



**Liberal Party of Canada | Parti libéral du Canada**

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April 7, 2011

**Hélian Lizotte, National President**  
FSNA-ANRF  
1052 St. Laurent Blvd.  
Ottawa, ON K1K 3B4  
By email to [info@fsna.com](mailto:info@fsna.com)

Dear Mr. Lizotte,

Enclosed, please find the Liberal Party response to your questionnaire.

For more information on the Liberal Party of Canada's vision for Canada, please take a moment to review our policies online at [www.liberal.ca](http://www.liberal.ca). This site provides details on Liberal goals and priorities.

On behalf of our Leader, Michael Ignatieff, and the entire Liberal team, thank you for writing to identify the major concerns of your membership. We appreciate your interest in the Liberal Party's policies as they relate to the issues which affect you.

Sincerely,

**Alfred Aapps, President**  
Liberal Party of Canada

## Liberal Party of Canada

### FSNA "The National Association of Federal Retirees"

FSNA has identified 3 key advocacy issues that are closely aligned to its mission and mandate. They are:

**Protection of federal public sector retiree pensions (superannuation plans) including indexation;**

**Maintenance and enhancement of the existing program benefits and cost sharing provisions of the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP);**

**Maintenance of the existing program benefits and cost sharing provisions of the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan (PDSP).**

A Liberal government will protect federal public sector retiree pensions, including indexation. We will also maintain program benefits and cost sharing under the Public Service Health Care Plan and the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan.

Canada's public service is a cornerstone of our democracy and good government. For decades, dedicated and public-spirited women and men have served governments of different partisan stripes with professionalism, integrity and competence.

However, in recent years the public service has been widely regarded as being in decline. This is most visible at the front lines, where services are delivered to the public. Too many have suffered from confusing information, waited endlessly in line, or bounced from one place to another while seeking service from the federal government. Front-line employees work hard, but the machine often sputters.

Liberals believe government can be, and must be, a positive force in the lives of citizens.

Working with the public service, its members, their unions and management, a Liberal government will develop and implement concrete service standards, so Canadians will know specifically what they can expect when they come to their government, and be confident their expectations will be met. Achieving excellence is a goal public servants share. Service standards will help spread best practices, supporting front-line employees in their efforts to provide the highest quality service possible.

The federal public service is in need of renewal across its full range of functions, not just in frontline delivery. But its challenges have been greatly aggravated in recent years by the Harper government's distrust of professional public servants. Conservatives have publically attacked,

fired or forced into resignation officials who acted responsibly, or offered expert advice, well-informed opinion and sound technical analysis they found inconvenient.

The poisoned relationship between public servants and their political leadership must be repaired as a first step toward broad-based renewal. With good will and determination, Canada's public service can again become the foundation of good government, and a magnet for recruiting the best and brightest young Canadians eager to help make their country the best it can be. Competitive compensation and benefits, including pension and health/dental benefits, are an important part of making sure Canada's public service continues to attract the talent it needs.