

**Answers from Marc Godbout, Liberal, Ottawa-Orléans
to questions from the PSAC**



PSAC questions	Marc Godbout's answers
<p>1- Quality public services a) Are you in favour of quality public services, universally accessible and delivered by permanent Public service employees?</p>	<p>Yes, I am in favour of quality public services, universally accessible and delivered by permanent Public service employees.</p>
<p>b) What will you do to protect and enhance food safety?</p>	<p>The Liberal Party believes that protecting the health and safety of Canadians is a primary responsibility of the federal government.</p> <p>A Liberal government is committing to invest an additional \$50 million to build a more robust food safety net. This will include the hiring of additional inspectors who will ensure our food is safe when it reaches store shelves.</p> <p>In addition, to ensure the long-term strength of the food safety system a new Liberal government will conduct a food safety review. This will also ensure that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has the right number of inspectors and resources.</p> <p>By recruiting more inspectors, ensuring inspectors have access to the best technology and expanding inspection efforts of both home-grown and imported foods, Canadians will be able to have greater faith in the food they and their families eat. More inspection means more safety for all Canadians.</p>
<p>c) Are you in favour of the sale of government owned buildings to the private sector?</p>	<p>This issue should be studied further.</p>

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Public Service Alliance of Canada
Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada

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d) If your party is elected will it pledge to reinstate the Court Challenges Program and the Law Commission of Canada?	The Liberal Party supports the re-establishment of the Court Challenges Program and doubling its budget.
e) Will your party reverse the cuts to Status of Women funding within and outside government and restore funding for women's groups who do research and advocacy work?	Yes, a Liberal government will restore funding for Status of Women regional offices. We remain committed to ensuring equality in our society for all Canadians.
f) The last time the support program for Persons With Disabilities (PWD) was overhauled was in 1995. The cost of living has continually gone up since then. Do you think it is time for an overhaul of the support programs for PWDs?	Yes, I think it is time for an overhaul of the support programs for PWDs.
<p>2- Working conditions and negotiations in the public service</p> <p>a) Would you support the government reducing its use of precarious workers, by ceasing temporary help agencies hiring, and by reducing the number of part-time and contract workers?</p>	I believe there have to be strict guidelines in place for the hiring of part-time and contract workers in order to protect full-time public sector workers.

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b) Employees of the federal public sector want their negotiations to accelerate and result in fair pay increases. What will you do to ensure they get satisfaction?	I will always support fair pay increases and satisfactory negotiations for our highly qualified public sector workers.
c) Are you in favour of abolishing distinct pay zones that apply to blue collars?	Yes, I would be in favour of abolishing regional pay zones.
d) Do you believe that pay equity should apply to all employees of the federal public sector?	Yes, I am committed to pay equity applying to all employees of the federal public sector.
e) Do you agree to modify Part II of the Canadian Labour Code in order to offer pregnant or nursing workers the same access to leave with pay as under the Québec Labour Code?	Yes.
f) Do you believe that Bill C-45 on health and security should apply to employees working on Parliament Hill?	Yes, Part III of Bill C-45 should be proclaimed and provide Parliament Hill workers with the same health and occupational safety protection as other federal workers.

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g) Are you in favour of modifying the rules concerning political rights of federal public service workers, in order to allow their full participation in the electoral process?	Yes, I am in favour of modifying the rules concerning political rights of federal public service workers, in order to allow their full participation in the electoral process.
<p>3- Greater justice in the taxation system What do you intend to do so that the taxation system stop widening the gap between rich and poor Canadians?</p>	<p>A Liberal government will enact the 30-50 Plan to Fight Poverty, a full-scale attack on poverty. Our current tax system does a poor job of ensuring that working Canadians are kept out of poverty, and can live in dignity and provide for their children. We need to do better.</p> <p>Within our first term, we will reduce the number of people living below the poverty line by at least 30 percent, so that 1 million more Canadians are better able to realize their potential. And we will reduce the number of children living in poverty by at least 50 percent, to give nearly 400,000 children a better chance in life. We will make this possible through a combination of the initiatives contained in the Liberal green shift plan outlined earlier in this platform and additional measures.</p> <p>Four tax measures included in the Liberal green shift plan are specifically designed to help low-income Canadians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the creation of a new, refundable child tax benefit worth \$350 per child; • replacing the Conservatives' regressive, small, poorly designed \$1,000 employment credit – with a \$1,850 refundable employment credit targeted at those Canadians who earn less than \$50,000 per year which will put up to

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	<p>\$250 per person into the pockets of those working Canadians who need it most;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing the Working Income Tax Benefit above the level legislated by the Conservatives, encouraging work by having this benefit available on the first dollar earned, which is \$3,000 sooner than the Conservative plan, and ensuring that it benefits more families by phasing it out more slowly; and • making the Disability Tax Credit refundable, ensuring that low-income individuals who are disabled are able to directly benefit from this tax credit.
<p>4- National Child Care Strategy Will your government invest in a publicly delivered, national child care strategy to address the needs of families outside of Quebec?</p>	<p>Yes, a Liberal Government would introduce a national high-quality, universal, community-based early education and child care program. Specifically, I would work towards 600 new day-care spaces in Orléans.</p>

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<p>5- Environment If your party is elected to form a government, will you pledge to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the re-instatement of adequate funding of federal environmental programs; • support international initiatives calling for firm commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions; • and ensure that Canada lives up to its international agreements, including meeting the legally binding targets agreed upon when Canada signed on to the Kyoto Accord? 	<p>The Liberal Party's <u>Green Shift</u> and its <u>Richer, Fairer, Greener</u> action plan is a comprehensive commitment to our environment.</p>
<p>6- Anti-scab legislation Did you vote (or would you have voted) for or against the anti-scab bill tabled in 2007? What action would you take to have an anti-scab bill passed at the federal level?</p>	<p>I would be willing to discuss the issues surrounding anti-scab legislation.</p>
<p>7- Working in French in the Public Service What do you intend to do to promote the use of French in the Public service, particularly in the National Capital Region?</p>	<p>I fully support PSAC's policy of bilingualism in the public service in accordance with the <u>Official Languages Act</u>.</p>