

## April 28

National Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job. Ceremony at 12:30 pm at Vincent Massey Park.

## April 30

OWN NDP strategic planning session from 9 am to 1 pm. Open to all OWN NDP members. Email Alex Cullen if interested. alexcullen@rogers.com

## May 2

Help ensure the Liberals' federal electoral reform doesn't favour the Liberal Party! Attend Fair Vote Canada's town hall, featuring NDP MP Nathan Cullen, on May 2 at 6:30 pm at Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview Rd. Check ownndp.ca for more info.

The NDP association for the federal and provincial ridings of Ottawa West-Nepean

# OWN NDP

Together, we're building  
**strong & compassionate**  
communities in Ottawa West-Nepean

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**OWN NDPers Alex Cullen (left), Marilyn Davis, and Jim Patterson at the federal NDP convention.**

## OWN NDP at the federal convention: Leap, Mulcair, and 2 motions passed!

On April 8, 9 & 10, the federal NDP held its biennial convention in Edmonton, Alberta. Over 1,800 delegates attended, representing ridings from coast to coast to coast. They heard a panoply of speakers (including Alberta NDP Premier Rachel Notley, British Labour Party MP Jon Ashworth, and former Ontario NDP Leader Stephen Lewis), dealt with over 440 policy resolutions, elected a new national executive and Federal Council, and dealt (as required by the party's constitution) with the leadership question.

Ottawa West-Nepean NDP was ably represented at this convention by three delegates: Alex Cullen, Marilyn Davis, and Jim Patterson. Most of the convention was taken up by debate on policy issues, ranging from raising corporate taxes to proportional representation to opposing the TPP to providing public dental care, and much more! Of the 5 resolutions submitted by the Ottawa West-Nepean NDP from its February meeting, two made it to the floor – on nuclear disarmament and on supporting renewable energy co-operatives – and were adopted overwhelmingly. **Continued on back**

**Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. – Margaret Mead**

The Ottawa West-Nepean NDP (OWN NDP) is always looking for people who want to help make progressive change happen. Our executive meets at least once a month and new members are always welcome. Please contact us!

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## Federal NDP convention

**Continued from front** However, the main debate at the convention was over the Leap Manifesto (for details go to [leapmanifesto.org](http://leapmanifesto.org)) – a 15 point program that addresses climate change, the UN declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the green economy, investing in renewable energy sources, public transit, infrastructure renewal, opposes certain trade deals, supports a universal annual income, and the end of fossil fuel subsidies (among other things).

However, the main thrust of the manifesto was its call to end new fossil fuel energy development in Canada (including no new pipelines) as a means to dealing with the challenge of global warming.

Debate on this topic was lively, as delegates from the Alberta NDP made the case that jobs and welfare in Alberta depended on the energy sector, that Alberta's NDP government was putting into place strong environmental measures (including a carbon tax), and that Alberta needs a pipeline to sell its oil to generate the revenues to support its social programs – in short, they vigorously opposed the manifesto.

In the end, the convention voted to refer the Leap Manifesto to all NDP riding associations to debate and amend as an “aspirational document” that might be moved at the 2018 federal NDP Convention for resolution.

Lastly was the question on the leadership of our party following the federal election. The result, while surprising to many, was clear: 52% of the delegates voted for a leadership review. A leadership convention will be held within 2 years, providing time for candidate recruitment and membership engagement.

Delegates did give outgoing NDP Leader Tom Mulcair their appreciation for the work he did with Jack Layton in establishing the NDP as a bona fide presence in Quebec.

It was, for many, a bitter-sweet moment.



*Hydro One Not For Sale volunteers before and OWN neighbourhood canvas.*

## Fighting to stop the Liberals from privatizing Hydro One

The provincial government's scheme to privatize Hydro One will hurt all Ontarians. Even Ottawa residents served by Hydro Ottawa will feel the pain because privatization will lead to:

- **Higher hydro rates.** Since Hydro Ottawa buys from Hydro One, our rates will go up too.
- **Less money for schools, roads, and hospitals.** Last year, the public Hydro One earned \$780 million in profits that went to the provincial government. Privatized, those profits will instead go to wealthy Bay Street and Wall Street investors.
- **More climate change emissions.** A privatized Hydro One will try to maximize profits. It will not be motivated to increase the demand for its product, not reduce it.

The provincial government has already embarked on this privatization scheme. So far, 30% of Hydro One has been sold. But it's not too late to stop further sales, or even buy back what's been sold!

To help mobilize opposition to the privatization scheme, OWN NDP members including Marlene Rivier and Andy Pedersen have been participating in the Hydro One Not For Sale campaign. See [www.hydronotforsale.ca](http://www.hydronotforsale.ca) or [fb.com/hydronotforsale](https://fb.com/hydronotforsale) to learn more or sign up to help.

**Victory in the fight for quality childcare!** In the face of widespread opposition (including from active members of OWN NDP), the provincial government backed down earlier this month from making dangerous changes to the childcare regulations that would have allowed fewer caregivers for kids between 1 and 3 years old. Congrats to Child Care Ontario for leading the charge! [www.childcareontario.org](http://www.childcareontario.org)