

# Resource Rent made easy

by [Maireid Sullivan](#) | March 9, 2010 at 09:24 pm

## Frank de Jong

Frank de Jong served as Leader of the Ontario, Canada Green Party from 1993 through to November 2009, when he resigned in order to direct his efforts toward serving the Green Party's national agenda.

Last weekend, March 5/6, he presented his [Financial Policy Resolution](#) to the Green Party of Canada Economics Forum.

Anyone who wants to know how Resource Rent can be implemented (aka: Classical Political Economics, [Single Tax](#), The Law of Rent, [Land Value Taxation](#) (LVT), Ricardo's Law, [Georgist economics](#), etc.), will find this submission illuminating. There are many excellent websites dedicated to studying implementation of this taxation system: a PowerPoint course can be downloaded [here](#).

Link to Frank de Jong's recently launched [Blog](#), where he has published the full text of this resolution, including *comprehensive details and numbers to support his resolution*. As he says, "theory is fine, but it takes numbers to get attention."

### [Finance Resolution](#)

- a) **Whereas** resources such as land, minerals, fossil fuels, clean air and water are free gifts of Nature to people (and other species), and whereas people have an equitable right to this common wealth;
- b) **Whereas** the Green Party of Canada (GPC) seeks to encourage the efficient and sustainable use of common wealth, and encourage local, value-added and sustainable ways of engaging in enterprise;
- c) **Whereas** taxing incomes, businesses and consumption have the effect of reducing employment, burdening businesses and artificially increasing the prices of needed products;
- d) **Whereas** the purchase of, legal title for, and monopoly on natural resources and land should be considered not a right, but a privilege with responsibilities to the community;

- e) **Whereas** individuals, institutions and businesses should not be granted a right to pollute, but a privilege with responsibilities to the community;
- f) **Whereas** individuals, institutions and businesses granted access to community-built and tax-funded amenities and infrastructure (roads, electromagnetic spectrum, internet, billboards...) should not enjoy a right, but a privilege with responsibilities to the community;
- g) **Whereas**, businesses and institutions presently must pay employees approximately 30% above net pay to cover employee payroll deductions, income and consumption taxes, adding significantly to the cost of labour, and furthermore, when in financial difficulty, this requirement could cause unnecessary bankruptcies and job losses.
- h) **Therefore** the GPC advocates fiscal policies that foster ecologically sustainable businesses, green jobs, preserve ecosystems and biodiversity, conserve resources for other species and future generations, and ensures a high quality of life and basic economic equity for all;
- i) **Therefore** the GPC proposes to employ natural resource charges so that those who use, monopolize or despoil our common wealth are obliged to reimburse society for this privilege;
- j) **Therefore** the GPC proposes a revenue-neutral tax shift that distinguishes between earned and unearned income, and moves the tax burden from the former onto the latter. This shift will unburden the productive economy and instead finance government programs by collecting unearned income;
- k) **Therefore** the Green Party of Canada would remove taxes from labour, business and production and instead generate government revenue through fees and levies on the use of the global commons and on access to community assets;
- l) **Therefore** the exclusive use of resources and land by individuals, institutions and businesses will require compensation to those excluded, i.e. those who hold resources or preferred sites, will be required to remit fees equal to the unearned economic rent as public revenue for public benefit (in lieu of income, business and sales taxes);
- m) **Therefore** individuals, institutions and businesses that enjoy access to community-built and tax-supported amenities and infrastructure be required to remit fees in the amount of the economic rent to government as compensation for the privileges granted;

n) **Therefore** individuals, institutions or businesses granted the privilege of polluting will remit to government Pigouvian taxes as deemed appropriate by legislators;

o) **Therefore** the GPC further proposes that those who contribute back to the commons be financially compensated by government. Companies and individuals who forgo opportunistic income to conserve, protect or restore ecosystems will be reimbursed for expenses.

*End of Resolution*