

## SAMPLE FACTS AND QUESTIONS THAT YOU CAN ASK YOUR CANDIDATES:

**FACT:** The majority of Canadians oppose the commercial seal hunt and many countries are implementing bans in the trade of seal products because of the inherent cruelty in the hunt. Trade bans already exist in the USA, Mexico, Croatia, Slovenia, Belgium and the Netherlands, while Germany, Austria and Italy are moving closer to a ban.

### QUESTIONS:

- ? What is your position on Canada's commercial seal hunt?
- ? Do you think the seal hunt damages Canada's reputation?

**FACT:** Harp seals depend on a stable ice platform to give birth and nurse their pups. Global warming is resulting in poor ice conditions which is posing a new threat to seals. Ten of the past 12 years have seen poorer than average ice conditions and the impact on harp seals may be devastating.

### QUESTIONS:

- ? Are you aware of the critical conservation concerns for harp seals, such as overexploitation and global warming?
- ? Do you believe the Federal Government should implement best-practice conservation principles and stop the seal hunt in light of the threat of global warming?

**FACT:** The Canadian Government continues to spend taxpayer dollars to prop up the failing sealing industry, sending delegations to Europe in an attempt to boost the dying market for these products.

### QUESTION:

- ? Do you agree that the Federal Government should investigate and promote sustainable alternatives to sealing that have real economic value, rather than attempting to promote a cruel and outdated industry with a rapidly dwindling market?

