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A Balanced Approach

Provincial Election 1997

THE
FISCAL PLAN,
FROM YOUR
ALBERTA LIBERALS

**“Our fiscal plan
ensures quality
public health care
and world-class
public education
within the context
of a balanced
budget and an
orderly pay-down
of the Tory debt.”**

Grant Mitchell, Leader
Alberta Liberal Party

Highlights

- Balanced budget and orderly debt repayment.
- No new or increased taxes of any kind.
- No provincial sales tax.
- Stabilization fund.
- Increased support for health care, education, and seniors.

Assumptions

OIL PRICE WTI (US\$/bbl)

Fiscal Year:	97/98	98/99	99/00
Alberta Liberal:	19.25	19.00	19.00
Private sector:	20.59	20.22	20.52

NATURAL GAS PRICE (C\$/mcf)

Fiscal Year:	97/98	98/99	99/00
Alberta Liberal:	1.59	1.71	1.73
Private sector:	1.65	1.73	1.91

EXCHANGE RATE (C\$/US\$)

Fiscal Year:	97/98	98/99	99/00
Alberta Liberal:	0.75	0.76	0.77
Private sector:	0.75	0.77	0.77

INTEREST RATE (%)

Fiscal Year:	97/98	98/99	99/00
Alberta Liberal:	6.46	6.25	6.18
Private sector:	6.47	6.25	6.19

GDP GROWTH (%)

Fiscal Year:	97/98	98/99	99/00
Alberta Liberal:	4.4%	2.8%	2.6%
Private sector:	3.4%	3.1%	2.9%

Revenue	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
(\$ millions)	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
Personal income tax	3,441	3,580	3,702	3,835
Corporate income tax	1,390	1,439	1,488	1,529
Other taxes	2,297	2,293	2,241	2,235
Non-renewable resource revenue	4,055	2,911	2,862	2,772
Government of Canada transfers	1,316	1,268	1,207	1,189
Premiums, fees and licences	1,180	1,160	1,162	1,164
Investment income	990	969	923	863
Other	1,003	948	947	909
Net profits: commercial operations	342	386	397	399
Less phase-out of VLTs	0	(25)	(125)	(342)
Cushions	0	0	0	0
Total revenue	16,014	14,929^a	14,804	14,553

Expense	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
(\$ millions)	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
Legislative Assembly	40	40	35	35
Adv. Education & Career Development	1,094	1,303	1,310	1,318
Agriculture, Food & Rural Development	470	462	470	466
Community Development	298	314	314	314
Economic Development & Tourism	198	198	222	224
Education	2,731	2,896	2,896	2,896
Energy	123	126	117	117
Environmental Protection	364	366	376	366
Executive Council	22	21	19	19
Family & Social Services	1,385	1,415	1,415	1,415
FIGA	5	0	0	0
Health	3,814	4,005	4,085	4,166
Justice	361	369	371	369
Labour	29	32	34	39
Municipal Affairs	263	273	273	273
PWSS	462	447	447	447
Science and Research	49	44	56	66
Stabilization Fund	0	200	200	0
Transportation and Utilities	620	600	580	560
Treasury	303	290	290	290
Consolidation Adjustments	(107)	(107)	(107)	(108)
Consolidated Program Expense	12,524	13,294^a	13,403	13,272
Gross debt servicing costs	1,457	1,303	1,250	1,214
Consolidation adjustments	(177)	(163)	(152)	(142)
Consolidated Debt Servicing Cost	1,280	1,140	1,098	1,072
Total Consolidated Expense	13,804	14,434	14,501	14,344

^a Totals include \$107 million federal labour market program.

Consolidated Fiscal Summary	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
(\$ millions)	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
Total Revenues	16,014	14,929	14,804	14,553
Total Consolidated Expenses	13,804	14,434	14,501	14,344
Revenues Less Expenses	2,210	495	303	209
Change in capital assets affecting operations	25	7	5	19
Less: Paydown of debt	(2,235)	(168)	(180)	(194)
Surplus	0	334	128	34

■ Some Key Initiatives

Health Care

	1997/98
■ Stabilize acute care	\$65 million
■ Support for proper home care	\$35 million
■ Meet long-term care needs	\$27 million
■ 48 hour maternity stays	\$ 5 million
■ Support for rural physicians	\$ 5 million

Education

■ 1,000 new teachers to reduce class size	\$50 million
■ Support for 475 hours of kindergarten	\$15 million
■ Mild/moderate special needs support	\$15 million
■ Information technologies	\$60 million
■ Eliminate materials/user fees	\$25 million
■ Phase-in 20% tuition cap for post-high school	\$15 million

Seniors

■ More help with eyeglasses and dental work	\$14 million
■ Increase help with prescription drug costs	\$12 million
■ Improve home care for seniors	\$ 4 million

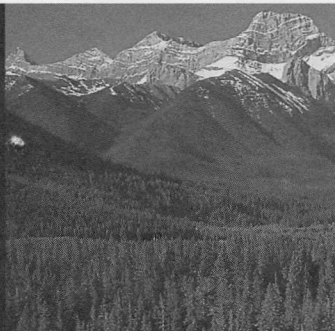
▲ A balanced budget ▲ No new or increased taxes ▲ No sales tax ▲ Orderly debt repayment ▲



Clean Water, Clear Skies, Healthy Lands.

Provincial Election 1997

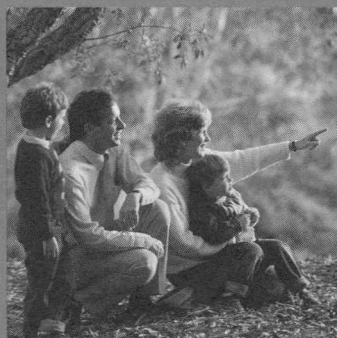
A CHALLENGE —
AND A
COMMITMENT.
FROM YOUR
ALBERTA LIBERALS



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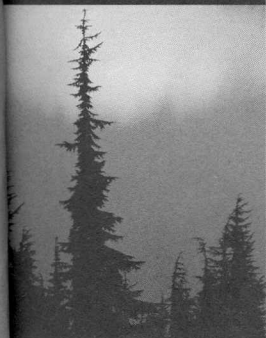
“Alberta’s natural
environment is
our greatest
source of pride.
Let’s make sure
it’s protected for
future generations.”

*Grant Mitchell, Leader
Alberta Liberal Party*



A CHALLENGE —
AND A
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A CHALLENGE —
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Alberta Liberals believe that sound environmental management is the basis for sound economic planning. A healthy environment contributes to a healthy economy. Both are achievable when the commitment to the environment is real.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

1. Alberta Liberals believe our natural resources must be developed in a sustainable way.
2. Alberta Liberals believe governments must enforce high environmental standards.
3. Alberta Liberals believe representative areas of adequate size must be protected in each natural region, to ensure the survival of species and their habitat.
4. Alberta Liberals believe protecting the natural environment will bring both environmental and economic benefits.
5. Alberta Liberals will ensure that an informed public has meaningful input into decisions that impact on the environment.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development means maintaining biodiversity and using our renewable resources in a way that does not affect future generations, or their ability to use these same resources.

While the idea of sustainable development has been endorsed by Alberta, no steps have been taken to see if we are actually achieving this goal.

Alberta's Liberals believe we should reactivate the successful Round Table on Environment and Economy, and let this independent body monitor progress and advise on sustainable development programs.

Water Quality

Alberta's rivers are key to sustaining life in this province. In 1996 the governments' Northern River Basins Study looked at the impact of human and industrial activity on the quality of our northern rivers. The study identified a number of areas of concern that must be addressed. Water quality also depends on water quantity. Keeping sufficient water in a river is essential to its overall health, and instream flows must be considered in all water management decisions.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Act on the recommendations of the Northern River Basins Study.
- Establish a policy of "no net increase" of pollution into our rivers.
- Work towards a goal of "zero discharge" for all new or expanding industrial operations.
- Act on the unanimous recommendations of the government's Water Management Review Committee.
- Promote the more efficient use of water.
- Work with industry and the public to make an inventory of groundwater pollution and plan a strategy for clean up.

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Air Quality

The high standard of living we enjoy in Alberta is due in large measure to our abundant natural resources. We realize, however, that our use of fossil fuels impacts the quality of our air. While Canada has agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000, it is unlikely we will achieve this result at our current rate of reduction. As partners in environmental stewardship, governments, industry and the public must work together to reduce pollution and improve the quality of our air. We must find economically acceptable ways of reducing all emissions that contribute to local pollution or global climate change.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Encourage energy efficiency initiatives, and upgrade government buildings and vehicles to their highest level of energy efficiency.
- Aggressively pursue a wind and solar power program to make Alberta a leader in commercializing renewable sources of energy.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions with industry's cooperation, or through government programs, other than a carbon tax, in an effort to meet Canada's international commitment.
- Set and enforce high standards for industrial air emissions, with random spot checks by government.
- Accelerate the work of the Clean Air Strategic Alliance to ensure meaningful progress is made in improving air quality.
- Incorporate major air pollution areas into "airsheds". Through pilot projects, use market forces such as tradeable permits to reduce emissions.
- Expand the inventory of the pollutants we monitor.
- Study the effect of gas plant flaring on human and animal health, and provide incentives to industry to reduce flaring in a short period of time.
- Strive to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, which are the source of many pollutants.

Waste Management

A reduction in solid waste continues to be a major challenge in environmental protection. We must find innovative ways to reduce, re-use and recycle products we now consider waste. We must also encourage the development of new technologies to treat and dispose of hazardous waste.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Work with municipalities to achieve greater waste reduction.
- Develop an Alberta Toxic Use Reduction policy.
- Support research and development in new and emerging recycling industries.
- Review the mandate of the Tire Recycling Management Association.
- Encourage competition in the safe treatment and disposal of hazardous waste.
- Support educational programs on the four "R's" of waste reduction.

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Public Involvement

To be effective, environmental policies must be developed with input from all environmental partners. Overall, our environmental management is the product of such input. Recently, however, people have been pushed out of the process. Deregulation, privatization and streamlining have all been done without public input. Since the public shares in the responsibility for environmental protection, the public must be allowed to share in the decision making.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Invite the public to comment on proposed regulatory changes through the Legislative Committee on Law and Regulations.
- Make information on environmental issues more accessible through Freedom of Information.
- Loosen the restriction that only those "directly affected" can speak out on the environmental concerns of specific projects.
- Give back to the public the right to appeal decisions of the Environmental Appeal Board through the Courts.
- Protect "whistleblowers" who report illegal environmental activities by their employers or government.
- Empower the Ombudsman to initiate environmental investigations.
- Improve the process for public input into the management of public lands.
- Re-establish the Natural Resources Conservation Board with a new and meaningful mandate.
- Improve the working of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board with respect to landowners' environmental concerns.

Forest Management

Forest management is a complex issue. To be effective, policies must consider the whole forest, not just the trees. We must rethink how we manage our forests. We must ensure that the wood supply is managed in a sustainable way, without sacrificing this important ecosystem.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Meet the goals of the Alberta Forest Conservation Strategy to ensure sustainable management of our forests, including the maintenance of biodiversity.
- Conduct an independent audit of our available timber supplies and our forest management practices.
- Develop new ecosystem-based management approaches in forestry and use them as a basis for setting annual allowable cuts.
- Set provincial forestry standards for logging on private land.
- Obtain fair returns on timber royalties from Crown land that more closely reflect market values.
- Provide a reliable supply of timber for Alberta's existing small operators.
- Open Forest Management Agreements for renegotiation where there is a proven record of compliance with harvesting and reforestation standards. A longer lease could be granted on condition that the following features were incorporated:
 - protection of some publicly managed, permanent wilderness areas within the forest management area,
 - standards and objectives to ensure ecosystem-based practices and the inclusion of other non-timber values in forestry management,
 - on-going independent monitoring to ensure high standards are maintained.

Wilderness Protection and Land Use Planning

A government appointed task force on future environmental directions has described land use planning as the most urgent issue facing Alberta. The urgency is due to unclear policies in land use and resource management. The challenge is to set clear policies in land use, identify wilderness areas that deserve protection, and ensure that viable wildlife populations are maintained.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Design a comprehensive land use policy for all public lands in Alberta, based on the principles of conservation biology.
- Develop a Canadian Rockies Ecosystem Policy to clarify land uses, and identify protected areas. This policy would include:
 - creating Kananaskis Park to protect the Kananaskis and Spray Lakes Valleys from the pressures of further development,
 - protecting the Whaleback and Castle Wilderness regions of southern Alberta,
 - designating the Bow Valley as a Protected Area, incorporating the Canmore Growth Management Plan.
- Explore the feasibility of designating the Caribou Mountains in northern Alberta as a United Nations Biosphere Reserve.
- Protect wilderness areas in the boreal forest.
- Ensure that provincial parks are publicly owned and publicly managed.
- Strengthen wilderness protection and parks legislation.
- Protect the habitat of endangered species.

- Review the Special Places 2000 process to ensure we have a system of truly protected areas of adequate size.
- Control subdivision planning that is now slowly destroying foothills ranching.
- Give the Department of Environmental Protection full responsibility for public lands.
- Resolve access to public lands under grazing leases by working with ranchers, hunters and naturalists.
- Create the Alberta Youth Conservation Corps to give students summer employment in wilderness or ecological restoration projects.



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Our Commitment to Albertans

Alberta's Liberals are committed to protecting the treasured wilderness and managing the rich natural resources with which we have been blessed.

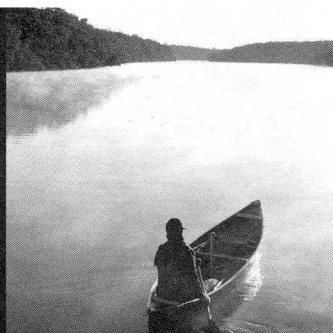
With the input of all Albertans, we will ensure the environment is not compromised, by defining clear, long-term policies based on sustainable development.

These policies support the best interest of all Albertans. We will take greater care in managing our rivers and lakes, our lands and forests, and our air. We will ensure the treatment of waste in this province is strictly regulated in the safest and most economical manner. We will set clear policies on land use, identify areas that must be protected, and ensure viable wildlife populations are maintained.

This paper highlights key areas in our blueprint to change the way the environment is managed in this province. The Alberta Liberals are committed to protecting Alberta's rich natural heritage – for our children – and our children's children.



A CHALLENGE –
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Education

For A Better

Future.

Provincial Election 1997

A STRATEGY –
AND A
SOLUTION.
FROM YOUR
ALBERTA LIBERALS



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“Albertans must
have access to
world class
education.
Our future
depends on it.”

*Grant Mitchell, Leader
Alberta Liberal Party*



A STRATEGY –
AND A
SOLUTION.
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A STRATEGY —
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Alberta Liberals believe that only through quality education will Albertans gain the better futures they desire. We are committed to excellent, accessible, and affordable publicly-funded education. We will work with communities to make our schools, colleges, institutes, and universities world class.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

1. Alberta Liberals believe excellent, accessible, and affordable publicly-funded education is the key to a better life and a better future.
2. Alberta Liberals believe education helps Albertans become competent, productive citizens.
3. Alberta Liberals believe Albertans must have opportunities to engage in life-long learning.
4. Alberta Liberals believe education is a shared community responsibility. All citizens have a responsibility to support and help in shaping public education.
5. Alberta Liberals believe the best educational decisions are made by local communities and not by remote government officials.

Early Education

Albertans support early childhood education programs. We know these programs help young children learn who they are, deal with information, socialize, spark their curiosity, and learn how to express themselves. Early childhood education programs must be encouraged and expanded.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WANT:

- Fully funded 475 hours of kindergarten.
- Kindergarten guaranteed in Alberta's law.
- Resources for boards to hire enough teachers so that young children receive the attention they require.
- Head start programs for pre-five year olds, especially for children at risk.
- User fees eliminated.
- Prekindergarten pilot programs.
- English as a second language programs for Aboriginal children and Canadian born children of immigrants.

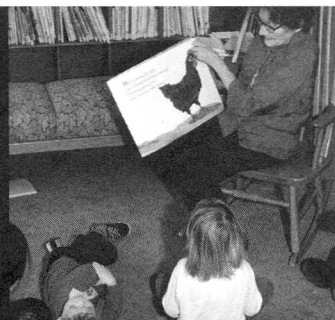
Basic Education

Basic education includes grades 1 to 12. The goal of basic education is well rounded adults and contributing citizens. We reach that goal by supporting programs designed to help students develop academically, socially, physically and vocationally.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WANT:

- School boards funded so they can hire 1,000 new teachers. Our goal is to reduce class sizes to make sure students can learn and teachers can teach.
- Alberta classrooms properly equipped with needed computers and information technology.
- Internship, apprenticeship, and cooperative education programs expanded.
- School boards funded so they can afford upgrading of schools.
- In-school support for special needs and exceptional children.
- Research and development to reduce the number of students dropping out of school.
- A reasonable balance between achievement and diagnostic tests.
- Publicly-funded schools rooted in the values of fairness, honesty, personal integrity, and community involvement.
- Rigorous standards and enforcement to guarantee school bus safety.

A STRATEGY –
AND A
SOLUTION.
FROM YOUR
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Higher Education

Colleges, institutes, and universities must play an increasingly significant role as the social, cultural, and economic demands of Albertans grow. The discovery and sharing of knowledge are critical as we move from the industrial to the information age. Growing centralized control and shrinking financial support for these institutions must be reversed.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WANT:

- A goal of 95% set for Alberta students to attend a post high school program.
- A 20% cap on student tuition and other mandatory fees.
- Student loans to reflect the actual education costs that students must pay.
- A goal to provide post-secondary programs for Alberta students who achieve an average of 70% or higher in the required high school courses.
- Achievement rewarded by granting higher loan remissions for students who do well.
- Research and development made a priority by making our incentive system competitive world-wide.
- Upgraded instructional, computer, library and laboratory facilities.
- The Alberta Science and Research Authority combined with the Department of Advanced Education to ensure better coordination and communication between public and private research.
- Better support provided for the unique programs offered by the Alberta Vocational Colleges and Athabasca University.
- To stop ad hoc financial planning. We want a forum of community leaders brought together to help develop a long term financing plan for higher education.
- The Alberta International Education Centre established to coordinate, develop and market Alberta's educational programs abroad.

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Further Education

Further education is many things to Albertans. For those who did not complete basic or higher education it is a second, third, or fourth chance. For some it is a chance to expand careers or explore other interests. For others it is a necessity and an opportunity to maintain or upgrade certification.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WANT:

- Alberta reading and numeracy goals of 95% for everyday tasks.
- Increased support of Educational Consortia which serve the educational needs of rural Albertans.
- Resources provided for literacy programs such as those offered by Further Education Councils, Adult Literacy, and Frontier College.

Governance

Schools boards were the earliest form of government in our province. Long before many municipal councils were created even long before the Alberta government existed, school boards were at work.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WANT:

- The two publicly-funded school systems in the province properly supported.
- An 80-20 formula of financing schools – 80% from the province and 20% from local ratepayers.
- Decision-making authority returned to school boards.
- Families allowed to direct their taxes to the publicly-funded school system in which their children are educated.
- Local boards given control over school construction and building programs.
- The collective bargaining process respected.
- Tuition formula boards for each post secondary institution to set tuition.
- Site-based decision making for colleges, universities, and institutes.

Our Commitment to Albertans

Alberta Liberals are committed to education, to make it the best, and the most affordable, publicly-funded system possible.

By improving our education system, Albertans will be in a better position to assume a leading role in the 21st Century.

This paper highlights key areas of change for education.

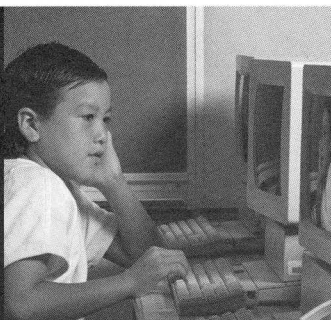
We believe education is an opportunity. An opportunity which should be equally available to all Albertans – from kindergarten to higher learning.

Education for a better future.

For a better Alberta.



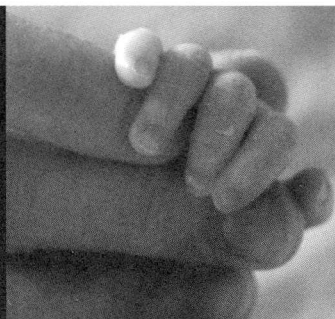
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Making health care well again.

Provincial Election 1997

A PLAN,
AND A PROMISE.
FROM YOUR
ALBERTA LIBERALS



“Alberta will,
once again, have the
finest health care
system in Canada.
Nothing less
is good enough.”

*Grant Mitchell, Leader
Alberta Liberal Party*



A PLAN,
AND A PROMISE.
FROM YOUR
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Alberta Liberals are committed to universally accessible, publicly funded, affordable and accountable health care.

Our policy focuses on Accessibility, Quality of Care and Continuity. We will provide innovative and affordable solutions that will address the current health care crisis.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

1. Alberta Liberals support the principles of the Canada Health Act which guarantees universally accessible, publicly funded health care.
2. Alberta Liberals will ensure equitable funding throughout Alberta for health care based on needs, not on political payback.
3. Alberta Liberals believe that health care professionals must have a significant role in determining what services are essential in health care.
4. Alberta Liberals will ensure that community-based services such as home care are properly funded.
5. Alberta Liberals believe that prevention and health promotion are central to quality health care.

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Universal Access to Health Care

The present government is encouraging Americanized two-tiered privatized health care. Albertans know the high financial and human costs resulting from this system and oppose this direction. The funding of health care in Alberta must guarantee all Albertans access to equitable levels of service and quality of care. Access must be based on medical need and not on ability to pay.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Maintain the five principles of the Canada Health Act: portability, universality, public administration, accessibility and comprehensiveness.
- Ensure all Albertans have access to a comprehensive array of publicly supported medically necessary services.
- Implement population-based funding to guarantee fairness in the distribution of resources across the regions. Our plan will consider population, demographics, regional relationships and social needs.
- Prevent the creation of commercial two-tier health care and implementation of user fees for medically necessary services.
- Ensure that the health care system is adequately funded so that properly trained health care workers are employed for all health care tasks.
- Responsibly monitor and evaluate changes and outcomes to health care within the context of accountability.

Health Care for Seniors

H *health services for senior Albertans must respond to their special needs and recognize their independence and dignity as paramount concerns. Province-wide standards and monitoring of long term care facilities and services must be established to protect the people who built this province.*

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Determine and co-ordinate a range of social support and mental health services for seniors throughout the province.
- Establish a province-wide registry linking regional placement programs.
- Ensure an adequate number of long term care beds are provided throughout Alberta.
- Establish province-wide minimum standards for privately-run seniors' homes.
- Set appropriate care-provider to resident ratios to ensure safety and quality care.
- Provide relief for families choosing to care for seniors at home.

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Home Care



Alberta Liberals recognize the need for a community-based, integrated and co-ordinated home care system, where service is tailored to the needs of the individual. Albertans deserve a viable, cost effective, home care program that respects the needs of people and responds on an individualized basis.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Ensure that adequate funding and resources are in place within the community for quality home care.
- Establish standards to guarantee quality with respect to home care.
- Develop guidelines to ensure that community services have professionally-trained staff.
- Provide respite for families and caregivers who are providing home care within the community.

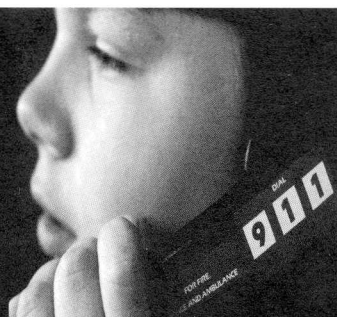
Health Needs of Rural Albertans

Rural communities are experiencing difficulty in recruiting and retaining doctors. Alberta Liberals believe that all Albertans should have reasonable access to doctor services, regardless of where they live.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Reduce the stress and workload by recruiting more staff to relieve existing rural doctors.
- Expand and intensify recruitment techniques to keep Alberta-trained doctors in Alberta.
- Establish satellite clinics in communities that do not have doctors to increase the size and variety of practice.
- Introduce 911 emergency service on a province-wide basis.
- Co-ordinate ambulance services through Regional Health Authorities in consultation with providers.
- Ensure that minimum standards and adequate resources are provided within each regional health authority for ambulance service.

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Public Health

Public health is about preventative medicine. Education, good nutrition and control of communicable disease are all critical to the health of Albertans. These important elements are now at risk in the current quest to downsize the health system. Alberta Liberals are committed to ensuring this critical health component meets the needs of Albertans.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Protect public health funding when dollars are transferred to regional control.
- Expand the provincial mandate for public health to include ongoing tracking, study and analysis of disease - especially communicable disease.
- Ensure that public health providers work closely with other departments to ensure that the economic, social and health needs of Albertans are protected.

Women's Health

The unique health needs of women are often overlooked when changes are announced, research initiatives are proposed, or funding reduced. Alberta Liberals believe that we need a system that is flexible and responsive to women's current and future needs.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Allow for a minimum of a 48 hour stay in hospital following birth, with earlier discharge only upon the request of the patient and advice of the physician.
- Ensure adequate representation for women on government-funded studies dealing with women's health.
- Extend the province's breast cancer screening program.
- Work with health care professionals to offer innovative alternatives to traditional methods of dealing with women's health needs.

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Mental Health



Alberta Liberals believe an effective mental health policy creates an environment where people have safe and healthy communities and ensures positive care with appropriate and compassionate treatment.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Encourage collaboration between the province, the community and social agencies to address the social conditions that contribute to mental illness. Particular attention must be given to children's services.
- Provide a spectrum of mental health services at the local level so that removal from the community is a last resort.
- Within each Regional Health Authority, Alberta Liberals will establish early awareness programs for those at risk, including assessment, referral and counselling support.

Privacy of Personal Health Information



Alberta Liberals believe that the sharing of health information may offer efficiencies in our health care system, but must not come at the expense of violating the personal privacy of Albertans.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Conduct an all-party review of the government's smart card pilot program and subject all proposed information systems to a mandatory assessment by the Privacy Commissioner.
- Require that individuals be informed of all potential uses of their personal health information at the time that it is collected from them.
- Establish uniform security protocols to ensure that health care providers only have access to the information they require.

Accountable Regional Health Authorities



Regional Health Authorities have been given the responsibility to spend billions of taxpayer dollars and make critical decisions concerning health care. Alberta Liberals believe that all Regional Health Authority members must be directly accountable to the communities they serve.

ALBERTA LIBERALS WILL:

- Establish a process for the direct election of all Regional Health Members in conjunction with municipal elections.
- Allow health professionals and other community members to seek election.

Our Commitment to Albertans

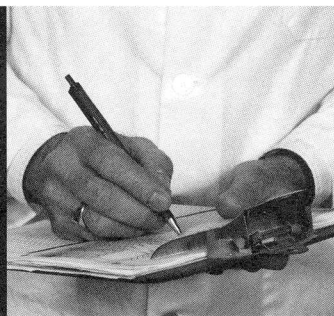
Alberta Liberals are committed to protecting the universally accessible, publicly funded health care system that is the envy of other nations. We know the harsh reality of a privatized system and the resulting human costs, and we remain committed to ensuring access for all Albertans based on medical need and NOT on ability to pay.

We understand the crucial need to listen to health care providers, people accessing the system, and concerned Albertans before implementing any more change. We will ensure that these values and concerns that are brought to the discussion are reflected and become part of our blueprint of change.

This paper highlights key areas in our blueprint of change for health care. The vision for Alberta Liberals is to build a health care system we can trust – now and for future generations.



A PLAN,
AND A PROMISE.
FROM YOUR
ALBERTA LIBERALS



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