

Nipissing Area Food Roundtable: We're Voting for Food event on April 27, 2018

Platform Summary from MPP candidate Henri Giroux, NDP party:

- It's pretty bad that it's 2018 and we have to rely on food banks, and we have to rely on soup kitchens, and we have to rely on all these agencies to help. I think that in 2018 that should be gone. I think we owe it to each other and we owe it to ourselves to end poverty, and especially childhood poverty. Wouldn't it be nice to have people living in Ontario, with dignity and optimism.
- The problem is that eliminating poverty is a choice, but that choice comes from the government and the people working with the government. We've noticed in the last 23 years we have had government that could have made a strong choice to eliminate poverty, but instead they decided that we need to cut social services, we need to cut basic steps to address poverty, and they cut programs. We heard it this morning, these are all good programs that should be working and we need a government that makes sure that works. The services to help the people, to try to get people out of poverty, that's what our main goal should be as government, and make people want to work in the middle class.
- Commitments the NDP has made for this election: We have a 10 year plan, and 5 year plan and a now plan.
 1. Affordable housing: 10 year plan – NDP will build 65,000 social housing units in Ontario, and 30,000 units for supportive housing over the next 10 years.
 2. Universal Pharmacare for everyone: Nobody should have to make a choice to pick medicine or to put food on the table.
 3. Dental Care – we are very proud to come up with a dental care – we want to make sure we have dental care for everyone. No one should be living in pain, and no mom or dad should every put off a dental visit because they don't have the money.
 4. Child care – free care for families earning under \$40,000. And we want \$12 a day for everyone else.
 5. Hydro – the current government sold Hydro One. As NDP, we want to bring Hydro back in house, and we will cut the bill by 30% in doing that.
 6. We want to launch the largest expansion of community governed not for profit health care Ontario has ever seen. We will increase the base funding for the centres by 5% which is 30 million dollars.
 7. Mental Health – NDP wants to bring all the services together under one ministry, and that ministry will coordinate all the mental health services for everybody.
 8. Income security – NDP will continue to do the roadmap, continue to work with the income security reform workgroups, we're going to work with First Nations income security groups, and work with the urban indigenous table on incomes
 9. People receiving Ontario works, we will increase by 10%, 7% and 5% and increase ODSP by 5%. The NDP will continue the Ontario basic income pilot and continue to look at it and we will endorse the minimum income standard over the next decade.

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10. We are committed to make jobs better by increasing the minimum wage to \$15. I know we got a lot of flak when we tried to increase to \$14, especially from big business and also the chamber of commerce, but come on, we can't work at \$14 an hour. OFL did a study and in the Nipissing Area, to get the right amount of money it should be \$17 an hour believe it or not, not \$15, but we are going to increase to \$15.
- We want to make life more affordable for every day families. You don't have to settle for less, you don't have to settle for bad or worse, so this election, please vote NDP. Thank you.