

*queer  
yukon*



**2021 FEDERAL ELECTION  
ALL-CANDIDATE SURVEY**

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# YUKON CANDIDATES



Barbara Dunlop  
Conservative Party



Lenore Morris  
Green Party



Jonas J. Smith  
Independent



Brendan Hanley  
Liberal Party



Lisa Vollans-Leduc  
NDP

# QUESTIONS

Queer Yukon asked the Yukon's political candidates to submit written answers to questions on:

LGBTQIA2S+ Issues  
Improving LGBTQIA2S+ Lives  
Housing Insecurity  
COVID-19  
Mental Health  
Policing & Prisons  
Hate Speech & Hate Crimes  
Conversion Therapy  
Afghanistan  
Legal Recourse

# LGBTQIA2S+ ISSUES

What issues do you see facing the LGBTQIA2S+ community and what work have you personally done to support LGBTQIA2S+ people in your community?



# Barbara Dunlop



Over the past years and decades, I've watched LGBTQ+ members of our family begin to lead safer more fulfilling lives as both laws and societal attitudes have changed. However, there is clearly much more to be done.

Members of the LGBTQ+ community can still face underlying discrimination where it comes to employment, housing and, sadly, their personal safety, especially trans people. In healthcare, including mental health care, it can be difficult to find LGBTQ+ sensitive practitioners.

During my tenure as Yukon's Film and Sound Commissioner, I came to recognize the importance of personal expression for the LGBTQ+ community. We worked with LGBTQ+ musicians and filmmakers, some of whom showed great courage in the subject matter they chose, furthering the cause of authentic representation of LGBTQ+ people in media.



# Lenore Morris



Members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community face many issues - discrimination in employment and housing (even though both are illegal), access to healthcare, violence, crime, hatred...the list is long. It's a cliché to claim 'some of my best friends are LGBTQIA2S+'. That doesn't make me special, it means I've been exposed to the humanity and some of the hardship faced by members of this community. Perhaps the most important support I've provided has been challenging straight friends and acquaintances when they make bigoted or simply uneducated comments. All equity seeking groups need allies and I try to be an ally.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

Prior to entering politics, I spent 20 years in the hospitality and entertainment industries, professions which in those times boasted above-average representation of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. There I worked alongside LGBTQIA2S+ individuals as customers, co-workers, employees and friends. In my experience, minority groups don't expect special treatment; they just want to be treated like everyone else, to live their lives free of prejudice, which is precisely what I commit to continue promoting and defending. As the Yukon's Member of Parliament, I will ensure the Yukon's LGBTQIA2S+ voice is heard in Ottawa and reflects the unique perspectives of the Yukon experience, to best determine how the federal government can support the LGBTQIA2S+ community and all Yukoners, versus Ottawa dictating how Yukoners should live and what Yukoners need.



# Brendan Hanley

  
**Liberal**

The LGBTQIA2S+ community continues to face discrimination across Canada, which creates barriers to housing, employment and health care resources. The Liberal Party has made progress over the last 6 years to create a more equal society, but there is still more to be done. I have always been and will continue to be a strong ally.

One example from my career as the Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) was attending the World Professional Association on Transgender Health conference in June 2019, and supporting one of my CMOH staff to attend the Rainbow Health Ontario conference the same year. Both of these sessions were important not only for my own information, but for increasing our collective understanding of the health needs of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals in our community.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



The LGBTQIA2S+ community faces a broad range of systemic challenges in Yukon. Some of the major issues that I see facing the LGBTQIA2S+ community are access to affordable, safe, and comprehensive health care, mental health services, affordable housing, and education/safety in schools.

Across the country rates of violence against trans women (especially women of colour) is unacceptable. I am committed to confronting gender-based violence, and working closely with stakeholders and other governments to ensure that all Yukoners are safe, honoured, and have their diverse needs met in the Yukon. I have 25+ years advocating and fighting for LGBTQIA2S+ rights across Canada.

I grew up in a small town where it was not safe to come out, and I have worked hard to ensure that LGBTQIA2S+ youth feel safe and celebrated. In 1997 I started a Queer group called QAMP on my campus (University of Windsor) where we raised money so we could afford to celebrate Halloween in Toronto- a time where we could finally be out and ourselves. I was also a part of the 1 in 10 Committee on AIDS issues, this is where I was introduced to a support group and felt safe as a Queer person for the first time. When I moved up to the Yukon, myself and some colleagues started a Queer and Questioning Group with BYTE. In more recent years, I have sat on the Human Rights Committee with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) as well as sat as the chair of the PSAC Pride Committee.

# IMPROVING LGBTQIA2S+ LIVES

If elected, what will you, or your party, do to improve the safety, quality of life, housing, and physical / mental health of LGBTQIA2S+ Yukoners?



# Barbara Dunlop



The Conservative Party will respect and protect the rights of all Canadians, including all members of the LGBTQ+ community. We will speak clearly on these rights and deploy resources in support.

In addition to potential housing discrimination, estimates show that LGBTQ+ youth are approximately 800 times more likely to become homeless, putting them at very high risk of insecure housing.

As in many parts of Canada, there is a critical housing shortage in Whitehorse and in Yukon communities. The Conservatives have proposed a Northern Housing Strategy and will work in partnership with Yukon and First Nations to help alleviate the current housing crisis for all Yukon people.

Many LGBTQ+ people face mental health challenges related to discrimination based on their gender expression. Impacts of the pandemic such as isolation and joblessness may have exacerbated these challenges.

Conservatives will introduce a Mental Health Action Plan, inject nearly \$60 billion into the healthcare system and propose Yukon dedicate a significant portion of this stable, predictable funding to mental health.



# Lenore Morris



If elected, I will work to ensure that Bill C-6 (which would prohibit activities related to "conversion therapy"), which died when the September 20, 2021 election was called, is re-introduced and passed in both houses of Parliament. I will also work to ensure that existing laws against discrimination are enforced, and that there is funding and legal support available to individuals who have been discriminated against. The Green Party of Canada has made equity, diversity and inclusion central goals of the party, and recognizes that the two defining challenges of our time are building a society where all Canadians can live in dignity and security.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their communities. All minorities deserve respect and equal access to housing, healthcare and pursuit of happiness. I commit to working to reduce social and institutional barriers for all Canadians. As an Independent candidate, I am in a unique and strong position to not have to adhere to any party's policy, which may not reflect Yukoners' needs. I am able to meet directly with the LGBTQIA2S+ community and advocate for you from a Yukon perspective.



# Brendan Hanley

  
**Liberal**

If re-elected, the Liberal Party will continue its important work of improving the lives of Yukoners. We have made important investments in LGBTQIA2S+ services and community organizations to create a safe and secure place for everyone. This includes an investment of \$33.3 million in Budget 2021, to improve access to culturally safe services, with a focus on services for Indigenous women, LGBTQIA2S+ people, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups who may experience intersecting discrimination.

Before and during the COVID-19 pandemic we have made major investments in health services in the Yukon. This includes a 10-year bilateral agreement on mental health that will provide an additional \$5.2 million in investments to the territory, and \$3.1 million for virtual health care to make the system more accessible to everyone.

Through the National Housing Strategy, we have also made historic investments in housing in the Yukon that will see an additional \$60 million in targeted spending over 10 years, starting in 2019.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



If elected, the NDP will bring in mental health care to uninsured Canadians—this will ensure that people with no coverage for mental health services could gain access to these supports.

We will work with the other stakeholders and governments to build on these initiatives and put in place a comprehensive, wrap-around approach to mental health services. It is no secret that LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, especially youth, face higher rates of depression, anxiety and other mental health issues. In terms of physical health, we know that access to gender confirming procedures and medication can be life-saving for some transgender people.

The NDP will work with the territory to make sure that there is equal access to gender confirming surgery across the country, and that these procedures and medications are covered by public health plans. We will also review and eliminate systemic barriers related to gender in the delivery of federal public services, and provide funding to support the creation and expansion of shelters for trans youth.

# HOUSING INSECURITY

The Safe at Home report on housing insecurity and homelessness in the Yukon indicated that discrimination and other negative health impacts faced by the LGBTQIA2S+ community increases their risk of experiencing homelessness. How do you, or your party, plan to address the current housing crisis in the Yukon and other northern communities?



# Barbara Dunlop



Not enough homes are being built in Yukon and in Canada to keep up with the growing population, making homes harder for people to purchase or rent.

The Conservatives Party will implement a Northern Housing Strategy:

- Providing territories with their fair share of federal housing funding.
- Ensuring that funding is stable and predictable.
- Working with indigenous groups.

We will encourage foreign investment in affordable purpose-built rental housing for Canadians and address the soaring cost of renting a home by partnering with municipalities and the private sector to bring new rental units into the market.

We will be a reliable partner in addressing the housing needs of Indigenous communities and implement a For Indigenous, By Indigenous housing strategy in the spirit of reconciliation.



# Lenore Morris



Housing insecurity in the Yukon and northern communities is a major concern that has been growing over time. I am committed to representing Yukon's best interests in Ottawa, which includes supporting efforts to create safe, efficient and affordable housing that meets the needs of communities, such as the project currently proposed by the Safe at Home Society . I will work with ngo's and others to advocate for measures that address housing needs for populations at high risk of homelessness, and will work to ensure that existing laws regarding housing discrimination are enforced.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

The Yukon's untenable housing situation is a product of demand exceeding supply and is negatively affecting Yukoners across the social spectrum. I commit to ensuring that the Yukon's unique LGBTQIA2S+ perspectives are considered in federal housing investments – regardless of which party forms government – and prioritize municipal, territorial and First Nation initiatives that expeditiously release land to private sector and NGO partners, to ensure market forces temper price corrections as opposed to government-intervention, and funding flows to actual programming, not administration.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

A re-elected Liberal government will move forward with a three-part housing plan, A Home. For Everyone. This plan will help renters save for a down payment faster and become owners in 5 years or less, reduce the monthly costs of mortgages, and double the Home Buyers Tax Credit to help young Canadians buy their first home sooner. We will build, preserve, or repair 1.4 million homes in four years to help increase the supply of homes available to Canadians. Liberals will create a Home Buyers' Bill of Rights to make the process of buying a home fairer, more open and transparent, and ensure homes are for people and families. The plan includes banning blind bidding, establishing a legal right to a home inspection, and banning new foreign ownership for two years. This is on top of record investments that have been made in the territory over the last 6 years through the National Housing Strategy.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



A major reason I decided to run in this election is to address this national housing crisis. We need to start addressing the housing crisis as a public health issue, a food security issue, a mental health issue and a public safety and health issue.

We are committed to building at least 500,000 units of quality, affordable housing over the next 10 years, with half of them done in the first 5 years. This will be achieved with the right mix of effective measures that will include partnerships with territorial governments, Indigenous governments, and municipalities. I believe that housing is a fundamental human right, and we need swift action to address this problem.

# COVID-19

According to recent research done by Egale Canada, COVID-19 has had a disproportionate effect on the quality of life of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. What will you, or your party, do to ensure that our communities are safe from COVID-19 and to support recovery in the LGBTQIA2S+ community?



# Barbara Dunlop



Vaccines are the most important tool in the fight against COVID-19. The Conservative Party encourages every Canadian who is able to get one.

Through a combination of vaccination and testing, we plan to fully open the economy, getting Canadians back to work and keeping them there.

Going forward, the Conservatives will create a strategic stockpile of essential products and build the capacity to manufacture vaccines at home, so we will not be caught unprepared again.

Conservatives will make Canada more resilient, reduce our reliance on foreign countries and take seriously our responsibility to protect the health of Canadians.



# Lenore Morris



Throughout the pandemic I have been supportive of measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 while allowing people access to goods and services. At the time of this writing, we are moving into a fourth wave in Canada. I will continue to support measures that are recommended by our top health care professionals as necessary to control the spread of COVID-19 and reduce pressures on health care workers. It is my understanding that the parliamentary Standing Committee on Health has made 23 Recommendations to the government on actions that will help improve access to health care for members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. I support actions that eliminate discrimination within the Canadian health care system. I would like to point out Recommendation 5, which will establish training for health care professions about the health needs of gender and sexual minorities, as especially meaningful for the Yukon as our limited number of family doctors may create further barriers for gender and sexual minorities to access adequate health care.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

The lockdowns have separated families, friends and support-structures. I have long argued that there has to be a better way to protect our vulnerable than what has been imposed upon healthy and otherwise low-risk Canadians for the last year and a half. I believe that instead of putting all of our efforts into restricting the livelihoods of all of our population, we should put all of our efforts into protecting those who need it. Our elderly, unwell and marginalized deserve it. All communities and sectors within our territory's population deserve a voice in Ottawa, on their behalf, who is available to meet with them one-on-one and not be part of a Canada-wide party platform, with one position for all, but rather who will take the Yukon's unique situation to Ottawa.



# Brendan Hanley

  
**Liberal**

The Liberal Party is committed to improving the quality of life of the LGBTQIA2S+ community and indeed all communities who have faced historic barriers. This can be done through programs like LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund, which was introduced by the current Liberal government. Projects funded through this program help LGBTQ2 community-led organizations to strengthen their operations, grow their networks, and build capacity to help advance equity for all LGBTQIA2S+ individuals across Canada. The Liberal Party is committed to "Building Back Better", and ensuring that the recovery from COVID-19 creates a more just and equal society.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



I am really proud that our Federal platform takes an intersectional approach on issues—the reality is that disparities like food sovereignty, housing affordability, and mental health supports are all things that affect our community. LGBTQIA2S+ youth and BIPOC are disproportionately affected by the inequalities in our society, and the NDP are going to work hard to resolve them. Part of the recovery is valuing the labour done by people living in the margins, and bettering their quality of life. I am prepared to tackle the challenges facing LGBTQIA2S+ Yukoners head on.

# MENTAL HEALTH

Canadians are facing a looming Mental Health and Addictions crisis, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. What will you, or your party, do to support the unique mental health needs of LGBTQIA2S+ Canadians, particularly in northern and rural communities?



# Barbara Dunlop



Members of the LGBTQ+ community and especially trans people can be dissuaded from getting mental health assistance if a practitioner is not sensitive and they do not feel safe accessing services. A person's gender expression should not impact their ability to access timely and quality care.

Canada's Conservatives will address the mental health crisis by recognizing that mental health is health and making historic investments to help those in need.

With the Canada Mental Health Action Plan, Canada's Conservatives will:

- Massively boost health transfers to the provinces by at least six per cent annually, representing nearly \$60 billion more for health care over the next 10 years.
- Work with the provinces to invest in mental health as the priority it is with the goal of providing enough funding through health transfers for an additional million Canadians to receive mental health treatment every year.
- Encourage employers to add mental health coverage to their employee benefit plans or boost their coverage by offering a tax credit for 25 per cent of the cost of additional mental health coverage for the first three years.
- Provide \$150 million over three years in grants to nonprofits and charities delivering mental health and wellness programming.

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# Barbara Dunlop



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- Create a nationwide three-digit suicide prevention hotline.
- Make the single largest investment in Canadian history for mental health supports for Indigenous people by providing \$1 billion over five years to boost funding for Indigenous mental health and drug treatment programs, including providing culturally appropriate supports



# Lenore Morris



As stated in the question above, I recognize the unique health care needs of LGBTQIA2S+ Canadians, including mental health. As a representative for LGBTQIA2S+ Yukoners I would bring my 40 years of experience living in northern and rural communities with me to Ottawa and advocate for effective measures that improve health care for all vulnerable populations in the Yukon.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

The COVID-19 lockdown has drastically affected Canadians' mental health and we must return to normal as soon as possible to prevent even more people from suffering needlessly. For those already affected, including members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, I commit to advocating to significantly increase socially and culturally-appropriate mental health supports, as well as pursuing additional funding to support training Yukoners to address the current deficit of mental health professionals, in order to counteract this coming crisis. If the COVID-19 pandemic did not reveal the weaknesses in our health care and our mental health care system, which existed before the pandemic, then nothing will. I am committed to talking one on one with Yukoners – and with Yukon organizations – and to truly take forward to Ottawa what Yukoners need here at home, as opposed to a one-size-fits-all national approach.



# Brendan Hanley

  
**Liberal**

A re-elected Liberal government will continue to work with provinces and territories to build a stronger health care system for everyone. We will invest \$10B to eliminate waitlists — that's \$6B in new funding on top of \$4B already committed in Budget 2021; Invest \$3B to hire 7,500 family doctors, nurses, and nurse practitioners over four years; and expand virtual health care services to give you flexibility.

To recruit more health professionals in rural and remote regions, we will increase student loan forgiveness for an expanded list of health professionals (to include dentists, pharmacists, social workers, mental health practitioners and more) who choose to work in rural communities and create a tax incentive to make it easier to set up a health practice in these communities.

In 2017, the federal Liberal government signed a 10-year bilateral agreement that provided an additional \$5.2 million in investments specific to mental health in the territory.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



COVID-19 took a tremendous toll on Yukoners' mental health. This is especially true for young people who are reporting high levels of depression and anxiety. Mental health care should be available at no cost for people who need it.

As a first step, a New Democrat government would bring in mental health care for uninsured Canadians – ensuring that people with no coverage for mental health services could gain access to these supports without worrying about the cost.

# POLICING & PRISONS

Across Canada, communities of colour experience racial profiling by the police, and Black and Indigenous people -- especially LGBTQIA2S+ Black and Indigenous people -- are disproportionately represented in our prisons. Of the many high-profile police killings in Canada in the past decade, an overwhelming majority of the victims were Black and Indigenous, and were experiencing mental health crises. Do you agree that our policing and prison systems need to change? If so, what changes do you want to see, and how will you advocate for these changes?



# Barbara Dunlop



The Conservative Party's commitment to protecting the rights of the LGBTQ+ community is firm. Conservative Leader Erin O'Toole has been clear that he is an ally of the LGBTQ+ community and will always fight for equal rights for all Canadians.

To support people suffering mental health challenges, Conservatives will increase funding to the provinces and territories for healthcare, including mental health care and introduce a Mental Health Action Plan.

Combating institutional discrimination is a complex challenge. My starting point would be to listen to affected communities to discover how these challenges are experienced by Yukoners and to seek out data relevant to Yukon.



# Lenore Morris



I absolutely agree that our policing and prison systems are inappropriate and out-of-date. In Canada there is an overrepresentation of Indigenous people in prison, a statistic that extends to the Yukon. It is shameful that mental health crises are met with violence and imprisonment, especially since many of these mental health crises are precipitated by social conditions tied to discrimination. If elected, I will strongly support work towards real solutions to the adverse effects of our current policing system and to find ways to improve responses to mental health crises.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

I believe in crime prevention, and that effective and inclusive family, community and social programming and funding initiatives are the best means to prevent our youth from falling victim to a life of crime and thereby avoid having to interact with law enforcement and the correctional system in the first place. For those already engaged, including those LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, I fully endorse initiatives that support and address mental health education, cultural sensitivity/awareness and rehabilitation.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

As police forces across Canada look at ways to reform to better meet community needs, I think Yukoners can look to the Kwanlin Dün First Nation's Community Safety Officer program for a positive example of organic community safety. The accountability that programs like these provide is well-received, and as we look at how racialized and marginalized people, especially Indigenous, Black and LGBTQIA2S+ people, are treated by police across Canada, I believe this is a model that should be nurtured and developed further.

Canada's correctional system has been noted as having a disproportionate amount of Indigenous Canadians incarcerated, as well as those with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). As we look at how to reform our correctional system, I think it's important to examine the justice process and work to prevent as many Canadians from ending up serving time in a institutions and ensuring that when they do, services are provided that are culturally sensitive, similar to those in the Whitehorse Correctional Centre, and ensure that the best possible second chance is made available.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



I absolutely agree that things need to change. I am really proud of the platform we have made to address prison reform and work with the communities that are impacted most.

Not only will we launch a review of the RCMP's budget and the RCMP Act in order to ensure accountability of the RCMP, but we will also release all use-of-force incidents by the RCMP and launch a full review of these practices.

To address the chronic over-representation of Indigenous peoples and Black Canadians in the federal prison population, we will put in place a national task force to develop a roadmap to end this systemic injustice. Working alongside Indigenous communities, this approach will include addressing the discriminatory impact of mandatory minimums, providing greater judicial discretion in sentencing, developing culturally appropriate bail programs, increasing restorative and community justice programs and better integrating Gladue principles in court proceedings. We will also develop and implement an African-Canadian Justice Strategy, working with Black Canadians with experience and expertise on criminal justice issues.

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# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



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New Democrats believe government must work to end systemic discrimination against Indigenous peoples in the justice system. In accordance with Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We will work with Indigenous communities to enhance community safety and develop a First Nations justice and policing strategy. We will make First Nations Policing an essential service with long term, sufficient and equitable funding, while taking steps to end discriminatory policing practices like carding.

# HATE SPEECH & HATE CRIMES

In June 2021, amendments to the Criminal Code, the Canadian Human Rights Act, and the Youth Criminal Justice Act were introduced in the House of Commons to address hate speech and hate crimes in Canada. This Bill was never approved due to Parliament being dissolved after the election was called. Do you support this bill and would you support reintroducing it as soon as possible once the new Parliament is reconvened?



# Barbara Dunlop



Conservatives condemn and will always oppose the dissemination of hate speech, speech that incites violence and sexually abusive material.

To better protect Canadians, Canada's Conservatives will fight online incitement and hatred by clearly criminalizing statements that encourage acts of violence against other people or identifiable groups.



# Lenore Morris



I support this bill and I would support reintroducing it in Parliament.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

I unreservedly condemn hate speech and hate crimes, but I do not support Bill C-36 in its current form, as it has massive implications on Canadians' right to free speech. I would however consider new legislation or amendments to the Bill and find a better balance that protects both minority populations' rights and safety, as well as freedom of speech.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

Bill C-36 from the previous parliament was an important piece of legislation that would have seen a definition of "hatred" added to Criminal code and created new tools to combat hate propaganda online and offline and hate crimes. I would support a similar bill if elected, and would want to see it brought forward as soon as possible.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



Yes—there is no space in Yukon or in Canada for hate speech or hate crimes. If elected I fully support reintroducing this bill as soon as Parliament is reconvened.

# CONVERSION THERAPY

Conversion Therapy is a discredited practice aimed at changing one's sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression which the Canadian Psychological Association has deemed a serious threat to the health and well-being of those subjected to it. On June 22, 2021 Parliament passed Bill C-6 that would make it illegal in Canada to subject a child to conversion therapy or to subject an adult to conversion therapy without their consent. Bill C-6 made it to the Senate but it was never approved due to Parliament being dissolved after the election was called. Do you support this bill and would you support reintroducing it as soon as possible once the new Parliament is reconvened?



# Barbara Dunlop



Conservatives will ban conversion therapy.

In our platform, the Conservative Party outlines our opposition to conversion therapy and attempts to forcibly change a person's sexual orientation.

We will implement the ban promised by the Trudeau Liberals and using the Justice Department's explanatory language about the intention of the ban, we will clarify that the ban does not criminalize non-coercive conversations, giving comfort to parents.



# Lenore Morris



If elected, I will work to ensure that Bill C-6 (which would prohibit activities related to 'conversion therapy"), which died when the September 20, 2021 election was called is re-introduced and passed in both houses of Parliament. I will also work to ensure that existing laws against discrimination are enforced, and that there is funding and legal support available to individuals who have been discriminated against. The Green Party of Canada has made equity, diversity and inclusion central goals of the party; these goals are consistent with my values.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

So-called conversion therapy, psychological treatments designed to alter individuals' behavior or identity, is abhorrent, particularly when it involves children, full stop. I do not however, support Bill C-6 in its current form, due to its excessive government-overreach into parents' rights. I would welcome the opportunity to consider new legislation or amendments to the Bill, and ensure we get such important legislation right for all Canadians.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

Yes, I would support this bill and encourage it to be passed as soon as possible. The Liberal government's tabling of this legislation was a significant move and it was unfortunate that it did not pass the Senate prior to the dissolution of parliament.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



Yes—there is no space in Yukon or in Canada for hate speech or hate crimes. If elected I fully support reintroducing this bill as soon as Parliament is reconvened.

# AFGHANISTAN

A recent Time news article identified LGBTQIA+ refugees fleeing Afghanistan as being uniquely vulnerable and at risk of violence, imprisonment or death. What would you, or your party, do to address the humanitarian crisis currently facing LGBTQIA2S+ refugees in Afghanistan?



# Barbara Dunlop



A Conservative government will stand up for fundamental human rights and align itself with the hopes and aspirations of everyday people, wherever they live.

Canada's Conservatives have a proud record of assisting the world's most vulnerable refugees, including our pioneering assistance to LGBTQ+ people, especially from Iran, who would otherwise face a death sentence. Canada's Conservatives will make the Rainbow Refugee Assistance Project a permanent government program.

We will work with LGBTQ+ organizations in Canada to encourage and facilitate greater participation by these organizations in refugee sponsorship, and we will lead a global network of free countries to assist the world's persecuted sexual minorities.

Canada's Conservatives understand that there are inadequacies in the international legal definition of a refugee. Therefore, Canada's Conservatives will allow private sponsorship of the most vulnerable victims of persecution directly from their country of origin and work with Canadian communities to create a specific program to allow direct private sponsorship of persecuted religious and sexual minorities.



# Lenore Morris



I have always supported efforts to address humanitarian crises and would continue to do so as an elected Member of Parliament. This would include supporting international advocacy on behalf of uniquely vulnerable populations in Afghanistan.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

The situation in Afghanistan is appalling to anyone dedicated to the principles of freedom and equality, and serves as a grim reminder that while there is always room for improvement, life in Canada is among the most free and equitable in the world. The unfortunate reality of the extended COVID-19 lockdown and its associated economic and social effects however, means that Canada is in a position of reduced capacity to assist victims of foreign and humanitarian tragedies. This misfortune is further exacerbated by the fact that while Justin Trudeau has long presupposed "The World Needs More Canada," tragically, due to his lack of leadership, Canada does not have the same respect it once commanded on the world stage. And we are now living this on a daily basis, that we have to rely on other countries and are unable to assist with the horrifying situation in Afghanistan as so many Canadians would prefer. As the Yukon's member of Parliament, I would work with our international partners to ensure that those Afghans at the greatest risk of persecution, including women, girls and LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, are given every possible consideration for prioritization within internationally recognized protocols.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

Having worked in many areas around the world facing conflict or humanitarian crises, I am particularly interested in international social justice. The Liberal Party is committed to ensuring that persecuted peoples fleeing Afghanistan are safe. The Liberal Government has been working with allies over the past few weeks to safely extract those who are being targeted and bring them safe passage to Canada or other countries. The Liberal government over the last 6 years has also worked with organizations like the Rainbow Refugee Society who help resettle LGBTQIA2S+ refugees, especially those fleeing Syria, and I would support seeing similar involvement with the evolving situation in Afghanistan.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



The NDP believes that Canada has an integral role to play in helping LGBTQIA2S+ refugees around the world. We will establish a clear and permanent path for resettlement of LGBTQIA2S+ refugees in Canada to replace the current piece-meal approach that only deals with emergency cases as they arise.

# LEGAL RECOURSE

What would you, or your party, do to make it easier for individuals who experience discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity to seek recourse through the legal system?



# Barbara Dunlop



In order to understand the challenges faced by members of Yukon's LGBTQ+ community in seeking legal recourse for discrimination under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Canadian Human Rights Act, and the Yukon Human Rights Act, my starting point would be to listen to affected Yukoners and communities.



# Lenore Morris



Overhaul human rights legislation to ensure that identifying as non-binary is an enumerated ground and increase funding to human rights commissions for awareness campaigns.



# Jonas J. Smith

## Independent

Discrimination is illegal under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, period. Human rights apply to all citizens, and must be upheld consistently in our society, and in our courts. As an Independent Member of Parliament, I would be in the unique position to advocate specifically from the Yukon perspective, without any partisan limitations, and support initiatives from all sides of the political spectrum, that best ensure all Yukoners, including LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, aren't discriminated against to begin with, and if so, have every reasonable legal recourse made available to them, including the appropriate supports for the complainant and training for professionals within our legal system.



# Brendan Hanley

Liberal

I support a legal system that is free of barriers, and would lend my voice to the creation of programs that would support ensuring that LGBTQIA2S+ Canadians are able to access fair recourse.



# Lisa Vollans-Leduc



Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is completely unacceptable. A New Democrat government will add sexual orientation, gender identity and expression to the Employment Equity Act, in order to address the disadvantages experienced by the LGBTQI2S+ communities – and particularly transgender and two-spirited people – in finding work. We will also begin work immediately to ensure that all major cities have dedicated hate crime units, and introduce anti-hate crime legislation to Parliament. I will always stand up against all forms of hate, racism, including anti-Black racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, gender-based violence, homophobia, and transphobia.

**A Consortium of National 2S/LGBTIQ  
Organizations Present:**

# **PROUD TO VOTE**

A National Debate on 2SLGBTQ+  
Issues in the Federal Election

**Tues. Sept. 14 @ 10am Yukon Time**

**Register: [wisdom2action.org/proudtovote/](http://wisdom2action.org/proudtovote/)**

