

A choice for Canadians.

Policies of the New Democratic Party



Liaua Today

New Democratic Party ideas for the problems we must face now.

As Canadians and New Democrats, we have a commitment to Canada's future. We want to pass on to our children a future that is secure – one where everyone has a job, a decent standard of living protected against inflation, a healthy environment. A future where we have control over our own resources.

We do have many problems – rising prices, a declining dollar, rising unemployment, national unity. But there are solutions – real ones. This

anada



NDP Leader Ed Broadbent

booklet outlines some of our ideas.

Canada is a land rich in the strength of its people and its vast natural resources. I believe Canada can rebuild its economy. I know that by working together we can regain our sense of confidence as a nation.

The policies of the New Democratic Party are based on revival and renewal of the good things that make Canada a great place to live. Working together, we can secure our future and our country

Contents

| Leadership | Farms |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Prices | Small Business |
| Energy | National Unity |
| Jobs | Regional Development |
| Taxes | Labour |
| Interest Rates | Women |
| Homes | Pensions |
| Cities | Health |
| Transportation | Native People |
| Fishing | External Affairs |
| Manufacturing | |

rship

vvny not the best?

Most Canadians agree – Ed Broadbent is the man they'd like to see running Canada.

It's easy to understand. After 11 years of Trudeau, Canadians got fed up, switched to the Conservatives, yet they got the same programs of the Liberals: high interest rates, high unemployment, high prices.

Ed Broadbent, the New Democratic Party leader, puts the concerns of the Canadian people first. When the Conservatives threatened to sell off or shackle Petro-Can, Broadbent went on the road everywhere in the country to work to save the national energy company.

When the Liberals were the government they raised interest rates seven times in two years. The Conservatives criticized high interest rates; then in power they raised interest rates four times in seven months.

No wonder Canada looks for an alternative, a real choice, a leader and a program . . . Ed Broadbent.

People have faith in Broadbent. He keeps his promises. In the last election the New Democrats promised to oppose high interest rates, promised to stand for job creation programs, promised to fight

for policies that attacked inflation. New Democrats kept their promises.

Liberals talk a lot; Trudeau promised not to pass wage controls – then a year later he did. He had more than a decade to solve Canada's problems, yet those problems grew worse.

Joe Clark promised tax cuts during the 1979 election campaign. Clark promised help for small business. He promised action on unemployment. He promised to reduce the cost of living.

None of those promises was kept.

But did he have enough time? Sure he did. The Conservatives' budget in December was their chance to say what they'd do.

They brought in a budget that would have raised the cost of living (to 11% this year by their own admission), that would have meant more unemployment (another 110,000 jobs lost by their own calculations). And Clark did nothing while interest rates went higher and higher – four times since the last election.

This time Canadians want a leader who means what he says. This time get what you voted for.

This time Ed Broadbent.

Prices

Inflation: a big word for price hikes.

What Canadians earned in wage increases last year was wiped out by price hikes, especially in housing, food and energy. Interest rates soared to an all-time high as the Clark Conservatives continued the high-interest policies of the Trudeau Liberals.

It's time for action on prices. The New Democrats say let's protect hard-working Canadians and pensioners from the effects of inflation. The average family lost \$300 in purchasing power last year because the government did nothing to hold

down the cost of



Much of the increase can be attributed to the declining value of the Canadian dollar, which makes imported goods much more expensive. Corporations have not shared the fate of the average Canadian however. Their profits have increased substantially.

The four biggest oil companies saw their profits go up 55% in one year. Bank profits increased by a record 34% thanks to high interest rates on mortgages and other loans.

But there are some ways to keep prices in line.

Canada's New Democrats would:

• Start a basic food assistance program to bring back subsidies on flour for bread and for milk, lowering the cost of a quart of milk by 5¢ (and save some families up to \$200 a year.)

• Strengthen legislation against monopolies to give

smaller businesses more protection.

• End tax breaks on costly advertising (which we end up paying) that creates artificial demands for junk foods, etc.

• Encourage food co-operatives, consumer associations and credit unions to start projects which will help bring down high prices for food, clothing and other goods.

• Expand Petro-Canada, the government oil company, to give the giants some competition for a

change.

• Start a cost-of-living tax credit to help low-income and moderate-income families deal with the rising cost of everything.

Reduce interest rates to make homes affordable

again.

- Provide a Fair Prices Commission to investigate costs, profits and prices and roll back unreasonable increases.
 - Encourage food production so that shortages don't drive up prices for meat, milk and other food
 - Take action to expand the housing market and control land speculation.

Energy

We need energetic policies.

The New Democrats' energy policy is easy to understand. We'll accept no price increases that force Canadians to pay artificial prices based on the cartels – either multi-national corporations or the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The biggest oil companies (Imperial, Shell, Gulf, Texaco) are enjoying enormous profits – up 55% last year. The December Joe Clark budget proposed to give the companies another \$33 billion from your pocket.

New Democrats voted no.

What New Democrats would do:

We'd keep Petro-Can and expand it into every phase of oil production (from pipeline to gas pump).

We'd maintain supplies of oil in the east coast to guard against shortfalls or embargoes outside Canada.

We'd promote incentives to conserve energy (it's cheaper to save energy than to find it).

We'd ensure a fair return to the producing provinces (Alberta and Saskatchewan) while eliminating the windfall profits of the multinationals. That would help keep oil prices stable.

We'd discontinue the give-away from the treasury called the frontier exploration allowance and let Petro-Can explore for new energy.

We'd investigate prices, costs and profits in the oil industry from wellhead to the retail outlet to protect consumers from unreasonable price increases.

New Democrats would improve the home insulation program to make sure we get the best use of the energy we have. The NDP will support public transit and encourage people to leave their cars at home and take the bus, streetcar, subway, etc., and make these public transit services available to more Canadians.

The NDP will emphasize an alternate energy programme and back up efforts with research funds to develop solar power and energy from biomass, wind and tides. We'll promote re-cycling for the same reason – to save energy, – but make sure no one has to lose a job because of energy conservation or conversion.

Our tax policies will cushion the impact of the past energy price hikes for people on low incomes through a cost-of-living tax credit.

Canadians rely on the federal government to set the pace on energy policy. With New Democrats in Parliament Canadians can count on good energy policy for a change.

Jobs

We have to get to work.

Officially there are more than 800,000 Canadians out of work. Not because they want to be, but simply because there aren't enough jobs. We have to and transportation program so affordable houses start working at getting work for our unemployed. Had the Conservatives' December budget passed they admit themselves another 110,000 Canadians would be out of work this year - nearly a million in

Working Canadians can't afford to continue carrying the tax load of a four billion dollar unemployment insurance program. We can't afford the millions of dollars we lose every year in lost productivity. This tragic level of unemployment has cost each working Canadian a staggering \$5,000 over the last three years.

And if you think the economic costs are enormous just think about the social cost of unemployment. Think about the families watching their hard-earned savings disappear after weeks without work. Or families having to turn to welfare when their unemployment benefits run out.

Governments should start thinking about how to reduce unemployment. The NDP has.

Canada's New Democrats would:

Provide full employment for Canadians. We would rather have people receive pay cheques than unemployment benefits or welfare. And that can

In the short term the NDP would: cut personal income taxes for lower and middle income earners which would pump money into the economy and stimulate demand for goods; establish an emergency capital works program so municipalities could

reduce their unemployment figures by funding needed projects; expand our government housing would be constructed and transportation systems improved; and create programs encouraging small businesses – because they employ people.

The NDP will control rising interest rates, which rob small business of the chance to expand and deny Canadians the opportunity to buy the homes they require. (A housing program will create jobs right across the economy.)

There are thousands of new jobs Canada could start planning for. Jobs in the production of urban transit equipment, equipment for Prairie farming, industrial manufacturing machinery and sophisticated electrical equipment. We should also be much tougher in our bargaining when we talk with the United States about the Auto Pact.

Governments should be pushing the private sector to create these jobs. And they should be rebuilding Canada's sagging industrial structure. Because only industrial renewal will ensure Canada's long-term economic future.

What Canada really needs is a long-term strategy. Federal and provincial governments should be actively involved in planning economic development to meet social needs such as employment, housing, environmental protection and the elimination of regional disparity.

Public and private sector programs should be sponsored to provide employment opportunities for the employment disadvantaged - women, youth, native peoples, the physically and mentally handicapped and older workers.

It will take a lot of hard work but we can get Canadians back to work.

Taxes

The only good tax is a fair tax.

The New Democrats believe most Canadians pay too much in taxes. So tax reform is an important NDP policy. It's just not fair that more than 500 people with average incomes over \$96,000 in 1977 paid not a penny in income tax while people who earn much less pay thousands of dollars. It is just not fair: the federal government's indexing program saves \$760 for some families with \$50,000 incomes, while people to making only \$10,000 a year save only \$190. There's more. The corporation tax, which paid two-thirds of the federal budget 20 years ago, today pays one-third. Who pays the rest when the corporations get off easy? We do. Canada's New Democrats would: Pass tax reforms to cut taxes for people on low and moderate incomes (earning less than \$20,000 a year). We need tax reforms to tighten the loopholes (fast write-offs, deferred tax paymens, etc.) that enable big corporations to evade their responsibility to pay their share of the cost of running this country. And ordinary families are in desperate need of some tax benefits - especially for child-care expenses, working tools and other essential expenses related to jobs. The NDP's cost-of-living tax credit would give a break to most tax-payers, including pensioners, and help compensate for increases in food, energy and homes. Here's how some people would benefit this year: a family of four, a \$360 credit; a couple, \$300; a couple on pension, \$400; a single person, \$160; a single pensioner, \$260. If the credit is more than the tax you owe, you get

Canada can have a fair taxation system.

a refund.

Interest rates

It costs too much to borrow.

High interest rates are fine if you're a banker. But most people aren't. High interest rates hurt farmers, hurt people who want a house, hurt small business people who want to finance their firms or expand their production. High interest rates hurt most people, and so high interest rates hurt Canada.

Yet the Conservative government seems happy with higher and higher interest rates. We now have the highest rates ever (nearly 15% at the end of

1979).

The four hikes since the Conservatives took office mean an extra \$1,000 a year in the cost of financing an average-priced house, an extra \$240 a year on the cost of borrowing to pay for a standard-sized car.

Farmers paid \$200 million in extra interest payments last year because of the hikes. That makes

High interest rates are fine if you're a banker. But farm incomes lower or farm food prices higher – ost people aren't. High interest rates hurt farmers, both harmful to Canadians.

So people buy fewer homes and automobiles. The economy goes down. People get laid off. We could have a recession. Does it have to be this way?

No, say Canada's New Democrats. The NDP

- Enact a mortgage assistance plan to reduce interest costs to 8% for people earning less than \$25,000 a year, 9% for people earning up to \$30,000.

- Pay mortgage assistance monthly (to an annual limit of \$1,000) so that everyone gets some relief right away.

The Conservatives' plan to deduct mortgage interest from taxes favours people with the biggest homes and does nothing for tenants – does nothing to actually help people get a house in the first place.

Homes

All of us need a roof over our heads.

Millions of Canadians pay too much of their income for housing, mortgages and rent. Interest rates alone increased four times under the Clark government, meaning Canada's highest rates (nearly 15%!) in history. Interest rates have added about \$1,000 a year on a mortgage for the average home.

Canada's New Democrats believe decent housing is a right, not a privilege for a few.

Canada's New Democrats would:

Develop a National Building Corporation to start homes and apartments where private developers can't or won't do the job. Federal mortgage funds should be directed to co-operative and other forms of non-profit housing.

We would provide forgiveable loans and grants (of up to \$3,000) to repair older housing and require strong warranties on all homes financed or guaranteed by the federal government.

Other things we would do:

• Pass a mortgage assistance program to bring down interest rates to 8% for people earning less than \$25,000 a year, 9% for incomes up to \$30,000. (The Conservatives' mortgage-interest deduction plan favours the rich—the more expensive the house, the bigger the tax break.

• Plug tax loopholes that favour builders who put up office towers, speculate in land and erect shopping centres instead of homes

nomes.

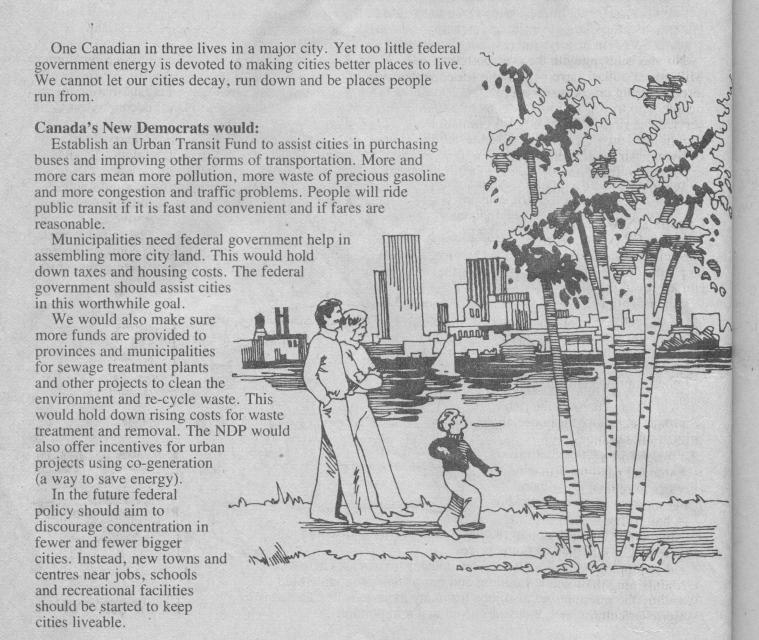
• Apply stiff taxes on non-agricultural land profits to discourage speculation that drives up home prices.

• Limit rent hikes in federally-assisted housing to increases in real costs. A serious federal home-building and renovation program would not only create homes but also jobs for many thousands of Canadians in construction and related industries. And that's important.



Cities

For better cities...better government.



Transportation

How to get there from here.

No one is happy with the transportation mess. Millions of dollars have been spent for expensive airports in big cities to serve a relative handful of people who travel the most. Meanwhile train service deteriorates. Westerners complain that freight rates are discriminatory and raise their cost of living. Air fares keep going up, making it too expensive to travel in our own country.

What can be done about all this?

Canada's New Democrats would:

かっい

Merge CP Air and Air Canada to provide the most efficient air service, based on service, not just on profits (while protecting the jobs of the employees in the two concerns).

Fair freight rates would emphasize regional needs so that goods can be produced closer to the source of raw materials. Right now, products have to be shipped long distances for processing. New Democrats think that is wrong.

Other improvements in transportation Canadians need:

• Public ownership of the Canadian Pacific Railway for a single, improved, passenger and freight network.

• Extended passenger and commuter services to relieve urban auto congestion.

• A halt to further rail line abandonments.

• Upgrading Churchill, Manitoba, and Prince Rupert, B.C., into major sea-ports to share in the world's shipping business.

• Maintaining the Crow's Nest Pass grain rates and extending the rates and coverage for losses to other western agricultural products.

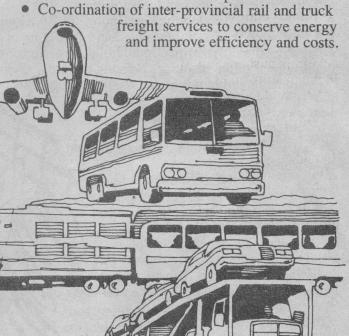
• Enacting the main Hall Commission recommendations for a Prairie Rail Authority.

 Creation of a Canadian merchant marine to carry goods between ports in this country on Canadian vessels.

• Creating a merchant marine to carry international trade on Canadian ships with Canadian crews

Improved air service in remote communities.

• A halt to the construction of more airports until the future need for them can be proved.



Fishing

Canada's oldest industry needs protection.

Fishing is Canada's oldest industry but it still needs protection. The federal government has no long-range plans for maximizing the beneficial effects of the 200 mile limit, fishermen aren't consulted when policies are developed, foreign multinationals are buying up our processing plants and the government is doing very little to increase domestic consumption or export sales.

Canada's New Democrats would:

• Make sure the development of the fishing industry is in the interests of the people who get the fish and prepare them for the market. We'd limit the size and power of the inshore companies in the industry to reverse the trend toward monopolies.

Preserve and develop the near-shore, offshore and inshore fisheries.

• Ensure that the federal government actively involves provincial governments and fishermen in all policy decisions including the management of the resource, policing the area, research development, shipbuilding and repair requirements, and all licensing and quota requirements.

• Establish co-ordinated marketing procedures in the development of diversified markets, both domestically and internationally.

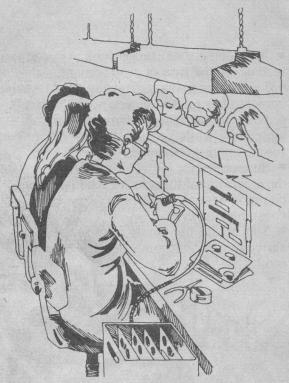
• Actively involve fishermen in product, development and make concrete attempts to purchase outlets in foreign markets.

• Consult with the provinces and fishermen in the development of an adequate income support program for workers in the fishing industry. This program would realistically take into account the operational costs of small fishing enterprises. An adequate income support program for fishermen would allow us to plan the development of the fishing industry on a long-term basis.



Manufacturing

Let's stop exporting jobs.



Twenty-five years ago, Canada had a dynamic

manufacturing sector. Then, one in four Canadians worked in manufacturing. Today, that number has fallen to fewer than one in five. Thirteen per cent of our manufacturing capacity lies unused while our workers remain jobless.

Canada's trade deficit in manufactured goods was about 12 billion dollars last year. If we produced those goods at home, we would have hundreds of thousands more jobs.

It's time to do something.

Canada's New Democrats would:

• Establish policies which would guarantee a fair domestic market for products produced in Canada. Some Canadian industries will continue to need protection from foreign competition while they

readjust to changing markets.

 Set up training programs and assistance through the federal government to help with this readjustment. We'd emphasize apprenticeships for skilled trades so men and women will get the skills they require for the jobs of the future - and the jobs of today. But the only real help is a full employment policy, so that we are not training people for jobs which don't exist.

• Force large multi-national companies operating in Canada, including Canadian ones, to devote a fair chunk of their research and development money to Canada. It is only through R. & D. that we can

secure future manufacturing jobs.

 Push our export sales by establishing more aggressive foreign marketing programs under federal government leadership. Some provinces have already done this in the absence of any help from Ottawa.

 Cut taxes immediately for low and middle income families to stimulate demand for Canadian

• Establish an investment fund for a portion of corporate profits. Companies that agree to use some of their profits to create jobs would receive tax benefits. If not, they would be taxed in full.

These are some good ideas to help revive our manufacturing sector. We must act now before any more manufacturing jobs disappear, perhaps for

good.

Farms

Let's keep our farms working.

Canadian farmers will have lower incomes again this year unless the government does something about it.

Costs are rising faster than incomes, thanks in large part to high interest rates. Farmers paid another \$200 million in interest just because of the rate hikes that came into effect under the Clark government.

The 15-cent-a-gallon excise tax on gasoline in the

December budget will hurt, too.

New Democrats would cancel the excise tax, ower interest rates and back up our hard-working

farmers with programs like these:

Guarantee farm product prices don't earn less for the farmers than they need to meet the cost of living. We won't make the farmer pay a penalty for producing more of the food Canada and the world need.

Orderly marketing and planned production will reduce the sudden surpluses and shortages that force up prices one season, and drive down farmers' incomes the next. We would make the Canadian Wheat Board the sole marketing agency for western grains. We would end monopoly control over important farm 'inputs' such as fertilizers, chemicals and machinery by developing more co-operatives to compete with giant businesses.

Other good ideas:

• Government credit to foreign countries to help them buy our food surpluses and an international grains agreement with other countries to stabilize prices.

• Establishing co-operatives to process, stock-pile and distribute farm products, with low-interest loans to improve farms and help younger farmers keep their families' property.

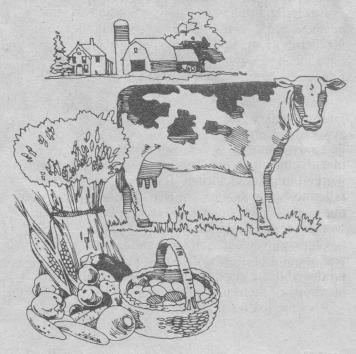
• An income stabilization fund to insure farm incomes in the case of crop damage.

• Legislation to prevent takeovers of farm land by corporations and foreigners, with land banks to provide compensation to farmers who want to leave agriculture while keeping their land in production for the country's benefit.

• Support for the Crow's Nest Pass grain rates and the extension of the rates to other western commodities to protect farm incomes and

consumers' interests.

• Support for the family farm as the basic unit of agriculture and the policy of food for people, not for profit.



Small Businesses

We should be helping them grow.

Ninety per cent of the businesses in Canada employ under 200 people. They include small corner stores, retailers, wholesalers and some of our country's most sophisticated, high-technology industries.

They are the most innovative and dynamic part of our economy. In small towns and rural areas they provide major employment.

Canada's New Democrats would:

Start by cutting the amount of paper work small business have to put up with. We can do that by reassessing the information needs of the government and cutting down on duplicated paperwork.

But federal policies have hurt not helped small business people. High oil prices mean higher costs for distribution and production. High interest rates mean it costs much more to finance inventories and expansion.

New democrats will lower interest rates – that's a promise. We'll exploit export opportunities on behalf of small business and guarantee research grants to small firms.

Small business needs managerial, financial and marketing advice, also. Especially in the crucial start-up phase. The NDP would make sure they get that advice.

The government's purchasing system should be restructured too. A certain proportion of the government's needs for goods and services should be filled by small businesses.



Labour

Working together is better.

Democracy demands a system of free collective bargaining for working people. There is just no other way. That is why...

Canada's New Democrats would:

• Recognize the right of all working people to join the union of their own choice.

• Protect employees' health on the job with a national attack on occupational cancer and require labour-management workplace safety committees in all establishments in the federal sector with more than 20 employees.

• Extent to workers the right to bargain on all matters arising out of technological change and automation.

• Give trade unions the right to representation on Crown corporation boards and all government boards that administer social programs.

• Ensure that industries which close down plants are not allowed to pass on the social costs to employees and the communities they desert. When big plants are threatened with shutdown, the government should insist on full disclosure of the facts and consider taking over the operation if it can be made viable.

• Guarantee every worker the right to a clean, safe and healthy work environment. The employer must show such conditions prevail.

New Democrats also recognize it's the government's business to cushion the impact of lay-offs when they're necessary. Therefore the NDP has opposed the cut-backs in our unemployment insurance program that were started by the Trudeau government and continued by the Clark administration.

New Democrats also believe working people have been unfairly singled out over the past few years for blame over Canada's economic problems. We will not impose compulsory wage controls or take any other measure that will punish working Canadians for the mistakes of their government.



National Unity

A nation out of work can't work as a nation.

Canadians are worried about the future of their country. No one seems happy with the present Confederation. Westerners and Maritimers justifiably complain about regional disparities, discrimination in transportation, energy and manufacturing jobs. Quebecers have a provincial government that seeks independence. Under the Trudeau years relations between Quebec and other provinces grew constantly worse.

New Democrats support the right of Quebec people to decide their future themselves – with no outside interference. Yet New Democrats in Quebec and everywhere fervently hope Quebecers will decide to work together with all Canadians to build a stronger Canada under an improved and more

sensitive federal government – an NDP government, and a truly Canadian constitution.

Canada's New Democrats also would:

Plan our economy with an investment strategy that provides more economic opportunity in the regions that need it most.

We would recognize that Canadians need the basic human essentials at prices they can afford: homes, food, energy, health care.

We would support the principles of the Official Languages

Act and promote the varied cultures and nationalities that have all

contributed to make
Canada such a unique countr

As a federal government we would work co-operatively with the provinces to develop fair policies – policies

people can participate in through de-centralized administration. Because we know Ottawa

won't have all the answers.

We would delegate responsibility to the provincial governments and work for constitutional changes in areas such as immigration and communications where honest differences of opinion exist.

And most important, we'd have a fullemployment government. With one-quarter of the country's jobless people in Quebec, it is no wonder many people in Quebec doubt that Canada serves them best.

Regional Development

Helping Canada piece by piece.

Canada's national prosperity is marred by the stubborn persistence of great regional inequality. Moreover, these disparities further increase at times of high national unemployment and poor national economic growth.

Canada's New Democrats would:

• Ensure that the federal government commits itself to a full employment program by establishing legislative targets and timetables each year for the number of jobs to be created, by region.

• Implement needed tax reform in order to bring about more sensible tax laws where tax grants and concessions are given in return for the performance of specific tasks of benefit to the economy. Without such reform we cannot hope to end the extensive regional disparities in this country.

• Institute control over investment fund allocation in order to directly influence the timing and direction of private sector investment. Funds would be accumulated in periods of full employment and excess demand; they would be released in recessionary periods. In this way we would avoid overheating the economy in boom times. Investment in regions of high unemployment would be given preference. As we have seen in countries where this

has been applied - such as Sweden - it works well, both for industry and for the country.

 Co-ordinate all aspects of federal and provincial policy so that Department of Regional Economic Expansion aid is not cancelled out, for example, by unfair and discriminatory transportation freight

• Prevent policies which allow multi-national companies in Canada to receive grants from the federal government to open new plants in one place while they lay off workers in another part of the country.

Give local industries priority over foreign corpo-

rations for DREE assistance.

Women

Half our population needs a better break.

Canada's economic woes hurt women especially hard. They are the last hired and the first fired. They often don't get a chance to develop the special skills required for some jobs, and so a higher proportion of women than men are looking for work.

The Clark and Trudeau governments made it harder for women to get jobs by reducing employment counselling for women and training allowances. Cut-backs on unemployment insurance hurt women, especially, since they are often "last hired, first fired."

We would also make sure equal treatment is built into the tax and pension systems and into family and property law. It is not right that women who have built up businesses and worked for years in the home can be left with nothing if marriages break down.

New Democrats firmly believe in paid maternity leave to give women the right to return to their former jobs after

Canada's New Democrats would:

Protect women's rights because that means protecting everyone's rights; with laws for equal pay for work of equal value and elimination of discrimination in hiring, promotion and training.

New Democrats will make sure there's an "outreach" program for women to help them get jobs in each of the Canada Manpower employment districts.

New Democrats have special ideas for assisting

We would pass affirmative action legislation to require the public service, crown corporations and companies receiving federal contracts to actively seek out women to hire, promote and train.

women in remote

communities, too.

their children are born. Fathers, too, should have the right to paid leave to care for newborn children - because raising a family is a job for both parents. We would expand federal funding for child-care so that working parents will know their children have good Ofacilities and the care of trained, concerned professionals during their working day. We also believe that

or fathers who devote full time to raising children are making an important contribution and that they are entitled to a full pension, realistic child care tax credits, and an equal share in family property.

Pensions

Retirement should be something to look forward to.

Retired Canadians built Canada. The NDP believes they have a right to security and peace of mind.

New Democrats have always supported the idea of decent retirement incomes – in fact, our Party first worked out the idea of Canada Pensions. To keep the public pension system fair, benefits should be tied to the rising cost of living (as other countries do), with a special cost-of-living index that accounts for the buying habits of older Canadians.

It would cost \$200 million to raise the Guaranteed Income Supplement on old-age pensions to a level above the poverty line. New Democrats will do it (the December Clark budget ignored the pensioners entirely!).

Canada's New Democrats would:

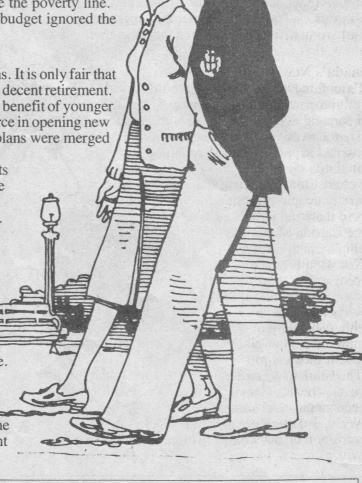
Make sure the pension plan covers all Canadians. It is only fair that both partners in a marriage should be guaranteed a decent retirement. Canada Pension Plan funds can be invested for the benefit of younger Canadians, too, and could be a strong financial force in opening new industries and economic opportunities if private plans were merged with the C.P.P.

The eligibility age for Canada Pension benefits should be lowered to 60 so that people who have devoted as much as 40 years of work to their country can retire while they are able to enjoy it. This would also open more jobs for younger workers and fight unemployment.

We would also have a guaranteed minimum income for Canadians to wipe out poverty for good, so that all of us, young and old, can live with self respect, A fair tax system can make sure we don't tax people into poverty, or let some escape paying their fair share.

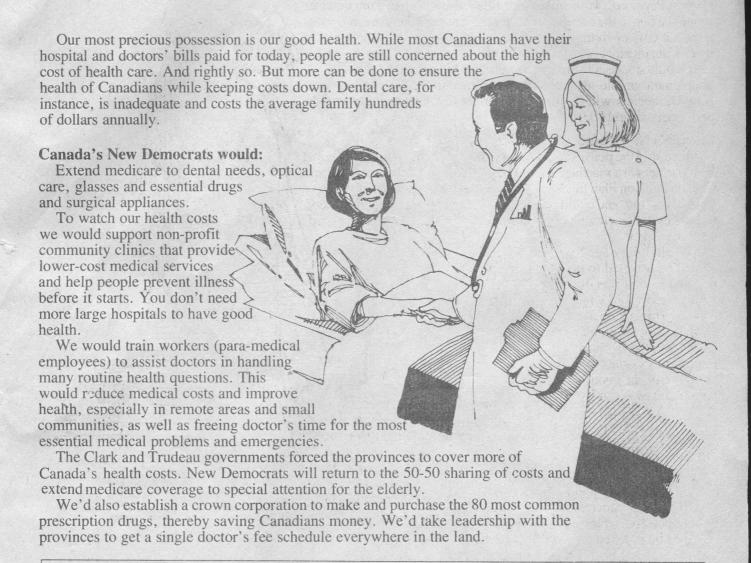
Under the NDP's cost-of-living tax credit pensioners would get refunds or tax breaks for rising food, energy and housing prices.

The New Democrats will take leadership in the private pension sector, too, urging that retirement incomes be indexed to account for inflation.



Health

Good government for your good health.



Native People

The people who were here first should feel it's still their home.

For many generations native people have suffered from discrimination or from paternalistic treatment by insensitive governments.

The New Democratic Party would:

Recognize the rights of native citizens – settle land claims in the North before any change in the form of government in the Territories. The Clark and Trudeau governments all ignored the rights of native people guaranteed by treaty or legislation. New Democrats would include native people's representatives in discussions about changes in the constitution.

We would restore specific rights such as hunting, fishing and trapping, with the agreement of the native peoples themselves, and compensate them when necessary for any loss of those rights. We can have different ways of living in a country as big as Canada, or else we can't claim to have a truly free country.

An NDP government would work in partnership with native people in developing natural resources in the North, we must respect historic sites and burial grounds before developments go ahead.

concerned.

We would fulfil treaty promises made by the government. Where treaties are obviously unfair, we will negotiate new agreements with the native people affected by them. Where no treaties exist, we will acknowledge legitimate, heriditary titles and negotiate with the bands or tribes

We would restore full medical and dental services to reserves that were recently cut back by the federal government.

Canada's New Democrats believe that Indians, Inuit and Métis deserved the same right to a good and healthy life as all Canadians. Because that's



External Affairs

Keeping our good name in the world.

Canada isn't the most powerful country in the world, but Canadians can play a valuable role in world affairs by promoting resolution of international disputes.

Canada can help also be attacking the roots of war by eliminating the gross inequality between the richest and poorest countries. Support for the demands of black Africans for liberation and a ban on trade with the racist regimes in southern Africa. Withdrawing promotional assistance for Canadian business there just isn't good enough.

Canada's New Democrats would:

Firstly, make our foreign policy reflect the United Nations commitment to a New International Economic Order to ensure the less developed nations fair prices for their commodities and development aid.

New Democrats would work for the reform of trade policies to allow freer and fairer trade, but would safeguard future employment for Canadian workers as trade policies change. We will take the lead in international trade and tariff discussions to promote fair trade policies between Canada, our major trading partners and the less-developed countries.

We cannot turn our back on the rest of the world. New Democrats would reconsider our commitment to expensive organizations such as NATO and NORAD.

We also believe in:

A high priority in working toward world disarmament, curtailing new nuclear weapons development and making sure nuclear reactors or materials don't get into the hands of unstable or repressive governments (such as Argentina and South Korea).

Putting aside the equivalent of 1% of our gross national product (now it's only .5%) for development aid with no strings attached. Our foreign aid now is among the lowest in the world

