1. Resolution: A Policy Resolution on National Health Care
   Submitted by: The Board of Directors

   WHEREAS the Council of Canadians has campaigned for improved health care programs for decades; and

   WHEREAS elements of a health care program that effectively meets the need of all in Canada includes continuation of our national public health care program, expanded to increase federal transfers to the provinces to meet existing and future need, and improved with:

   • appropriate accountability measures tied to funding levels,
   • a universal single-payer pharmacare plan; and
   • a national dental program; and
   • improved at-home supports and not-for-profit long-term care for those who require residential care, with appropriate funding, regulation and independent monitoring,
   • support for workers across the health care system, including doctors and nurses as well as support staff, respecting that many staff are racialized individuals with unique needs; and

   WHEREAS there are renewed pressures to introduce privatization into our healthcare system and continued expansion of private long-term care, even as the federal government, in the agreement between the Liberals and NDP, have committed to improvements in some areas,

   THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Canadians continue to engage members, chapters, and supporters to demand improvements to our National Health Care, to resist privatization of services and private control of long-term care, to campaign for an early introduction of single-payer pharmacare, to support staff across the health
care system, and to strategically build political power to mobilize for these important changes.

2. Resolution: A Policy Resolution on Canadian Military Spending

Submitted by: The Board of Directors

WHEREAS Russia’s attack on Ukraine and tragic loss of life has been used as a reason to stimulate military spending in many NATO countries, including Canada, with the real possibility of an arms build-up and renewed cold war; and

WHEREAS Canada is already the sixth largest military spender among NATO’s 30 member states, and the federal budget in April 2022 announced a plan to boost military spending by $8 billion over five years, bringing the country’s 2026-27 military spending to over $40 billion – equal to 1.5 per cent of gross domestic product, up from 1.39 per cent currently; and

WHEREAS Canada is also a seller of arms to autocratic regimes such as Saudi Arabia,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Canadians reaffirm its 2016 commitment to oppose increased arms spending and military build-up; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council do so by joining in the renewed and widespread demand that the Canadian government discontinue all arms exports to regimes that are aggressors in war or violate human rights.

3. Resolution: A Remedy For Developer-Funded Politics

Received on May 4, 2022

Submitted by: Guy Talevi, Brona Little, Kathleen Caught, Helen Mason, Peter Bowie, Joann D Ashford, Cecile Wilson, Simon Good, Matilda Samuel, Sara Washburn, Sharon Katz, Evelyn Gigantes, Michelle Myer, Marie-Joelle Auclair and Richie Allen

Whereas corporate contributions to the election campaigns of candidates for municipal Council enable undue influence in city planning and detract from action on affordable housing, homelessness, climate and policing.

Whereas for transparency, campaign donations information should be available to voters, journalists and community organizations during the writ period, well before Voting Day.

Whereas small donor public funding systems have been shown to yield more democratic results for municipal campaigns by encouraging candidates to fundraise among small donors.

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of Canadians will support a policy of donations transparency and small donor public funding in Ontario’s municipal elections.
4. Resolution: A just recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic
   Received on May 6, 2022
   Submitted by: Hamilton Chapter

   THE RISE OF CORPORATE PROFITS IN THE TIME OF COVID

   Whereas Canadian corporate profit margins skyrocketed in 2021:
   • From 2002 to 2019, corporate profit margins averaged 9%; in 2021, they were 16%.
   • Extreme profit margins drove profits per firm up by 68% over 2019.
   • More than 90% of the increase in sales revenue per firm was profit.

   Whereas profit margins have soared for both commodity and non-commodity companies:
   • High commodity prices are not the only reason profit margins have risen.
   Whereas higher profit margins are a little discussed driver of inflation.

   Be it Resolved That the Council of Canadians raise concerns about the effects of extreme increases in corporate profits on affordability for both households and governments by urging the federal government to:
   • Implement an excess profits tax by adding 15% tax on companies with more than $10 million higher profit margins than normal.
   • Close egregious corporate tax loopholes: first by the deduction of interest expenses that should be limited to 20% of gross profits: second, set a $1 million cap on executive salary deductions: third, eliminate the preferential tax treatment of capital gains.
   • Raise the corporate income tax rate, by increasing the corporate tax rate to 20%.
   • Improve corporate financial transparency by, speeding up the implementation of the publicly-accessible Beneficial Ownership Registry.
5. Resolution: A Campaign Resolution on Community Solidarity

Submitted by: The Board of Directors

WHEREAS the current resurgence of an organized far-right movement in Canada poses a real and significant threat to democracy, social solidarity and social justice; and

WHEREAS across the world, a shrinking elite exploits uncertainty by encouraging rightwing and “shock doctrine” responses to crises in order to further concentrate wealth and power for themselves, scapegoating historically marginalized groups, undermining human rights, sabotaging climate action, attacking labour standards and privatizing public resources like water, health care and others; and

WHEREAS the most recent data on police-reported hate crimes in Canada reveals a 37% increase in hate crimes during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, including increased targeting of:

- East or Southeast Asian people by 301%
- Black people by 92%
- Indigenous people by 152%
- South Asian people by 47%; and

WHEREAS the most effective response to this threat is through community organizing in which impacted communities create viable alternatives and protect shared resources for all of us no matter where we’re from or what we look like; and

WHEREAS over the past months, the Council of Canadians through the Community Solidarity Project, has facilitated and coordinated such efforts at the national and local levels, convening tables with allies and progressive organizations to shape strategies to address the challenge posed by far-right groups, especially those connected with the January 2022 convoy movement,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Canadians continue to identify ways to organize with and alongside people from all walks of life to counter the politics of division and hate, and to work together to build respectful inclusive future based on social, economic, racial and climate justice.

6. Resolution: A Campaign Resolution on the Climate Emergency
   Submitted by: The Board of Directors

WHEREAS the Council of Canadians has advocated and campaigned for responses to the global climate emergency that combine achievable solutions on a multitude of fronts; and

WHEREAS in 2021 and early 2022, the Council’s efforts have focused on the Green New Deal, Just Transition, working towards eliminating fossil fuel extraction, reliance and exports in favour of clean sustainable energy sources, and exposing the falsehood of nuclear energy as a clean option; and

WHEREAS despite government’s commitments to meet the objectives of COP26 and other promises to address the climate crisis, their continued support of extractive industries combined with expanded production in response to Russia’s attack on Ukraine contradict this; and

WHEREAS public pension funds, amounting to $205 Billion in public service pensions funds and an additional $542 Billion in the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) continue to be heavily invested in fossil fuels despite the material risk now recognized as inherent in these portfolios,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Canadians continue to prioritize the climate emergency among its campaigns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council’s climate emergency work focus on:

- An effective just transition strategy encompassing every sector of the economy, with worker representatives at the table as plans to wind down the oil and gas sectors and decarbonize the entire economy are designed and implemented;
- Public funding for sustainable green energy alternatives that provide stable and well paid jobs with a corresponding elimination of fossil fuels and nuclear power;
- Reallocation of pension fund investments for public sector plans and CPP to clean energy and other investments for the common good;
- Respect for Indigenous rights and sovereignty throughout this transition by including Indigenous peoples at every step of design and implementation; and
- Inclusion of all communities impacted by the transition.

7. Resolution: The People’s Medicine Campaign
   Submitted by: The Board of Directors

WHEREAS since the onset of COVID-19, a handful of multinational pharmaceutical corporations have acquired an extraordinary degree of life-or-death power over
governments around the world through their control of patents for essential medicines like vaccines and therapeutics and protected by international trade agreements like the WTO’s Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS); and

WHEREAS the growing political influence of the pharmaceutical industry in Canada has allowed it to successfully block efforts to reduce prices on brand-name drugs and repeatedly delay progress towards pharmacare, representing a threat to the health of all who live in Canada and the sustainability of our public health care system; and

WHEREAS despite strong public support for pharmacare, Canada is the only country with a universal public health care system that does not include a comprehensive public drug coverage, meaning Canadians pay some of the highest drug prices of any country in the world; and

WHEREAS publicly-funded scientific research and drug development done in Canada, such as the crucial mRNA vaccine components developed by UBC scientists, frequently ends up serving to enrich corporations and shareholders rather than advance the health and welfare of people in Canada and around the world; and

WHEREAS Canada’s recent past shows that publicly-owned enterprises such as Connaught Labs can develop, manufacture, and distribute innovative vaccines and other essential medicines for the world, in the absence of the profit motive,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council work with its allies to comprehensively map and expose the corrupting influence of Big Pharma in our society; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council through its staff expand its campaign on pharmacare to challenge the agenda of Big Pharma more comprehensively, via a “People’s Lobby” to fight for affordable medicines at home, alongside those fighting for the same goals abroad (e.g. the People’s Vaccine).

8. Resolution: Does the Auditor-General find Value in Public Funding to the Nuclear Industry and its Regulatory Structure?

WHEREAS the Nuclear Industry’s waste puts our ground waters, surface waters, land, flora, fauna, and human populations at risk in perpetuity;

WHEREAS the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is widely regarded as a regulatory agency captured by Industry;

WHEREAS federal and provincial governments donate funding of more than 1B$\textsuperscript{1} to the Nuclear Industry every year for R&D, contracted services and/or core expenses, without adequate oversight or transparent accountability, while the federal government accepts all liability;

Received on May 5, 2022

Submitted by: Kitchissippi – Ottawa Valley Chapter, Guelph Chapter, Kitchener - Waterloo Chapter, Peterborough – Kawarthas Chapter, Saskatoon Chapter, Peel Chapter

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WHEREAS the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) is widely regarded as a regulatory agency captured by Industry;

WHEREAS federal and provincial governments donate funding of more than 1B$\textsuperscript{1} to the Nuclear Industry every year for R&D, contracted services and/or core expenses, without adequate oversight or transparent accountability, while the federal government accepts all liability;
Whereas the Industry pitches for public funds by “greenwashing” nuclear power generation as a “clean energy” solution to the climate crisis, hiding huge issues presented by theoretical SMRs and DGRs, including upstream and downstream carbon emissions, while safer and commercially more viable genuine clean energy options already exist;

Whereas the Industry simultaneously coerces impoverished Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities with jobs and valuable ‘gifts’ such as sewage treatment systems and recreational complexes, to entice them to agree to the storage, in perpetuity, of highly toxic nuclear and other hazardous waste;

Be it resolved that the Council is fundamentally concerned that Public/Private Partnerships in the Nuclear Industry undermine the quality of life for Canadians, including of taxpayers who foot escalating bills (example here) for legacy and emerging contamination;

Be it further resolved that the Council establish an anti-privatization Action Campaign to engage the Auditor General of Canada in reporting on the value of annual public investment in the Nuclear Industry, and unless this investment can be fully proven to be in the public interest for “People, Planet and Democracy,” the Council continue to demand immediate prohibition of all new nuclear energy projects followed by a complete phasing out of any existing projects.

1. For federal amounts: https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/tbs-sct/documents/planned-government-spending/main-estimates/2021-22/2021-22-estimates-eng.pdf; also see: https://www.aecl.ca/reports-resources/


9. Resolution: NATO Resolution

   Received on May 4, 2022
   Submitted by: Edmonton Chapter, London Chapter, Doug Meggison, and Naomi Rankin

Whereas as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a nuclear-armed military alliance of 30 Western countries;

Whereas Canada is refusing to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) because of its membership in the transatlantic alliance that relies on a dangerous nuclear deterrence;
Whereas NATO puts pressure on Canada to increase military spending to 2% of GDP, to which Canada has already increased annual military spending by 39% from 2014 to $33 billion in 2021 (see NATO Defence Expenditures report), with an additional $8 billion as stated in the Federal Budget 2022, that diverts public resources away from social and environmental needs and climate action;

Whereas Canada is pressured to buy 88 new fighter jets for $19 billion and build 15 warships for $77 billion to meet NATO interoperability requirements;

Whereas within NATO countries it is the military that is the largest institutional consumer of oil and largest emitter of greenhouse gases (see Canada’s Greening Government portal), and military vehicles and operations that consume exorbitant fossil fuel are exempted from Canada’s national greenhouse gas emissions reductions plan;

Whereas NATO promotes militarism that harms people and the planet and undermines global cooperation through the United Nations to achieve climate security through the Paris Agreement and human security through the Sustainable Development Goals;

Be it resolved that the Council of Canadians have a campaign to educate either singularly or in combination with other peace organizations about the necessity and importance of Canada’s withdrawal from NATO.

Included in this education has to be these issues:

1. The threat to essential social services such as access to housing, education, health care, and green transition if military spending continues to rise;
2. The threat to the climate and planet from environmentally destructive military operations and war;
3. The connections between membership in NATO and the requirement to pursue neoliberal economic reforms that undermine social welfare;

This Council of Canadians’ educational campaign should include public resources, a petition drive, social media, etc.

10. Resolution: Parliamentary Committees Monitoring Project

Received on May 3, 2022
Submitted by: Ann Pohl, Kathryn Lindsay, Ian Pineau, Lin Grist, Marilyn Hay, Gail Wylie, Bob Garthson

Whereas the government of Canada has become markedly less transparent and accountable to the public under the increasingly centralized and powerful Prime Minister’s Office, which is profoundly influenced by corporate lobbyists;

Whereas it is still possible to garner tactical understanding of federal politics through the activities of Parliamentary Committees such as Environment and Sustainable Development, Natural Resources, Fisheries and Oceans, Agriculture and Agri-Food, and Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, among a dozen standing committees periodically investigating issues relevant to the Council and its Chapters;
Whereas valid knowledge of what federal politicians are doing is crucial for the Council’s capacity to engage grassroots Canadians and ally with Indigenous Peoples for “People, Planet and Democracy” in promotion of the common good;  

Whereas monitoring these committees to share pertinent summary information through chapter and ally networks will support effective activism;  

Whereas encouraging greater integration between chapter activists, our staff, and our Directors is a clear objective of the organization, however staff currently have limited capacity for a project such as this;  

Therefore, be it resolved that a task force consisting of an organizer staff member, a writer from the communications team, a member of the Board of Directors, and any chapter activists able to invest volunteer time, forthwith initiate a pilot project mandated to prepare and disseminate summary reports on their findings from monitoring relevant investigations of parliamentary committees;  

And be it also resolved that Parliamentary Committees Monitoring Project participants submit a written review of their efforts at least three months before the Council’s 2023 Annual Members Meeting, to the Board of Directors, all chapters and staff, and that a timely open meeting of the Board of Directors with all interested members and staff be held to discuss these findings on the pilot project’s as well as any follow-up resolution to the 2023 AMM.

11. Resolution: To establish a municipal water body management bylaw

Received on May 6, 2022  
Submitted by: Edmonton Chapter

Land Use Policies focus on matters of public policy, not matters of law. They provide a framework for statutory plans, land use bylaws, and planning decisions. The Land Use Policies should be interpreted as a guide to more specific municipal policy and action, and are not intended to be the basis of legal challenges. In applying the Land Use Policies municipalities must assess the importance of each policy in relation to the others in light of local and inter municipal priorities. Municipalities must have regard to the cumulative effects of all of the policies as well as to the specific effect of each policy.

WHEREAS waterbodies must be held in public trust and protected as a non-renewable resource to ensure ecosystem sustainability for the benefit of all;  

WHEREAS municipalities are empowered to provide responsible and accountable local governance in order to create and sustain safe and viable communities, etc;  

WHEREAS municipalities have the duty and responsibility to foster the well-being of the environment today and in the future;
WHEREAS municipalities through traditional and local knowledge practice, experience, and relationships with nature have an important role in defending and healing the natural environment;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council urge municipalities to enact WATER BODY MANAGEMENT BYLAWs, consistent with relevant provincial and federal legislation, to be used, starting at the earliest stages of land use planning and development, to manage activities on, in, or near all water bodies within the municipalities jurisdictions.

12. Resolution: A resolution on Carbon Capture and Storage technology

Received on May 6, 2022
Submitted by: Willem Langenberg, Jim McPhail, Cornelis Kolijn

Whereas the present Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) plans suggest the underground storage of an amount of 6 Gigatonne of CO2 per year (13% of yearly emissions) at a cost of $0.6 trillion per year using Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology.

Whereas the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology is not a proven technology.

Whereas the stored CO2 has the potential to leak out into the atmosphere, which would annihilate the required climate change mitigation.

Whereas the Canadian Government is actively involved in applying the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology.

Whereas the total storage potential of natural and enhanced weathering of basic rocks could possibly be up to 250,000 Gigatonne of CO2.

Whereas Project Vesta of Coastal Carbon Capture is pioneering techniques to accelerate the natural process of weathering of basic rocks to remove at least a Gigatonne of atmospheric CO2 per year on a global scale.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council urge that Canada increase funding for research on natural and enhanced weathering of basic rocks to levels equivalent to the present funding of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technology, resulting in a required Just Clean Energy Transition.
13. Resolution: A resolution on conscientious banking

Received on May 6, 2022

Submitted by: Hamilton Chapter

Whereas the Council of Canadians suggests that its chapters move their accounts from private banks to credit unions;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of Canadians move its accounts from private banks to credit unions.