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Dear Alicia,

Thank you for sending Ontario Greens these important questions. We appreciate the opportunity to speak on these issues that matter to Ontarians with dyslexia and their families. I am happy to provide you with a response on behalf of the party.

Sincerely,
Madeleine Crist
Office Manager
Green Party of Ontario

**RE: Decoding Dyslexia Ontario, The International Dyslexia Association Ontario, and Dyslexia
Canada Questionnaire**

1. Recognition of Dyslexia - Will your party commit to implementing the OHRC recommendations that the Ministry of Education, faculties of education and school boards explicitly recognize the term “dyslexia”? How will your party work to improve dyslexia awareness in the province in general and within Ontario's public education system specifically?

As per the recommendation of the OHRC, we would commit to recognizing the term “dyslexia” within Ontario’s education system.

Ontario Greens would work to improve dyslexia awareness in the education system. We would establish an independent review of Ontario’s education funding formula so it adequately reflects student needs and ensure this updated formula includes adequate funding for ESL grants, special education assistants, counselors, and other specific supports to provide equitable access to learning and school activities for all students, including those with dyslexia.

2. Curriculum and Reading Instruction - Is your party committed to implementing the changes to the curriculum and instructional guides recommended by the OHRC?

Yes. Ontario Greens support implementing changes to the Kindergarten through Grade 8 curriculum and instructional guides as recommended by the OHRC.

3. Universal Screening - What is your party's position on implementing the OHRC recommendations to screen all children for risk factors associated with reading difficulties twice a year from Kindergarten Year 1 to Grade 2?

Ontario Greens support implementing the OHRC recommendations for early evidence-based screening of all Kindergarten to Grade 2 students for word-reading accuracy and fluency.

4. Reading Intervention - Is your party committed to implementing the OHRC's recommendations regarding the equitable and timely provision of effective reading interventions for ANY student who meets the criteria?

Yes. Ontario Greens support implementation of the OHRC's recommendation that any student who struggles with reading should receive an intervention.

5. Support for Teachers - How will your party work to ensure that Ontario's teachers are empowered with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to ensure that every student can realize their right to read?

We plan to provide educators with multi-discipline training to help them address student sensory and behavioural issues, and adopt teaching strategies that support students with a wide spectrum of accommodation needs. This would ensure that every student can realize their right to read, by ensuring every teacher has the resources and skills to teach them, regardless of their learning style or difficulties they may face.