

Reproductive Justice NB (RJNB)
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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Two federal election candidates propose concrete action to improve access to abortion services in NB

Tuesday, October 8, 2019, **Fredericton, NB.**

Today Reproductive Justice NB is releasing the results of our survey of federal election candidates in the Fredericton riding about improving reproductive justice in New Brunswick.

Two federal election candidates - from the Green Party and the Communist Party - are proposing concrete action to force the NB government to comply with the Canada Health Act and fully fund abortion services. Both candidates stated that if the province continues to restrict abortion services, in contravention of the Canada Health Act, then the federal government could withhold the federal health transfer until it complies.

The Liberal Party candidate recalled the recent letter sent by the current federal health minister asking the NB government to comply with the CHA, stating "we will continue to call on provinces to eliminate all barriers to reproductive health services."

The Conservative Party and the New Democratic Party did not respond to our survey.

Reproductive Justice NB provided the candidates running in the Fredericton riding with a list of questions addressing key issues around reproductive justice, including access to abortion and trans health care. Today the group is sharing the answers provided by those candidates.

Two weeks prior to the federal election, Reproductive Justice New Brunswick (RJNB) wants to help voters make an informed choice when they cast their vote on October 21. "Having reproductive health and social services accessible, equitable, and funded is something all Canadians should expect from their government," states Melissa Lukings, a volunteer with RJNB. "The election is a key time to make sure our federal government acts to ensure the requirements of the Canada Health Act in their provision of services."

"Access to abortion and safe, funded trans-health care remain rights we are still fighting for everyday in Canada in 2019. We want to ensure voters have the

information they need to make an informed choice on election day, when it comes to reproductive justice.”

RJNB is an advocacy group that is working to make New Brunswick a province where each person can decide if, when, and how to parent. They are calling on the federal and provincial governments to ensure there is equitable and safe access to reproductive health services, in particular the elimination Schedule 2 (a.1) of Regulation 84.20 of the Medical Services Payment Act.

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