

Knowledge Clusters - Role Description and FAQs

What are Knowledge Clusters?

The Green Party membership is a veritable font of knowledge, skills and experience. The objective should be to develop as many ongoing opportunities as possible for GPC members with expertise in a certain field to contribute to policy development and to the work of the GPC in a dynamic way.

Knowledge Clusters are a platform to ensure that GPC members' talents can be accessed to improve and support the work of the Shadow Cabinet as a whole and also individual Critics. Knowledge Clusters are groups of GPC members that will work directly with Shadow Cabinet Critics and serve as a space for members to contribute their knowledge and experience in the thematic area(s) of various Critic portfolios.

Knowledge Clusters ensure the systematic exchange of knowledge between the membership, the Critic, and the Shadow Cabinet, and reinforce the grassroots nature of the Green Party model.

Who are the Members of Knowledge Clusters?

The members of the Knowledge Clusters are members of the Green Party of Canada who work directly with the Critic responsible for their portfolio of expertise. The Knowledge Cluster members will have relevant professional, educational and/or lived experience in the thematic area(s) to which they are applying, as well as a passion for the portfolio and willingness to support the Critic in their work.

Who Selects the Members that will Serve on Knowledge Clusters?

The Knowledge Cluster members for each portfolio are selected by the Critic responsible for that portfolio and the Leader's Office.

What are the Criteria for Members of the Knowledge Clusters?

When selecting Knowledge Cluster members, the Critic and the Leader will take into consideration policy expertise, relevant and demonstrated educational, professional and/or lived experience, and diversity of perspective. Regional diversity, and Green Party of Canada core values and commitments to equity-seeking groups will also be taken into account.

What are the Responsibilities of Knowledge Cluster Members?

Under the direction of the Critic, KC members will help provide background materials and research for their portfolio. They will assist the Critic in remaining updated on developments in their thematic area. They may be called upon to assist in the drafting of documents in their thematic area (eg. briefing note, opinion piece). KC members meet regularly with the Critic and other members of the Knowledge Cluster to discuss upcoming/current legislation, as well as planned events and campaigns in their Critic's area. KC members may have the opportunity to partake in stakeholder meetings.

What is the time commitment?

Knowledge Cluster members would meet periodically with each other and with the Critic to discuss current policies and ongoing work on their respective files. Communication and meetings will take place entirely virtually at this time. The time commitment would be approximately 5 hours each month, depending on the current workload of the portfolio they are supporting.