

AB-PC-79

Prairie Manifesto Project

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Province: ☒ Alberta ☐ Saskatchewan ☐ Manitoba

Party: PC Election Year: 1979

AA = Alberta Alliance
CON = Conservative Party
LP = Liberal-Progressive Party
PC = Progressive Conservative Party
SKP = Saskatchewan Party
UFM = United Farmers of Manitoba

CCF = Cooperative Commonwealth Federation
LIB = Liberal Party
NDP = New Democratic Party
SC = Social Credit
UFA = United Farmers of Alberta
WCC = Western Canadian Concept

Type of Document:

- ☒ Platform ☐ Constitution
☐ Speech ☐ Brochure / Leaflet
☐ Newspaper ☐ Advertisement
☐ Other: _____

Date Collected: 2006 / 07 / 12
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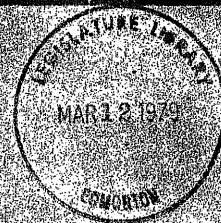
Source: AB-LEG

AB = Alberta
SK = Saskatchewan
MB = Manitoba

UofA = University of Alberta
UofC = University of Calgary
UofR = University of Regina
UofS = University of Saskatchewan
UofM = University of Manitoba
BU = Brandon University

PARC = Provincial Archives
LEG = Legislative Library
SPC = Special Collections
ULIB = University Library

ELECTION '71
ELECTION '75
ELECTION '79



DO NOT CIRCULATE

ALBERTA
Leadership

...“the time to look ahead”

"It is the feeling of western Canadians that we are coming into a new era, one of maturity and strength - with a deep desire to be a very important part of Canada, to reach our potential, to be part of the mainstream of Canadian life"

Premier Peter Lougheed
Bantl, Alberta
March 29, 1978

1 Education

- Provincial support per person is highest in Canada.
- New special programs for handicapped and special education students.
- Small rural schools given increased support.
- Emphasis on improved curriculum.
- More priority for Canadian and Alberta history and geography.
- Educational opportunities in rural Alberta through junior college system.

1 Housing starts

- 47,000 new units — far ahead of all other provinces.
- Alberta now contributes to over 21% of total starts in Canada.
- One-quarter of these are the direct result of provincial programs.
- Our objective: affordable housing for low income citizens.

1 Improved social programs.

- Day Care Regulations to ensure quality care for our children, as well as subsidization of low-income families.
- Home Care Program can provide needed health services to 25,000 citizens a year.
- Vocational rehabilitation for handicapped adults.
- Youth Assessment centres for juveniles increased in number.
- Consumer Protection measures.
- International Aid Program — support to less fortunate in other parts of the world.
- Dramatic new support ensures minimum income to the handicapped, as well as a program to provide aids to daily living.
- Up-graded court system.

1 Support for municipal programs

- Expanded grants for law enforcement.
- Recreation and cultural facilities.
- Preventive social services.

1 Urban transportation

- New 5 year — three-quarter billion dollar program for the 11 cities — triples support for major thoroughfares and public transit.
- Edmonton and Calgary able to overcome traffic problems — quality of life improves as traffic delays reduced.

1 Cultural support

- Ethnic groups — assistance to preserve their culture and traditions.
- Alberta emerging as a national centre for performers and artists.
- Matching Grant Program for art organizations.
- Preservation and development of historic sites.

1 Recreation for Albertans

- Enjoyment of outdoors, key part of Alberta Way of Life.
- Parks system vastly expanded: Kanaskis County, Capital City Park, Edmonton, Fish Creek Park, Calgary.
- New and improved Provincial Parks in all regions. Support of: Alberta Summer and Winter Games.

1 Environment protection

- Standards highest in Canada.
- Controls on industrial emission.
- Water Development Programs conserve spring run-offs, reduce flooding, preserve land.
- Old abandoned mines and pits being reclaimed.
- Environmental research centre at Vegreville.

1 Harmony in diversity

- Albertans respect different cultural and ethnic traditions.
- First Bills of Government: The Alberta Bill of Rights and the Individual's Rights Protection Act — take precedence over all other laws.

Sound financial management of your money as trustees of public funds

1 Lowest taxation of any province in Canada

- Lowest personal income tax.
- Only Province without sales tax.
- Gasoline Tax eliminated last year.

1 Property tax reduction program

- Since 1972 this program has kept property taxes below Canadian average.
- Exciting new Municipal Debt Reduction Plan will allow for further property tax reduction.
- Municipal debt reduced in the amount of \$500 for every man, woman and child in each municipality, paid for by provincial funds.

1 Responsible for budget control

- Spending spree resisted — increases restrained — living within our means.

1 Planning for the future

- Heritage Savings Trust Fund established — 30% of depleting oil and gas revenues saved for the future.
- Energy pricing and royalty policies have permitted:
 - 1) lowest taxation and highest services for people.
 - 2) still a fund for the future.

...that's leadership



"We have accomplished a great deal in just 8 short years—but there is still much to be done"

Premier Peter Lougheed
Spruce Grove, Alberta
November 4, 1978

In just 8 years...

Alberta's economy is the strongest in Canada

Jobs

- Lowest unemployment rate in Canada; most job opportunities.
- Over 258,000 new jobs have been created for Albertans since 1971 — that's almost equal to all the jobs in either Edmonton or Calgary.
- Training and Apprenticeship programs give young Albertans the opportunity to learn a skill or trade — 25,000 new apprentices during the last four years.

Family income

- Since 1971 Albertans have come from third place to first in average family income.

Farms

- Net farm income in Alberta Agricultural more than tripled since 1971.
- Lowest farm fuel costs in the country.
- Farm input costs kept lower than elsewhere.
- Support for market development and grain transportation improvement, including initiative to improve facilities at Prince Rupert.
- Loans to beginning farmers and reduced interest rates for established farmers.
- More processing in our own Province.
- Irrigation and grazing expanded.

Small Business

- Businesses have prospered in this Province.
- Over 1,000 businesses in 236 communities have been assisted by the successful Alberta Opportunity Company and the Agriculture Development Corporation.
- New freight rate arrangements — a plus for small businesses.

Oil and gas

- The government's oil and gas policies have been a dynamic force for Albertans.
- 1/3 of jobs directly or indirectly related to oil and gas industry.
- Because of increased royalties, citizens' share has jumped from about 16% to 40%.
- Our resource policies have made possible the Heritage Savings Trust Fund.
- Our incentive system has created record drilling and activity — that's a positive factor for many smaller communities.
- Albertans given an opportunity to participate as shareholders of Alberta Energy Company, N.B. The company has more than 53,000 shareholders, 96% of whom are Albertans — most holding shares of \$1,000 or less.
- Syncrude — A success story for Alberta and Canada.
 - Provided more than 3,000 new permanent skilled jobs.
 - Created many opportunities for small businesses.

Balanced growth

- Not just Edmonton and Calgary — but most Alberta communities have grown rapidly, which means opportunities.
- New programs provide utilities, water, and other essential services. Success of Rural Gas Program — now serving over 175,000 rural Albertans.
- Rural Electrification Program.
- Needed recreation and sports facilities supported.
- Industry encouraged to locate in smaller centres.
- Government operations decentralized.
- New paving and road construction in towns, villages and hamlets.
- Regional airport facilities program best in Canada.
- New parks and other programs such as Stamp Around Alberta aid tourist industry.

Roads

- Over 3,600 km of primary and secondary highways constructed or up-graded since 1971 — double the construction of the 1960's — that's a key factor for farmers, main street shops and tourist operators.

Lowest home heating cost in Canada

- All citizens benefit from the Natural Gas Price Protection Plan — 75% of any natural gas price increase is covered by the Government.
- We have an assured 30 years supply of natural gas.

People programs — improving our quality of life

Senior citizens' benefits

- Leadership in Canada.
- Free Medicare.
- Extended health care benefits; eyeglasses, dentures, hearing aids, etc.
- Retirement Income — Alberta Assured Income Plan among highest in Canada.
- Senior Citizens encouraged to remain in their own residences through:
 - \$1,000 Home Improvement Grant
 - \$400 annual Property Tax rebate
- Renters Assistance Grants (Over 26,000 Senior Citizen renters in 1978 received a Renter Assistance Grant of \$250 per year — to be increased).
- Self-contained Housing Program a resounding success:
 - 5,000 new units available for Seniors, close to their families.
- Many other programs.

Hospital construction program

- Largest program in Alberta's history underway — new and improved facilities in many communities — more required as province grows.
- Finest medical specialty centres in Canada include:
 - Alberta Health Sciences Centre, Edmonton
 - Children's Hospital, Calgary

Medical Research

- Cancer and Heart Disease are prime targets for Heritage Fund Investments. New plans to be announced in the near future.