

BACKGROUNDER

1. Act like it's a Climate Emergency

Accept, at every level of government, that climate is not just an environmental issue. It is the gravest security threat the world has ever seen.

2. Establish an inner cabinet of all parties

All parties should work together to deal with the climate emergency and limit the destructive impact of partisan politics which has thwarted strong climate action for decades. We need all hands on deck.

3. Set stringent targets with accountability

A fair share Nationally Determined Contribution with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change: 60 % GHG reductions against 2005 levels by 2030; zero emissions by or before 2050 with continuous review and accountability.

4. Assume leadership

Work with global partners at the COP26 climate negotiations and press all countries to accelerate their efforts.

5. Unleash science and innovation

Increase funding for climate research and establish an Advanced Research Projects Agency to support disruptive clean technology innovation in Canada.

6. Extend carbon pricing and rebates

Carbon fee and dividend together with Border Carbon Adjustments will keep us competitive. The fee and dividend rates will need to at least double from the current schedule to meet our 60% target and all subsidies to fossil fuels must be eliminated.

7. End support for pipelines, LNG and fracking

Fracking destroys ecosystems, contaminates ground and surface water, and it's a major source of GHGs. We can't continue to support infrastructure destructive to our planet. It's time to cancel TMX.

8. Green and modernize the grid

By 2030, remove all fossil fuel generation from our national electricity grid. Extend the east-west grid to ensure that renewable energy can be transmitted from one province to another.

9. Plug in to EVs

Ensure all new car sales are electric by 2030 and ensure all transport vehicles are fossil-free by 2040. Build a electric vehicle charging network across Canada.

10. Get Canada back on track

Modernize VIA Rail, expand service and ensure trans-modal connections across Canada to light rail and electric buses, so that no one in rural and remote areas of Canada lacks efficient, affordable and safe public transit.

11. Accelerate building retrofits

Create millions of new, well-paying jobs in the trades by retrofitting all buildings in Canada – and immediately establish national net-zero building codes.

12. Turn off the tap to oil imports

Phase-out all imports of foreign oil. As fossil fuel use declines, use only Canadian fossil fuels and invest in shifting production towards non-emitting goods and processes.

13. Promote sustainable bio-fuels

Bio-fuels for hard to electrify transport and equipment should use a sustainable resource, while not consuming valuable food, land and water resources. Their life-cycle emissions should be GHG negative.

14. Create new partnerships for renewables

Form partnerships with Indigenous peoples, providing economic opportunities by ramping up renewables on their lands. Use skills developed in the oil and gas sector to harness clean energy sources such as geothermal.

15. Call for all hands on deck

Engage every municipality and community organization, as well as every school and university to step up and plant trees, install solar panels, heat pumps, assist in retrofitting buildings to maximize energy efficiency.

16. Prioritize adaptation

Invest in adaptation measures to protect Canadians from the ravages of climate destabilization. Review all infrastructure projects for adaptation to climate instability. Map flood plains, tornado corridors and other areas of natural vulnerability and adjust land use plans accordingly.

17. Protect our Forests and Biodiversity

End logging in old growth forests, foster biodiversity, and invest in fire mitigation strategies to protect communities from forest fires and save lives.

18. Curtail the “other” GHG sources

Address the fossil fuel use that falls outside the Paris Agreement – emissions from international shipping, aviation and the military. And tackle methane and all other GHG emission sources.

19. Restore carbon sinks

Launch a global effort to restore carbon sinks, replanting forests, restoring wetlands and peat bogs, and promoting carbon sequestration in agriculture.

20. A Just Transition

Fossil fuel workers deserve a fair and just transition into the new economy and Greens have a solid plan to ensure no one is left behind.

Candidates Biography

Amanda Cain was born and raised in Scarborough Southwest and graduated in Corporate Communications which led her to work in the non-profit sector managing Youth Economic Development Programs for 20 years in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas of Toronto. Prior to that she worked in the arts and entertainment industry. As an active community advocate and a mother, Amanda believes in building strong communities such as the one she grew up in, that supports our most vulnerable citizens, and she has focused much of her attention to building policy on poverty reduction at all levels of government.

Amanda's activism started early while a student at R.H. King Academy, where she recognized social and racial inequity, leading her to found the United Cultures of King. Several years ago she walked with Native Elder and Water Warrior Grandmother Josephine Mandamin and promised to continue her legacy and protect Lake Ontario for future generations. The Green Party of Canada is committed to Reconciliation, Nation-to-Nation engagement and self-determination for Indigenous Peoples, and believes that any meaningful path towards reconciliation in Canada must ensure that First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation leaders are leading the decisions about the future of their people, their lands and their territories.

Amanda has been honoured with:

2018 Urban Hero Award Nominee for Social Issues by Metroland Media
The Ontario Volunteer Service Award
The MicroSkills Youth Service Award
The Scarborough Pilot Award
The Catharine Janes Women's Opportunity Award
The Young Mother's Toronto Dollar Award
Judge for the CARAS Junos R&B Category
Juror for Urban Music with the Toronto Arts Council

Amanda is an alumni of *Equal Voice Votes to Victory* and *Women Win TO*.
Her community involvement includes:

- City of Toronto, Youth Employment Managers Network;
- City of Toronto, Children's Services Advisory Committee;
- Economic Dev. Comm, Scarborough Community Renewal Org;
- Board of Directors for Jessies, The June Callwood Centre;
- Connect Sheppard East Campaign;
- Rexdale Youth Employment Committee;
- Rush The Vote;
- Ontario Campaign 2000 for Poverty Reduction;
- TDSB Parent Involvement Advisory Committee as a Representative in Learning Centre 3, Ward 21 (wards 41/42)
- Lake Ontario Waterkeeper;
- Scarborough Civic Action Network;
- The David Suzuki Foundation Guildwood Butterfly Rangers; and
- The Malvern Food Security Committee

For more details connect with us at green.ssw@gmail.com for a copy of Protect Canada, A Green Plan