This election, vote to protect public services.

Canada’s scientists are taking on the big challenges of our time.

Our scientists are leading experts in everything from climate change to food safety, rail safety to vaccines, water quality to disease prevention.

Canada needs more, not less, federal government science.

We cannot depend on the private sector for solutions. The innovations we need most – better weather forecasting, more resilient crops, improved pollution monitoring – result from research done by Canada’s own scientists.

Public scientists need the right to speak openly about their research so the government and public can make informed choices.

Over the last 4 years, we have seen the replenishing of the ranks of federal scientists, engineers and researchers. After 1,500 positions had been cut under the previous government.

But much more remains to be done.

We expect the government to spend $122 million less on government science and technology in 2018-19 than they did in 2012-13. Research and development spending is projected to decline by $455 million over the same period.

On October 21, Canadians will vote to set the course for the next four years. We need to elect a government that protects public services and respects the people who provide them.

We need a government that will tackle challenges like climate change.

In this election, political parties must:

• invest $78 million immediately into research and development at Environment and Climate Change Canada and review internal science funding in other departments
• task the Chief Science Advisor with developing detailed metrics to better monitor federal science capacity in the future
• protect and promote scientific integrity – we cannot go back to the days of muzzling our federal public scientists