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LIBERAL PARTY IN ALBERTA (CAMPAIGN LITERATURE): POLITICAL PARTIES ELECTION CAMPAIGN PAMHEETS 1997







It's time for a government



WOLL CIRC

that listens to all Albertans.





Speak up Alberta!







Don't stay quietly on the sidelines. Don't assume your opinion doesn't matter, or that nothing you say can, or will, make a difference.

If you don't agree with
everything the Klein
government has been
doing, say so.
Speak up. Speak out.
Your voice – and your vote –
can make things better.

Together, we'll be heard.

Alberta's Advantages Should Be Shared By *All* Albertans.

Alberta is a great province, one built on entrepreneurial energy and on a deep sense of caring for our community and each other. We have been blessed with an abundance of natural resources, and are fortunate to live surrounded by some of the most beautiful wild country on earth.

This is really what the 'Alberta Advantage' is all about. And it's an advantage that should benefit *all* Albertans, not just the very wealthy.

But it's an advantage now at risk.

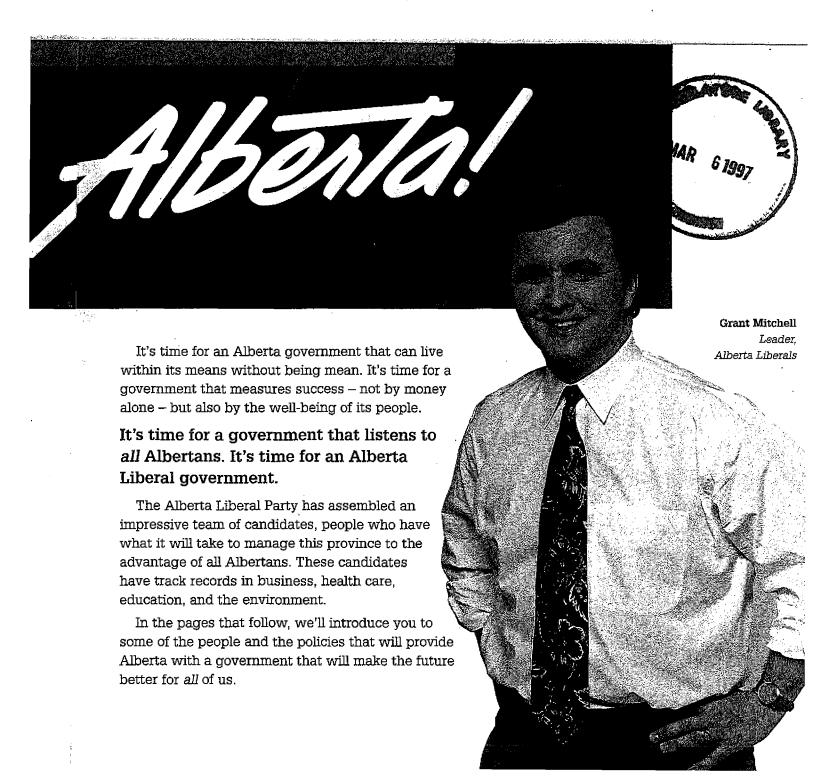
The Conservative government has balanced Alberta's books. But they have eroded and damaged the very core of Alberta's quality of life: health care, education, the environment, and our social programs.

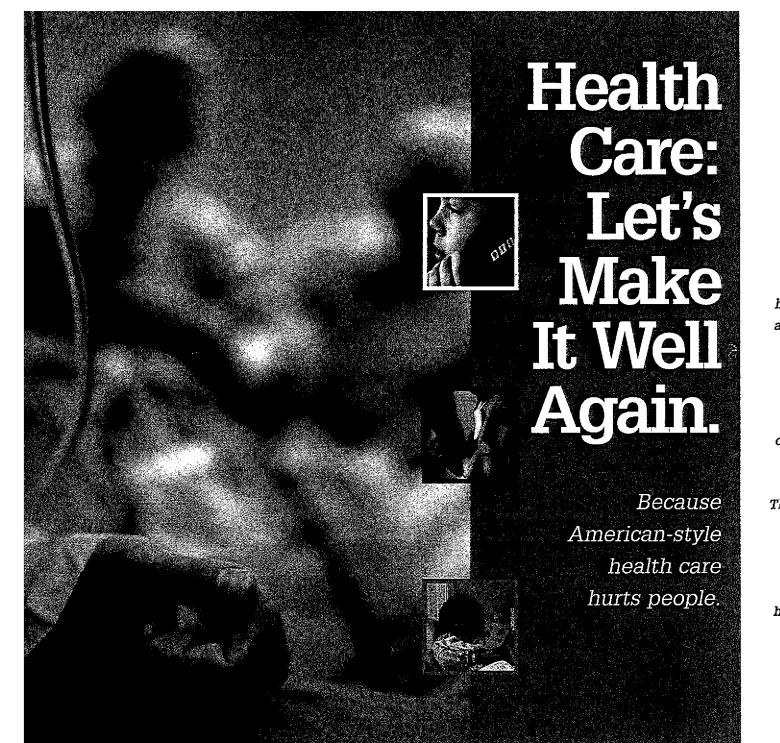
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Maybe you've spent too long painfully waiting for attention in a hospital emergency room. Maybe you've spent time on a hospital ward, and seen first hand what's happening to our once-proud level of patient care. If so....

We believe all
Albertans should have
equal access to
universal, publiclyfunded, comprehensive
health care. Such care is
a basic human right and
should be guaranteed.
No exceptions.

But the Conservatives
seem determined to
create a two-tier system
- one for the rich, and
one for the rest of us.
That's the kind of system
the U.S. has, a system
everyone agrees is a
national disgrace.
Privatized for-profit
health care is simply not
good enough.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

- Repair, restore, and maintain a universal, publicly-funded health care system all Albertans can rely on
- Prevent the further spread of commercial two-tier health care
- Prevent the implementation of user fees for medically necessary services
- Establish a process for the direct election of Regional Health Authority members, rather than continuing to appoint such members according to their political loyalties

Especially For Rural Alberta, We Will:

- Implement a province-wide 911 system
- Recruit more staff to relieve rural doctors

Especially For Seniors, We Will:

- Ensure an adequate number of long-term beds are provided throughout Alberta
- Provide relief for families choosing to care for seniors at home
- Establish province-wide minimum standards for seniors' housing

Especially For Women, We Will:

- Ensure a minimum 48-hour hospital stay for new mothers
- Extend Alberta's breast cancer screening program



How can any Alberta parent accept what's been happening in our schools?

aybe your child is crowded in with 35 other kids, and the teacher hasn't had time to notice he isn't keeping up too well. Or maybe you've been involved in one too many fundraisers to equip your kids' school with essentials like computers, textbooks, or sports equipment. If so...

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The goal of education must be to enable every child to reach his or her full potential. It is not merely to warehouse as many kids as possible in one classroom.

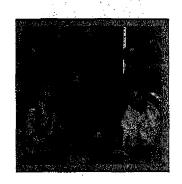
At one time, not so long ago, Alberta was justly famous for the excellence of our public education system. Now we're known for how much we can cut from this system without collapsing it completely.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

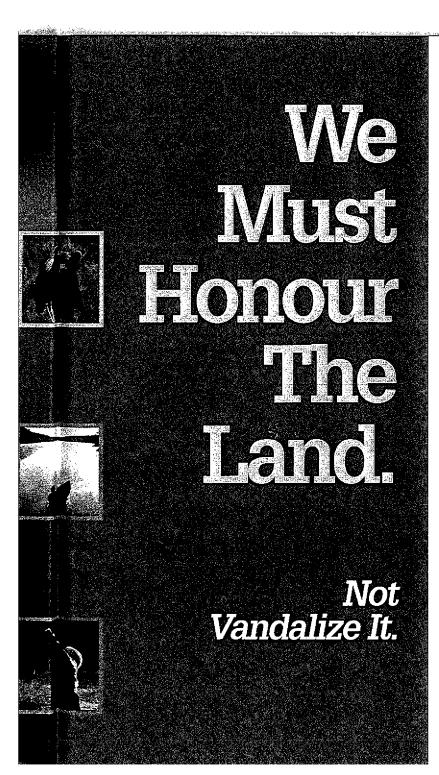
- Put decision-making back where it belongs: in the hands of local elected school boards
- Ensure 475 hours of fully-funded kindergarten for every Alberta child, and head start programs as needed for pre-five-year-olds
- Provide funds to hire 1000 new teachers, thus reducing class size so students can learn and teachers can teach
- Provide school boards with the funds needed to upgrade schools, and to equip classrooms with computers and other information technology
- Work to a goal of 95 per cent of Alberta students attending a post-high school program
- Set a 20 per cent cap on post-secondary student tuition fees, with financial incentives for students who do well
- Provide increased support for cooperative education programs such as internship and apprenticeship programs
- Allow families to direct their taxes to the publicly-funded system in which their children are registered
- Make research and development a priority in our universities through a globally competitive incentive system











Alberta's environment is a natural treasure, world famous for its wilderness, its wildlife, and the abundant resources that have contributed so much to our high standard of living.

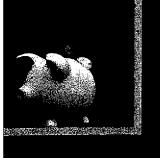
Yet, in one short decade, the Conservative government has managed to put at risk what should be managed in the best interest of all Albertans. And they have clamped off any meaningful public input into resource management decisions.

It seems they would sell any part of our natural heritage, if the price were right.

Forests, rivers, mountains and valleys: to them, none are too important to industrialize.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

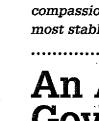
- Stop the privatization of provincial parks
- Protect such areas as Kananaskis, the Whaleback, the Castle Wilderness, the Bow Valley corridor, and the habitats of endangered species
- Reduce and eventually eliminate pollution in our rivers
- Pursue a viable wind and solar power program
- Ensure the public has input into environmental decisions
- Control logging on private land
- Put public lands back where they belong: with the Department of Environmental Protection

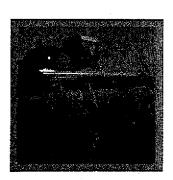


Because when life is good, it should be good for all Albertans. Including you.

Maybe you've been hearing a lot about Alberta's so-called "Economic Boom", but know that you personally are no further ahead than you were four years ago. Or maybe you're worried that the boom will bust again. If so...









We believe Albertans have the entrepreneurial get-up-and-go to compete successfully in a global economy. This province and its people have definitely got what it takes. And that's great.

We believe the provincial government should provide the environment in which the private sector can do what it does best: grow, and thrive. Our economy should be strong over entire market sectors – agribusiness, energy, tourism, and technology, for example – with small- or mid-size businesses powering each sector. But the government must do more to support small business so small business can do its job.

Alberta Liberals are committed to maintaining a balanced budget and paying down the debt without ever again shortchanging our health care and education systems. We are committed to the responsible and compassionate management of what will be Canada's strongest and most stable economy.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

- Manage the economy responsibly. Balance the budget, and retire the debt without raising income taxes or introducing a Sales Tax
- Establish a Stabilization Fund to ensure we can continue to pay down the debt even if oil and gas prices fall
- Reduce the small business tax from 6% to 4% to help offset a \$1 per hour increase in the minimum wage
- Make it easier for Albertans to find the capital needed to start a new business, or expand an existing one
- Allow entrepreneurs who file offering memoranda the ability to raise up to \$2 million directly from the public
- Create an over-the-counter equity market for junior companies
- Initiate a voluntary, self-funding contributory insurance program to provide a safety net for small business owners



Seniors have earned the right to live in dignity, enjoying as much independence as possible.

They shouldn't have to worry about making ends meet during their retirement. Yet they've been the hardest hit by the Klein government's cuts.

That hurts. It hurts the population group who has no way of increasing their own income to make up for the loss in support. And it's unacceptable.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

- Ensure Alberta's seniors have sufficient income to live as independently as possible
- Support families choosing to care for seniors at home
- Ensure seniors have access to doctors and hospitals when they need them, by increasing the number of beds and staff in long-term care facilities
- Extend health benefits to cover seniors' eyeglasses and dental work

Maybe you have aging parents yourself, so you're all too aware how much the cutbacks have added to the strain of caring for them with the comfort and dignity they deserve. Or maybe you're a senior whose savings are no longer enough for a secure retirement because the government has yanked the social security safety net out from under you. If so...



Too many people are hurting in Ralph Klein's Alberta.

Hurt happens when a government is prepared to balance the budget on the backs of its most vulnerable citizens.

Sacrificing people to show a budget surplus is simply not acceptable.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

- Get rid of all VLTs within three years
- Set, and enforce, standards for daycare and family care centres
- Increase support for women's shelters and educational programs to break the cycle of domestic abuse, while instituting stiffer penalties for abusers
- Get tough with those who exploit children: child prostitution is child abuse
- Restore funding to community policing programs throughout Alberta

Maybe you've noticed some poor soul pumping money into a VLT, hardly conscious of what was going on around him. Or maybe you think spousal and child abuse are symptoms of a society whose values have gone terribly wrong. If so...



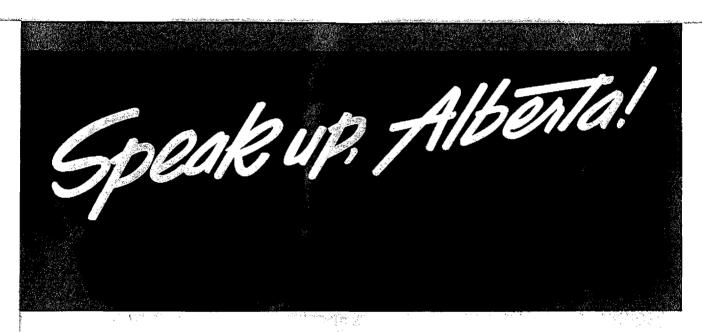
Innovative, out-of-the-box thinking is what it will take to create the kind of jobs that will make Alberta competitive in a global economy.

Good jobs. Jobs that pay well. And provide the security and stability upon which families depend.

An Alberta Liberal Government Will:

- Increase the provincial minimum wage by \$1 per hour
- Extend workplace benefit programs to cover part-time workers
- Honour collective agreements
- Give priority to the employment needs of young people through cooperative education and apprenticeship training programs
- Create the Alberta Youth Conservation Corps to give summer students employment experience in ecological restoration projects

Maybe you're unemployed, underemployed, or worried about downsizing. Maybe you'll be finished school soon, and don't know what awaits you out there. Or maybe you're a union member who's seen your collective bargaining rights threatened by the Klein Tories. If so...



Your vote can make a difference.

If you want an Alberta known for the well-being of its people, not for the size of its surplus, speak up.

If you want an Alberta that is not prepared to sacrifice the environment or its health care and education systems to look like a hero at a Wall Street luncheon, speak up.

Speak up for the kind of Alberta a Liberal government will build.

Entrepreneurial, yes. But caring too. Well-managed, yes. But with our priorities on people, not privatization.

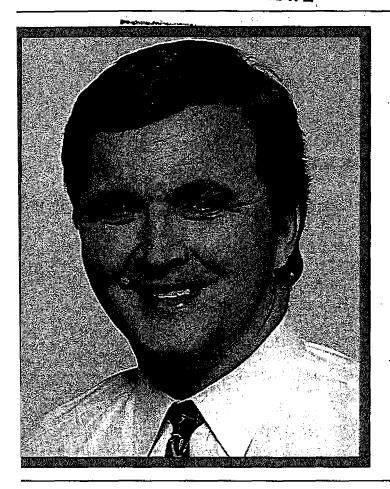
So if you value the kind of Alberta we value, say so.

Let your voice be heard on election day.

Re-elect Grant Mitchell

DO NOT CIRCULATE

Edmonton - McClung



A brief introduction to Grant:

- Married to Teresa, an Edmonton lawyer. Three sons: Lucas, Liam and Grady.
- Degrees in Political Science from the University of Alberta and Queens University.
- Formerly employed as a public servant with the Government of Alberta Treasury; and Alberta Department of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs.
- Former executive with the Principal Group Ltd.
- MLA for this constituency and member of the Alberta Caucus since 1986.
- Leader of the Alberta Liberal Party since 1994.
- Taught business—government relations to graduate students at the University of Alberta and The University of Calgary.
- Believes strongly in public service that is focused on building community values.

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