

**Answers of Sylvie Lemieux, Green, Glengarry-Prescott-Russell
to questions from the PSAC**



PSAC questions	Sylvie Lemieux'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>Absolutely.</p>
<p>b) What will you do to protect and enhance food safety?</p>	<p>This is a complex issue that requires balance between regulation, inspection and the level of intervention. But we also have to look at the impact of too much centralization of products.</p>
<p>c) Are you in favour of the sale of government owned buildings to the private sector?</p>	<p>It is absolutely ridiculous and it is the reason why I left the Public Service.</p>
<p>d) If your party is elected will it pledge to reinstate the Court Challenges Program and the Law Commission of Canada?</p>	<p>Absolutely.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

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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?	Absolutely.
<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>	Yes because it would then be easier to know the cost of a federal program. Contract employees would be permitted for projects with a set date or to replace employees on language training or on sick leave.
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?	Negotiations are not always about salaries because several benefits negotiated in the past went beyond the salary. I suggest that it is important to keep discussions open between collective agreement dates, to compare notes and have a common understanding of the trends and develop solutions. If we are proactive, we avoid many conflicts. I know that there were some initiatives in the past to make salaries equitable but they failed. I would need to have a better understanding of the causes of these failures in order to better deal with this issue.

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c) Are you in favour of abolishing distinct pay zones that apply to blue collars?	I know there are regional zones comparable to the local market that permit a certain readjustment of salaries in such zones as Toronto in order to keep our federal employees. I would need more information.
d) Do you believe that pay equity should apply to all employees of the federal public sector?	See answer c).
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 — especially for our region!
f) Do you believe that Bill C-45 on health and security should apply to employees working on Parliament Hill?	Yes!
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 because there is a lot of talent to share!

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<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>The Green Party has a detailed policy for abolishing poverty. We propose a guaranteed subsistence income (GSI), suggest a revision of the taxes imposed on the middle class (reduce certain taxes) and on big corporations (increase their taxation level and reduce or eliminate federal subsidies).</p>
<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. Vision Green p.74 states: Green Party MPs will restore and revamp the 2005 agreement reached between the federal government, provinces and territories to achieve a universal child care program in Canada.</p>
<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>Yes</p> <p>Yes – we believe in Canada's commitments under the Kyoto Accord.</p> <p>Yes!!</p>

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<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>In a community that listens we would not need strikes that use up time and resources and often cause hard feelings that last a long time after the strikes. But unfortunately, our society is not yet at this stage. I would vote for an anti-scab law and I would work on this ongoing issue to get a better understanding of contentious issues.</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>French is part of my electoral platform for the Glengarry-Prescott-Russell riding because we have the majority of Franco-Ontarians and we are proud of it. It is disheartening to see the continuing erosion of French in our services. It would be interesting to have the list of EXs in the Public Service who do not meet minimum language requirements for their positions on a public web site I try to promote our language, culture and its artistic application at every opportunity. I would like to volunteer for the language committee and I would love to be the ambassador for an artistic program focussing on the Francophonie and its artists.</p>