

Issue	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green Party	Bloc Quebecois <i>(Ag platform available in French only)</i>
Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support free trade and will focus on opening up new markets through bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. • Support the 2005 House motion that states no over quota tariff reduction and no further TRQ expansion for Canada's supply managed commodities • Continue to stand up for supply-managed sectors nationally and internationally through any future World Trade Organization meetings and in bilateral trade negotiations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to multilateral negotiation through the WTO • Need to also pursue bilateral trade agreements that reduce not only tariff, but non-tariff barriers. • Firm conviction that the environment, human rights and corporate social responsibility are all critical considerations in the negotiation of free trade agreements. • Continue to protect supply management <i>- Liberal Party, Backgrounder</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to tackle the manufacturing crisis by reviewing unfair trade rules • Plan to revisit/renegotiate NAFTA and other FTA's. • Continue to protect supply management • Removal of export subsidies • Ensure that the preservation of orderly marketing systems, and the elimination of predatory export practices and subsidies are key priorities – both in domestic and policy and international trade negotiations. • Implement income stabilization programs that are consistent with our international trade negotiations and approaches. • Protect existing marketing systems for our agriculture industries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement and other FTA's so that Canada has the power to encourage more domestic value-added manufacturing • Prioritize fair trade in agricultural exports and imports. • Protect supply management • Re-organize other powerful multilateral institutions, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the IMF and the World Bank, placing these institutions under the authority of the UN General • Focus on the global protection of human rights, labour standards, cultural diversity and ecosystems as part of the negotiation of any trade deal. • Scrap the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exige du gouvernement fédéral qu'il ne fasse aucune nouvelle concession sur le système de gestion de l'offre tant et aussi longtemps que les autres pays n'auront pas atteint un plancher d'accès de 5 % dans les produits mis en cause. • demande au gouvernement fédéral d'assurer aux producteurs que les secteurs sous gestion de l'offre ne soient soumis à aucune réduction des tarifs hors contingents, ni à aucune augmentation des contingents tarifaires. • exige que le Canada se concentre sur l'établissement de règles permettant des échanges plus équitables, lors de négociations internationales, en incluant notamment dans les accords commerciaux des clauses prévoyant le respect de standards internationaux en termes de droit du travail, des droits de la personne et de l'environnement.

Federal Election 2008 Platform Comparison Table

<p>Business risk management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will set aside \$500 million over the next four years and continue to work cooperatively with provinces to implement an agricultural flexibility program. The plan will deliver region-specific programs that help farm families cope with the costs of production pressures, promote innovation, ensure environmental sustainability, and respond to market challenges and opportunities important to each province. <p><i>--Conservative Press Release "PUTTING FARMERS FIRST"</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new \$564-million Regional Flexibility Fund for farmers to develop regional-specific solutions to address the environment, business risk management and cost of production needs. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restructure Canada's Business Risk Management Programs to help farmers cope with climate risk, especially in the areas of disaster assistance and production insurance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exige du gouvernement fédéral qu'il accède à la demande des groupes de producteurs en mettant une enveloppe budgétaire à la disposition du Québec et des provinces, afin de contribuer à des programmes régionaux selon des critères adaptées au territoire et plus flexibles. Elle servirait, par exemple, au financement d'une forme de partenariat avec des programmes-compagnons de soutien aux revenus ou de programmes axés sur le développement des marchés et de la recherche (Programme Agri-flex). propose d'augmenter graduellement les investissements dans le secteur de l'agriculture afin que les programmes de soutien au revenu et de gestion des risques du Cadre stratégique agricole II, de même que les programmes de relève, soient haussés, à terme de 2,3 milliards de dollars annuellement à partir de la troisième année.
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<p>Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the 'Turning the Corner' Plan, a cap-and-trade system will be put in place which will allow farmers to be paid for carbon offset activities they carry out on the farm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Liberals will put a price on fossil fuels, like coal and natural gas (but not gasoline), starting at \$10 per tonne of carbon dioxide and rising to \$40 per tonne over four years. Diesel prices will increase by 7 cents by year four of the plan. The Green Shift would also include new, universal child tax benefit worth \$350 per child, per year, on top of all existing child benefits A refundable \$850 increase to the employment tax credit An immediate Green Rural Credit worth \$150 for every rural tax-filer. Additional tax credits and incentives for business to encourage innovation and green investment Emission Reduction Credits: This \$400 million program will run over 4 years and be the precursor to a full cap and trade system. Farmers will receive \$10 for every tonne of verified carbon they sequester on the farm through activities such as no-till, manure management and land set-asides. 	<p>Implement a Canadian organic food and agriculture strategy which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban the use of Terminator seeds and protect every farmer's right to choose, save and control their seeds. Provide transition funding for education, equipment and training for farmers who wish to shift to organic or bio-intensive integrated pest management systems of agriculture. Support for independent agricultural extension workers to facilitate environmentally friendly farming methods, including low tillage, water conservation and reduced fertilizer and pesticide use Promoted cap-and-trade as the carbon pricing system that targets big polluters best—in line with the European Union, all US presidential contenders, and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A graduated carbon tax that would impose a higher cost on the "dirtier" fossil fuels, such as coal, and less on natural gas. A cap-and-trade system would also be put into place. Shift research away from biotechnology and intensive agriculture to organic. Strengthen the monitoring of pesticides, fungicides, growth hormones and non-therapeutic anti-biotics in food production. Protect and improve quality of streams, rivers, aquifers and lakes by requiring agriculture practices that avoid contamination by agricultural run-off Minimize the effects of climate change by encouraging farming methods that increase carbon sequestration and decrease water requirements, with financial rewards through domestic carbon trading. Establish greenhouse gas emission targets for all components of the agri-food system and collaborate with industry in establishing plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> apply the Kyoto Protocol, with a carbon market, based on a territorial approach
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<p>Food Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the Food Safety Action Plan, which over the next four years will invest more than \$160 million in the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to hire new inspectors, better track imports and improve safety systems. Proceed with an impartial third-party investigation of the recent listeriosis outbreak. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liberals will support the hiring of an additional 100 inspectors. These additional inspectors will be put to work ensuring our food is safe when it reaches store shelves. Invest an additional \$50 million to build a more robust food safety net. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of inspectors at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and increase administrative support so inspectors can spend more time on the floor and less time on paperwork. Reduce worker injuries, increase the quality of the food, and ensure greater safety of products by introducing regulations on "line speed" in meat processing plants that match existing requirements in the European Union. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support local food economies by enabling local areas, without industrial scale agriculture, to develop area-specific food safety regulations meeting national standards without placing undue financial burdens on local farmers and food processors Restore funding for critical food safety testing and new produce approvals processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> assurer la sécurité et la salubrité alimentaire sur le territoire assurer de bonnes conditions pour la relève, et suffisamment de main-d'oeuvre agricole rejette l'idée selon laquelle l'industrie doit s'autoréguler complètement en matière d'inspection des aliments; réviser le rôle de l'ACIA, notamment dans le but de clarifier les conséquences possibles de son double mandat et de prioriser son rôle fédéral de gardien dans le domaine de l'alimentation et de l'innocuité des aliments; modifier la législation afin de forcer l'ACIA à partager obligatoirement ses informations avec toutes les agences provinciales aussitôt que des cas de maladies à déclaration obligatoire sont signalés simultanément dans plus d'une province.
<p>Strategic Growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada's livestock sector relies on its ability to get products to market quickly. We will invest \$50 million to strengthen slaughter capacity in various regions of the country to support our beef 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new \$30-million program to support the promotion of local farmers' markets and the branding of Canadian-grown foods. – <i>Liberal Party, Backgrounder</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redress the imbalances of economic power between producers and agri-business corporations, including limiting meatpackers' ownership of cattle, by adding new 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage production and consumption of Canadian agricultural products, especially organically grown. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promouvoir la souveraineté alimentaire et s'en inspirer pour développer nos politiques agricoles assurer un meilleur contrôle sur la stabilité des prix des produits agricoles et, par conséquent, des

	<p>and dairy industries, and other livestock sectors. This fund will help existing facilities with operational change and modernization to ensure Canada's agriculture remains self-sufficient and less reliant on long-haul shipments for slaughter.</p> <p><i>--Conservative Press Release "PUTTING FARMERS FIRST"</i></p>		<p>provisions to the Competition Act.</p>		<p>revenus des agriculteurs;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fournir un effort accru en matière de développement régional dans le respect des compétences québécoises pour assurer la vitalité des communautés rurales. • favoriser, par des politiques de sensibilisation, l'achat de produits et l'établissement d'un meilleur contact entre le producteur et le consommateur.
Food labeling			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require labeling of genetically engineered foods and farmed fish. • Require full accuracy and accountability for labels stating "Made in Canada". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit the commercialization of genetically modified crops and impose labeling of GMO products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implanter des règles obligatoires d'étiquetage pour les normes 'origine, au lieu du système volontaire.
Research and development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.2 billion to improve the Science, Research & Development tax credit, also part of our Green Shift, to encourage more investment in renewable solutions, such as those that come from farms. • \$250-million Green Farms Fund to support green farm research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the best young minds to stay here in Canada by increasing funding for university and college-based research, and for graduate and post-graduate studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift research away from biotechnology and intensive agriculture to organic. • Increase publicly funded research into seed stock, animal breeds and organic farming techniques and establishes new policies for private research efforts to ensure that they are in the best interests of family farmers and consumers 	

<p>Grain transportation regulations</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately call for a full-cost rail review to ensure accuracy and fairness in the calculation of freight rates to address the rail cost concerns of western Canadian farmers; and <i>–Liberal Party, Backgrounder</i> • Implement a moratorium on further branch-line abandonment proceedings to allow the new government to assess the appropriateness of the current branch-line configuration. This acknowledges the commercial, community and environmental value of short-line railway operations. <i>–Liberal Party, Backgrounder</i> 			
<p>Taxation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diesel excise tax will be cut by 2 cents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberals will put a price on fossil fuels, like coal and natural gas (but not gasoline), starting at \$10 per tonne of carbon dioxide and rising to \$40 per tonne over four years. • Income and business taxes will be cut 1-2% • A new, universal child tax benefit worth \$350 per child, per year, on top of all existing child benefits • A refundable \$850 increase to the employment tax credit 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring in a \$50 per tonne carbon tax and develop taxes for toxic chemicals. • Return the GST to six per cent, to invest in infrastructure. Expand the exemptions on food items, and extend them to children's clothing and books. Provide rebates for rural Canadians. • Provide GST rebates and compensation for protecting ecological services, such as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le Bloc Québécois propose, pour cette année, l'instauration d'un crédit d'impôt remboursable équivalant à 10 % des revenus provenant de l'exploitation agricole; avec un maximum d'environ 1500 \$. • Le Bloc Québécois propose d'accroître le montant admissible à la déduction pour gain en capital pour biens agricoles de 750 000 \$ à 1 000 000 \$, et ce, seulement pour les transactions à la suite desquelles il y aurait

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An immediate Green Rural Credit worth \$150 for every rural tax-filer. • Additional tax credits and incentives for business to encourage innovation and green investment • Proposed \$1.7 billion accelerated capital cost allowance will allow investments in green technology to depreciate faster, resulting in a larger tax deduction. 		wildlife habitat.	maintien de l'exploitation.
Canadian Wheat Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with Western Canadian grain farmers to ensure that the results of their plebiscite are respected and that they are given freedom to choose whether to sell grain on the open market or through the Canada Wheat Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to maintain strong support for supply management and commit to restore farmer control of a strong, democratic Canadian Wheat Board. No government should decide the future of the Canadian Wheat Board. A Liberal government would stand firm in its commitment that only western Canadian wheat and barley farmers will determine the fate of the CWB. -Liberal Party, Backgrounder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrench the CWB as the single desk marketer for Canadian wheat and barley, and commit Canadian policy to the principle of orderly marketing systems for commodity sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Storey (Green Party agriculture critic) spoke out about the need for the government to stop manipulating the Wheat Board. Storey said that the interference in the public sector has been consistent and scandalous in the years of the Harper government. -Green Party, Press Release September 28, 2008 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

*All material was gathered from official party platforms unless otherwise noted.