

2021 FEDERAL ELECTION



KEY TOURISM MESSAGES FOR FEDERAL CANDIDATES

MOVING BEYOND COVID19

- 1 Extend the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) programs at the maximum rate until at least summer, 2022.
- 2 Ensure hardest hit businesses have access to low interest loans, payable over a longer period of time with higher forgivable percentages on programs like the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA).

LABOUR MARKET

- 1 **Immigration Reform & Alignment**
Recovery and growth of tourism is dependent on foreign trained workers. Immigration must be more responsive to the sector's needs, enabling workers to fill all types of jobs in all regions.
- 2 **Reputational Damage/Image**
Marketing tourism as a destination for employment must complement strategies that market tourism to visitors. Historically, tourism employed a highly diverse workforce with jobs in every riding.
- 3 **Indigenous Workforce**
Sustained investments in Indigenous-led efforts are needed to prepare Indigenous entrepreneurs and build on Indigenous workforce (for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous tourism enterprises.)

MARKET ACCESS & DEVELOPMENT

- 1 Commit to ensuring biometric requirements do not negatively impact tourism's recovery, including a commitment to streamline the visa application process for low-risk countries.
- 2 Introduce a GST rebate on tourism products for international visitors
- 3 Reduce taxes and fees on airlines and airports to improve their competitiveness and to accelerate the recovery of the visitor economy.