



April 3, 2025

Mr. Jagmeet Singh, M.P.
Leader of the New Democratic Party
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Reference: OSPE Federal Election Priorities 2025

Submitted via email to: jagmeet@ndp.ca

Dear Mr. Singh,

On behalf of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE), I'm pleased to share our priorities for the upcoming federal election. These recommendations reflect the perspectives of Ontario's engineering community and highlight areas where evidence-based policies can make a meaningful impact.

We encourage your team to review the attached document and consider these priorities in the development of your platform. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss further, we would be happy to connect.

Thank you for your time and commitment to engaging with the engineering profession.

We look forward to working with you to further develop these recommendations. If you have any additional questions, please contact Paola Cetares, OSPE Public Affairs Director, at pcetares@ospe.on.ca or 416-223-9961 ext. 225.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandro Perruzza".

Sandro Perruzza
Chief Executive Officer
Ontario Society of Professional Engineers

OSPE's Federal Election Priorities for Political Parties

1. Strengthen Canada's Engineering Labour Market

- Expand federal support for work-integrated learning (WIL) and co-op opportunities for engineering students and recent graduates.
- Fund national bridging programs to support internationally trained engineers in gaining licensure and employment aligned with their training.
- Modernize the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and immigration pathways to improve the retention of engineering talent and reduce credential recognition barriers.
- Establish a dedicated fund to upskill engineers who have experienced job displacement, enabling their redeployment into emerging and high-demand sectors.
- Develop a dedicated pipeline for Indigenous youth to pursue careers in engineering and STEM, with a focus on supporting projects in remote and Indigenous communities.

2. Support Smart Infrastructure and Sustainable Cities

- Mandate Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) for federal engineering and design contracts to prioritize quality, innovation, and long-term value over lowest-bid procurement.
- Commit to long-term, stable funding for public transit, active transportation, and resilient infrastructure, including flood prevention and climate adaptation.
- Invest in digital infrastructure and smart city technologies that enable data-driven decisions and efficient urban planning.
- Integrate climate mitigation and equity into all federally funded infrastructure projects.

3. Promote Clean Technology and a Low-Carbon Economy

- Support made-in-Canada engineering solutions for clean energy, nuclear sustainability, energy storage, and grid modernization.
- Invest in Research and Development (R&D) and demonstration projects in sectors like hydrogen, carbon capture, and electrification.
- Provide clear, enforceable standards for environmental claims to reduce greenwashing and support engineering-led environmental innovation.

4. Advance Engineering in Climate and Energy Policy

- Include engineers in climate adaptation and emergency preparedness planning, especially related to critical infrastructure.

- Establish a national framework for climate risk assessments, requiring professional input in decision-making processes.
- Ensure technical sovereignty in Canada’s clean energy future, including domestic capacity in areas such as enriched nuclear fuel and critical minerals processing.

5. Build National Engineering Capacity in Innovation, Research, and Development

- Increase federal investment in engineering-focused research, especially in emerging fields like artificial intelligence, quantum, and clean manufacturing.
- Support commercialization pathways for engineering innovations developed in universities and research labs.
- Create incentives for industry–academia collaboration and applied research partnerships.

6. Champion Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Profession

- Fund national programs to increase equity and representation in engineering, particularly for women, Indigenous Peoples, Black and racialized communities, and people with disabilities.
- Promote Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) integration in federal STEM initiatives and funding decisions.
- Strengthen data collection and reporting on diversity in federally funded engineering programs.

7. Protect Engineers Through Clear Professional Liability Standards

- Work with provincial regulators and industry to ensure clear, consistent liability and risk management frameworks for engineers.
- Increase awareness of professional responsibilities in engineering work that affects public safety, infrastructure, and the environment.

8. Address Tariffs and Strengthen Engineering Trade Resilience

- Oppose unjustified tariffs on engineering materials, components, and technologies that disrupt Canadian infrastructure, energy, and manufacturing projects.
- Support supply chain resilience by incentivizing local production of critical engineering inputs.
- Advance trade policies that protect Canada’s technical sovereignty, ensuring secure access to essential technologies and resources, especially in nuclear, clean tech, and digital infrastructure sectors.