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# 56 REASONS

WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THE

**REFORM**   
**PARTY OF CANADA**

We cannot start out for the New World of the 21st century like Columbus – without a map. When he started out, he didn't know where he was going; when he got there, he didn't know where he was; and when he got back, he didn't know where he'd been . . . And he did it all on borrowed money. That must not be the Canadian experience.

Preston Manning



# 56 REASONS

*Here are 56 Reform Party positions which have already received the support of thousands of Canadians:*

## 1. BALANCED FEDERATION

*Reformers say that Canada is not a federation of founding races or ethnic groups. It is a federation in which the equality of all its provinces and citizens is recognized.*

## 2. TRIPLE-E SENATE

*The Reform Party fully endorses the Triple-E Senate concept: Elected by the people; Equal representation from each province; Effective in safeguarding regional interests.*

## 3. REAL REPRESENTATION

*Reformers believe that the duty of elected members to their constituents should come before their obligation to their party.*

## 4. REDUCED GOVERNMENT SPENDING

*The Reform Party would reduce government spending in areas such as Parliament, political parties, government administration, special interest groups, subsidies to business, and federal pet projects such as bilingualism, multiculturalism and government advertising.*

## 5. FREE MARKET ECONOMY

*Reformers believe that the creation of wealth and productive jobs for Canadians is best achieved through the operations of a responsible, broadly based, consumer-sensitive economy.*

## 6. UNITY AND QUEBEC

*The Reform Party is fully committed to Confederation and to the view that all provinces should make a commitment to Canada as one nation.*

## 7. CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

*The Reform Party supports a bottom-up process in the next round of constitutional negotiations. This should begin with Constitutional Conventions in the regions and aboriginal communities.*

## 8. DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

*The Reform Party opposes the implementation of any amendments to the Constitution until ratified by the electorate through a constitutional referendum.*

## 9. PROPERTY RIGHTS

*The Reform Party supports the entrenchment of property rights in the Constitution.*

## 10. SUPREME COURT APPOINTMENTS

*Reform Party policy states that these should first be ratified by a Triple-E Senate.*

## 11. NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND YUKON

*The Reform Party supports the right of the Northern Territories to achieve full provincial status.*

## 12. FREE VOTES IN PARLIAMENT

*The Reform Party supports changing Parliamentary rules to allow more free votes in the House of Commons.*

## 13. REFERENDUMS

*Reformers support direct public approval of legislation, especially on major moral issues (abortion, capital punishment) and matters that alter the basic social fabric (immigration, language, constitutional change).*

## 14. CITIZENS' INITIATIVES

*Reformers believe that voters should be able to get vital concerns on a national referendum ballot.*

## 15. RECALL

*Reformers believe that voters should have a mechanism to remove MPs who will not represent their interests in Parliament.*

## 16. FIXED ELECTION DATES

*The Reform Party supports the holding of elections every four years at a predetermined date.*

## 17. CROWN CORPORATIONS

*The Reform Party supports placing the ownership and control of Crown corporations where they can perform their function most cost-effectively. This would generally be in the private sector.*

## 18. BALANCED BUDGET

*The Reform Party supports requiring the Government of Canada to balance the budget in each three-year period or to be obliged to call an election on the issue.*

## 19. TAX REFORM

*The Reform Party would close tax loopholes and work toward a simpler and more visible tax system, including the possibility of a flat tax.*

## 20. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

*The Reform Party has opposed the GST in its present form. We believe that the government should be given no new tax levers until it has reduced its spending.*



## 21. MPS' PENSIONS

*The Reform Party opposes the current pension schemes for Members of Parliament. We would end full indexation of these pensions. We would postpone eligibility for benefits until at least age 60.*

## 22. ELIMINATION OF PATRONAGE

*The Reform Party believes that government jobs and contracts should be awarded on the basis of fairness and normal commercial criteria of price and quality, rather than lobbying and political motives.*

## 23. CONSUMER PROTECTION

*Reformers believe in gradually phasing out measures designed to protect businesses, professions and unions from domestic and foreign competition.*

## 24. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

*Reformers support giving greater priority to education and research and development, and advocate diminishing reliance on subsidies.*

## 25. FREE TRADE

*Reformers believe that government should help Canadians adjust to the realities of the international marketplace and ensure free and fair trade at home and abroad.*

## 26. AGRICULTURE

*Reformers support a step-by-step reduction of subsidies at home and abroad, with transitional support to help farmers, if other economic sectors and trading partners will do the same.*

## 27. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

*The Reform Party supports private-sector development without government subsidies.*

## 28. ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

*Reformers believe that the costs of energy development should include costs of environmental protection.*

## 29. BANKING SYSTEM

*The Reform Party supports a more competitive banking system, including the presence of regional banks.*

## 30. UNIONS

*The Reform Party supports the right of workers to organize democratically, to bargain collectively and to strike peacefully.*

## 31. LABOUR - MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

*The Reform Party supports the harmonization of labour - management relations to help make Canada more internationally competitive. We reject the view that labour and management must constitute warring camps.*

## 32. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

*The Reform Party supports ensuring that all Canadians and their descendants dwell in a clean and healthy environment. The Party supports sustainable development because, without economic development and the resulting income, the environment will not be protected or enjoyed.*

## 33. COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

*The Reform Party supports federal leadership and commitment to sustainable development. This includes promoting partnerships with provincial governments, private industry, our educational institutions and the public to promote meaningful progress in the area of environmental protection.*



### 34. POLLUTION CONTROL

*The Reform Party would protect Canada's environment through improvement in emission control standards, restoration of areas suffering from environmental contamination and heavy penalties for violation of environmental laws.*

### 35. THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

*The Reform Party supports the improved regulation of clear-cutting, of ocean shipping of dangerous substances and of fishing in international waters.*

### 36. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

*We believe that Canadians have a personal and collective responsibility to care and provide for the basic needs of people who are unable to care and provide for themselves.*

### 37. ALTERNATIVES TO THE WELFARE STATE

*The Reform Party believes Canadians urgently need social programs that will be less bureaucratic and more financially sustainable in the future.*

### 38. INCOME SECURITY

*The Reform Party supports the development of a family or household-oriented comprehensive social security system. We will explore options from among existing proposals such as the guaranteed annual income, security investment fund, and negative income tax.*

### 39. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

*The Reform Party supports the return of Unemployment Insurance (UI) to its original function – an employer-employee funded and administered program to provide temporary income in the event of unexpected job loss.*

### 40. SOCIAL SERVICES

*The Reform Party opposes the use of federal spending powers to legislate in areas of provincial jurisdiction. We believe that federal transfer payments to the provinces for social services should be unconditional.*

### 41. MEDICARE

*Reformers believe that the federal government should ensure that adequate health-care insurance and services are available to every Canadian. No person in Canada should be denied access to health-care because of an inability to pay.*

### 42. FAMILY VIOLENCE

*Reformers believe that family violence attacks the very foundation of our society. Effective programs are a top priority.*

### 43. CHILDCARE

*The Reform Party believes that government should subsidize financial need, not the methods, institutions or professionals who supply childcare. Let parents decide what's right for their child.*

### 44. JUSTICE

*The Reform Party supports a judicial system which places the punishment of crime and the protection of law-abiding citizens and their property ahead of all other objectives.*

### 45. RCMP

*The Reform Party supports the preservation of the distinctive heritage and tradition of the RCMP by retaining the uniformity of dress code.*

### 46. ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

*Reformers believe that government policy should assist aboriginal peoples to assume full responsibility for the programs affecting them and to participate more fully in Canada's economic life.*

### 47. LAND CLAIMS

*The Reform Party supports processes leading to the early and mutually satisfactory conclusion of outstanding land-claim negotiations.*

### 48. ENFORCED BILINGUALISM

*The Reform Party stands for freedom of speech. We are opposed to comprehensive language legislation. In no way do we discourage personal bilingualism.*

### 49. LANGUAGE OF SERVICE

*The Reform Party recognizes that French is the predominant language of work and society in Quebec and that English is the predominant language of work and society elsewhere. We support official bilingualism in the Parliament, Supreme Court and critical federal services where need is sufficient to warrant provision of minority services on a cost-effective basis.*

### 50. IMMIGRATION

*The Reform Party supports an immigration policy that has Canada's economic needs as its focus and that welcomes genuine refugees. The Reform Party opposes any immigration policy based on race or creed.*



#### 51. NEW CANADIANS

*The Reform Party stands for the acceptance and integration of immigrants to Canada into the mainstream of Canadian life.*

#### 52. CULTURAL HERITAGE

*The Reform Party supports the principle that individuals or groups are free to preserve their cultural heritage using their own resources.*

#### 53. MULTICULTURALISM

*The Reform Party of Canada opposes the current concept of multiculturalism and hyphenated Canadianism pursued by the Government of Canada.*

#### 54. DEFENCE

*The Reform Party supports the maintenance of well-trained, well-equipped armed forces to protect Canada's sovereignty and to participate in NATO, NORAD and international peacekeeping.*

#### 55. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

*The Reform Party supports foreign policy guided by the values and principles of Canadians – political democracy, economic freedom, and human rights.*

#### 56. ABORTION

*The primary responsibility of MPs on moral issues such as abortion is to vote their constituents' wishes regardless of their own personal beliefs.*

**Hamilton Area Hotline  
575-2919**