



### Canadian Pediatric Society - Election Questions 2018 Response

- 1) If elected, what will your party do to improve access to publicly funded treatment for children and youth, including psychology, school-based mental health and developmental services, and specialized inpatient and residential programs?**

Youth mental health care is a top priority for the Green Party. We would invest \$300 million in new spending in mental health and addictions over the next four years. This would double the mental health and addictions budget, bringing it to 9% of the total health budget.

- 2) If elected, what will your party do to ensure safer homes, schools and communities for all of New Brunswick's children and youth, including reducing rates of childhood poverty and addressing threats associated with addictive substances and firearms.**

As outlined above, we would substantially increase the budget for mental health and addictions services to help address threats associated with addictive substances.

We would immediately increase the social assistance rate for families by 5% and eliminate rules that prevent people on social assistance from improving their living conditions. We would also increase the minimum wage by \$1/hour over the next four years, bringing it to \$15.25 an hour.

We would also take specific measures to improve the lives of Indigenous youth, such as implementing Jordan's Principle, which would ensure services are provided to Indigenous youth without regard for jurisdiction and implementing the recommendations of the New Brunswick Child and Youth Advocate's 2010 report on the First Nations' child welfare system

- 3) If elected, what will your party do to increase access to life-saving and life-sustaining medications, formulations, therapeutics, medical supplies and other essential health care services for children and youth?**

The Green Party would eliminate the annual premiums for the New Brunswick Drug Plan for families of four earning less than \$40,000, and support implementation of a national Pharmacare program. We will review the formularly to ensure it covers needed medications and supplies.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Coon".

David Coon  
Leader, Green Party of New Brunswick  
Chef du Parti Vert du Nouveau Brunswick