lower taxes, Premier Doug Ford was forced to change tack because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Premier and his party continue to poll ahead of both the Liberals and NDP but potentially not quite high enough to secure a second majority if current numbers stand.
- A minority led by the PCs could be in trouble right from the beginning with all three other major party leaders having publicly committed not to support Doug Ford in a minority.
- PC priorities for this election include:
 - Investments in Ontario's health care to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, address health staffing shortages, fix long-term care and increase health system capacity
 - Supporting Ontario businesses as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Attracting companies to make business investments in the province
 - Getting the province's finances back on track

New Democratic Party

- Andrea Horwath's NDP will look to capitalize on the gains they made in the 2018 election by holding on to traditionally Liberal seats in the GTA and looking for pickups in the 905 and southwestern Ontario.
- Horwath is well liked among voters and is hoping that this likeability will be enough to overcome traditional reservations about voting an NDP government in to power. If she is unable to do so, this is likely her last election as leader.
- NDP priorities for this election include:
 - An overhaul of the provincial health system including bringing mental health under OHIP, launching pharmacare and dental care programs, and hiring up to 55,000 new front line health care workers
 - Eliminating Bill 124
 - Addressing affordability challenges through a tax freeze for middle-class families, a reduction in gas prices, and an increase in the minimum wage to \$20/hour.
 - Bringing the long-term care and home-care sectors entirely within the public domain and out of private companies while also building 50,000 new LTC beds.

Advocacy Toolkit for Members

Liberal Party

- Steven Del Duca's Liberals are still rebuilding their party and they are struggling with fundraising. Their new leader remains untested. However, Del Duca is an establishment figure and a centrist, looking to build his party up.
- The Liberals have recovered in polling since 2018 and still have room to grow, particularly in traditionally Liberal areas like Toronto. There will be challenges to win back seats lost in the last election, particularly with only 2 incumbents seeking re-election.
- Liberal priorities this election include:
 - Creating a new model of long-term care that includes bringing all private facilities under public control by 2028 and creating new facilities that are less institutional and more like home for residents.
 - Supporting workers and small businesses
 - Electoral reform through the introduction of a ranked ballot voting system.

Green Party

- Mike Schreiner will seek to leverage his personal appeal to grow the Green party benches with a particular focus on a seat that the Federal Greens were able to pick up for the first time in 2021 (Kitchener-Centre) and on the downtown Toronto seat where the former Ontario Environmental Commissioner is the candidate (University Rosedale).
- Green priorities in this election include:
 - Timely healthcare
 - High-quality education
 - Safe place to call home for seniors, families and young Ontarians