Liberal Platform – Summary of Specific Promises Relevant to ITAC

**Security / Defence Procurement**

**A Responsible Approach to Security (Pg 70):**

We will continue to support our Canadian Armed Forces members and defend Canada’s interests with stronger oversight and responsible investments. Canada’s Armed Forces help keep Canada – and the world – safe and secure. To build on the important contributions our Armed Forces members have made to critical missions around the world, we will:

* Move forward with expanding Canada’s role in multilateral organizations – like the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the United Nations.
* Make sure that our Armed Forces have everything they need to continue to do their job well.
* In Canada’s north, we will continue to move forward toward a future where northern and Arctic people are thriving, strong, and safe. We will:
* Work closely with our partners through the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework to make this a reality, and to protect Canada’s rights and sovereignty in the Arctic.
* To strengthen continental defence, we will move forward with better-developed surveillance and rapid-response capabilities.
* Provide international leadership on the rules governing the use and navigation of Arctic waters.

Canada’s security also rests on the good use of defence intelligence – the information that informs and supports military operations. To ensure that this information is handled responsibly, we will:

* Move forward with a new framework governing how Canada gathers, manages, and uses defence intelligence, as recommended by the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians.

And to ensure that Canada’s biggest and most complex defence procurement projects are delivered on time and with greater transparency to Parliament, we will:

* Move forward with the creation of Defence Procurement Canada.

**Privacy / Digital Policy for Consumers:**

Privacy and Data Protection (Pg 40):

Today, a limited number of very large companies hold an extraordinary amount of personal data about Canadians. This can help to make things like online shopping and connecting with family and friends easier and more convenient, but the lack of regulation for online platforms like Facebook and Google – as well as companies that possess large amounts of data, like banks and credit card companies – also means that people have less control over their own personal information. To make sure that people can exercise more control over their online lives and the use of their personal data, we will:

* Move forward with Canada’s Digital Charter. The Charter will establish a new set of online rights, to help people feel more confident about and in control of their personal data, including the right to: o Data portability, so that people can take their data from platform to platform;
  + Withdraw, remove, and erase basic personal data from a platform;
  + Know how personal data is being used, including knowing who has access to it, supported by a national advertising registry where companies would have to report with whom your data is being shared or sold, with the ability to withdraw consent at any time;
  + Review and challenge the amount of personal data that a company or government has collected;
  + Data security, compelling those who use personal data to take proactive steps to adequately protect it;
  + Be informed when personal data is breached, and to be compensated accordingly; and
  + Be free from discrimination online, including bias and harassment.
* Ensure that the Charter is overseen and enforced by a more powerful Privacy Commissioner.
* To better protect people’s personal data and to encourage greater competition in the digital marketplace, we will also move forward with new regulations for large digital companies, overseen by a newly-created Data Commissioner.

**New Revenue: Taxing the Wealthy / Multinationals / International Technology Giants**

Making Taxes More Fair (Pg 79): To ensure that we continue to have the resources needed to invest in people and keep our economy strong and growing, we will move forward with a transparent and publicly reported review of several existing tax measures and will take action to make taxes more fair. This includes taking steps to crack down on corporate tax evasion and avoidance, and asking the wealthiest Canadians to pay a little bit more. We will:

* Undertake a new comprehensive review of government spending and tax expenditures, to ensure that wealthy Canadians do not benefit from unfair tax breaks (a similar review, which we committed to in 2015, identified more than $3 billion a year that could be reinvested in the middle class);
* Modernize anti-avoidance rules to stop large multinational companies from being able to shop for lower tax rates by constructing complex schemes between countries;
* Enhance our existing whistleblower programs, based on the best practices in other countries, including the United States;
* Crack down on corporate tax loopholes that allow companies to excessively deduct debt to artificially reduce the tax they pay;
* Introduce a new 10 per cent tax on luxury cars, boats, and personal aircraft over $100,000; and
* Make sure that multinational tech giants pay corporate tax on the revenue they generate in Canada.
* Work to achieve the standard set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to ensure that international digital corporations whose products are consumed in Canada collect and remit the same level of sales taxation as Canadian digital corporations.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anticipated New Revenues: | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 | | 2023/2024 |
| New tax expenditure and government spending review | $2 billion | $2.5 billion | $2.5 billion | $3 billion | |
| Cracking Down on Corporate Tax Loopholes | $1.73 billion | $1.64 billion | $1.55 billion | $1.45 billion | |
| Making Multinational Tech Giants Pay their Fair Share | $540 million | $600 million | $660 million | $730 million | |

**Public Service**

A More Effective Public Service (Pg 54):

We will work with our professional public servants to deliver better service to Canadians. Canada’s professional public service is one of the best in the world and works hard to deliver the programs and services people rely on. It needs the right resources and the right people to continue to serve Canadians well. To ensure the best possible service, we will:

* Entirely eliminate the backlog of outstanding pay issues for public servants as a result of the Phoenix pay system, so that they can focus on their work and not on resolving long-standing payroll problems;
* Reduce the time it takes to hire new public servants, with the goal of cutting in half the average time from ten to five months;
* Improve project management capabilities, so that all major projects in government are led by a certified professional with at least five years of experience; and
* Reduce the number of significant deficiencies identified by the Auditor General in subsequent follow-up audits of a department or program.

**Indigenous Procurement**

Indigenous-Led Businesses (Pg 60):

Across the country, Indigenous-led businesses are helping to create jobs, build strong communities, and make real progress on the important work of economic reconciliation. But there is more we can do to ensure their success. To create more opportunities for these businesses to succeed and grow, we will:

* Move forward with a new target to have at least five percent of federal contracts awarded to businesses led by Indigenous Peoples.

**Trade**

Free Trade Within Canada (Pg 26):

We will take bold steps to make free trade within Canada a reality. Across Canada, the livelihoods of millions of workers depend on the good trade deals we have negotiated with our trading partners. But there is still more work to be done to make sure people benefit from greater trade right here at home. Building on 2017’s Canadian Free Trade Agreement and more recent efforts to break down the barriers that limit trade between provinces and territories, we will:

* Move forward with new collaborative rules to streamline trade by promoting mutual recognition of standards from coast to coast to coast. This could mean, for example, that a
* professional who is licensed in one province is more easily able to work or practice in another.
* Actively assert federal jurisdiction where needed, to help move forward with free trade within Canada
* Create a Canada Free Trade Tribunal to hear, investigate, and help resolve cases where domestic trade barriers may exist.

**Help For Canadian Businesses To Export And Grow (Pg 26):**

We will seek out more opportunities for exporting companies to succeed, grow, and create more good jobs. As the only G7 country with free trade agreements with all other G7 nations, and with comprehensive trade deals that give our businesses access to billions of customers around the world, Canada is uniquely positioned to help our businesses succeed and grow.

To help create more opportunities and more good jobs, we will:

* Move forward with new investments to promote Canada’s global brand and make sure that our companies have the support they need to break into new markets.
* Look for opportunities for increased collaboration between our talented scientists, researchers, and innovators and those in other G7 countries and advanced economies.
* Give Canadian companies facing commercial or trade disputes abroad immediate, on-the-ground help through a Canada Commercial Counsellor Service.

**Help For Canadian Exporters (Pg 27):**

We will help exporters who face commercial or trade disputes abroad. Last year, we set an ambitious goal to increase Canada’s exports by 50 per cent by 2025. It’s a goal within our reach, but with protectionism on the rise around the world, Canada’s exporters are vulnerable to unfair practices by other countries who don’t respect rules-based trade. Large corporations may have the resources to resolve these challenges in court, but the same isn’t always true for small or medium-sized businesses, especially those who are new to international trade. Just as our embassies support people when they get into challenging circumstances abroad, we need to protect the interests of Canadian companies. To help Canadian companies who encounter significant trade disputes around the world, we will:

* Move forward with a Canada Commercial Consular Service to help connect companies with local legal assistance and support.

**Environment / Clean Technology:**

A Net-Zero Emissions Future (Pg 29):

We will achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. When it comes to fighting climate change, one thing is clear: doing less costs people more. The best way through the climate emergency we are all facing is forward – toward a net-zero emissions future… To help achieve this goal by 2050, we will:

* set legally-binding, five-year milestones, based on the advice of the experts and consultations with Canadians, to reach net-zero emissions;
* appoint a group of scientists, economists, and experts to recommend the best path to get to net-zero;
* exceed Canada’s 2030 emissions goal by introducing new carbon reducing measures; and
* ensure energy workers and communities can shape their own futures by introducing a Just Transition Act, giving workers access to the training, support, and new opportunities needed to succeed in the clean economy.

**A Price On Pollution And A Real Climate Plan (Pg 29):**

We will continue to lead with a price on pollution and a plan to help reduce emissions. Climate change is already having a serious and irreversible effect on people, on our communities, and on our economy. We can’t afford half-measures or a wait-and-see approach.

That’s why, starting this year, it is no longer free to pollute anywhere in Canada. We put a price on pollution to help reduce emissions, and introduced a new rebate system that puts more money back in the pockets of Canadians. We will:

* build on our national climate plan with new measures to help move Canada toward a net-zero emissions future, including strengthening existing rules to cut emissions from Canada’s biggest polluters, including oil and gas.

**Clean Energy Transition (Pg 31):**

It is estimated that additional federal corporate income tax revenues resulting from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project could generate $500 million per year once the project has been completed. This money, as well as any profit from the sale of the pipeline, will be invested in natural climate solutions and clean energy projects that will power our homes, businesses, and communities for generations to come. We will:

* Invest every dollar we earn from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project in Canada’s clean energy transition

**Zero-Emission Vehicles (Pg 33)*:***

We will make it easier and more affordable for people to use zero-emission vehicles… Zero-emission vehicles are a good solution – provided we have the right kind of infrastructure to support them. To make using zero-emission vehicles easier, we will:

* Move forward – in partnership with industry and communities – to install up to 5,000 charging stations along the Trans Canada Highway and other major road networks, and in Canada’s urban and rural areas. Northern communities, as well as apartments and condominiums, will also be included – connecting people and communities from coast to coast to coast.
* Require that new federal investments in public transit are used to support zero-emission buses and rail systems starting in 2023, and will work with municipalities to address any exceptional circumstances.
* Move forward with a new fund to help more school boards and municipalities purchase 5,000 zero-emissions school and transit buses over the next five years.
* Explore measures to support the conversion of business fleets, such as those used by taxi and courier companies, and industrial vehicles, like mining trucks.

**Used Zero-Emission Vehicles (Pg 33):**

As more and more people buy zero-emission vehicles, there will be a growing market of used vehicles for sale. To make buying a used zero-emission vehicle more affordable, we will:

* Expand the incentive that already exists for buying new zero-emission cars. This will provide a 10 per cent rebate on a used zero-emission vehicle up to a maximum value of $2,000.

**Lower Taxes For Clean Tech Businesses (Pg 20):**

We will cut corporate taxes in half for businesses that develop technologies or manufacture products that have zero emissions. The market for clean technology – which uses renewable energy and emits less pollution – is expected to exceed $2.5 trillion by 2022. That’s good news for our economy, and for our environment.

To take advantage of this opportunity to attract and grow businesses that will help us meet the ambitious goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, we will:

* Cut in half the corporate tax paid by companies that develop and manufacture zero-emissions technology. These lower taxes will create a strong incentive for businesses to set up shop in Canada, and help make Canada a true world leader in zero-emissions clean tech.

**Workforce / Training:**

Help to Find and Keep a Good Job (Pg 11):

We will continue to help all workers get the skills they need to succeed. Today, the evolving nature of work means that people may change jobs many times over the course of their working lives, presenting workers with a new challenge: how to get the training they need to keep their existing jobs, or prepare for a new one. To help give people the time and money they need to keep their skills relevant and in-demand, we will:

* Move forward with the Canada Training Benefit, which gives workers money to help pay for training, provides income support during training, and will also offer job protection so that workers can take the time they need for training, knowing they will have a job to come back to when their training is done.

**Guaranteed Training for Apprentices (Pg 12):**

We will help Red Seal apprentices get the work experience they need to finish their certification and find good, well-paying jobs. Too often, apprentices miss out on good jobs because they can’t get the job experience they need to complete their training on time. Today, only one out of five Red Seal apprentices is able to complete their certification on time, with the lack of stable jobs cited as the most common reason. This is true even for trades where workers typically earn more than $100,000 per year. To give apprentices more certainty and more opportunities to gain work experience, we will:

* Move forward with creating the Canadian Apprenticeship Service, in partnership with provinces, territories, employers, and unions. With this new help, apprentices who enter the Red Seal trades can be more confident about the future, knowing that jobs will be available when they need them.
* Work with our partners to create more opportunities, providing up to $10,000 per apprentice, over four years, for every new position created. This investment will help 12,500 more apprentices finish their training on time.

Lead by example – directly hiring up to an additional 250 apprentices each year, requiring that government suppliers participate in the Canadian Apprenticeship Service, and requiring that federal construction contracts meet targets for greater inclusion of women in the trades.

Economic Immigration

**More Help for Communities**

We will make it easier for communities to welcome the workers they need most. While immigration benefits Canada as a whole, not every community – including those experiencing serious labour shortages – is able to make the most of the contributions new Canadians can bring. To make sure that communities of all sizes are better able to attract and support new Canadians, we will:

* Move forward with a Municipal Nominee Program. This program will allow local communities, chambers of commerce, and local labour councils to directly sponsor permanent immigrants.

Move forward with making the Atlantic Immigration Pilot permanent, to continue to support greater immigration and economic growth across Atlantic Canada. Ensure that a minimum of 5,000 of the new spaces will be dedicated to each of the Municipal Nominee Program and the Atlantic immigration stream.

**Small Businesses**

More Help for Entrepreneurs (Pg 19):

To make it easier and more affordable to start and grow a business, we will:

* create the Canada Entrepreneur Account, administered through the Business Development Bank of Canada, to provide up to 2,000 entrepreneurs with as much as $50,000 each to launch their new businesses.

**Lowering Costs and Cutting Red Tape for Small Business Owners (Pg 19):**

Canada’s small businesses create good jobs, support vibrant communities, and help keep our economy moving forward. That’s why we lowered their taxes and it’s why we will continue to make sure that our small and medium-sized businesses have the support they need to succeed. We will:

* Cut the cost of federal incorporation by 75 per cent, to $50 from $200;
* Eliminate all fees from the Business Development Bank of Canada, Export Development Canada, and Farm Credit Canada, for business advisory services like mentorship and training
* Eliminate the “swipe fee” on HST and GST for credit transactions – which will save businesses nearly $500 million a year in fees, according to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business
* Implement a voluntary, real-time e-payroll system to automate records of employment so that small businesses no longer have to submit detailed records to Service Canada; and
* Give $250 to every new business looking to expand their online services