



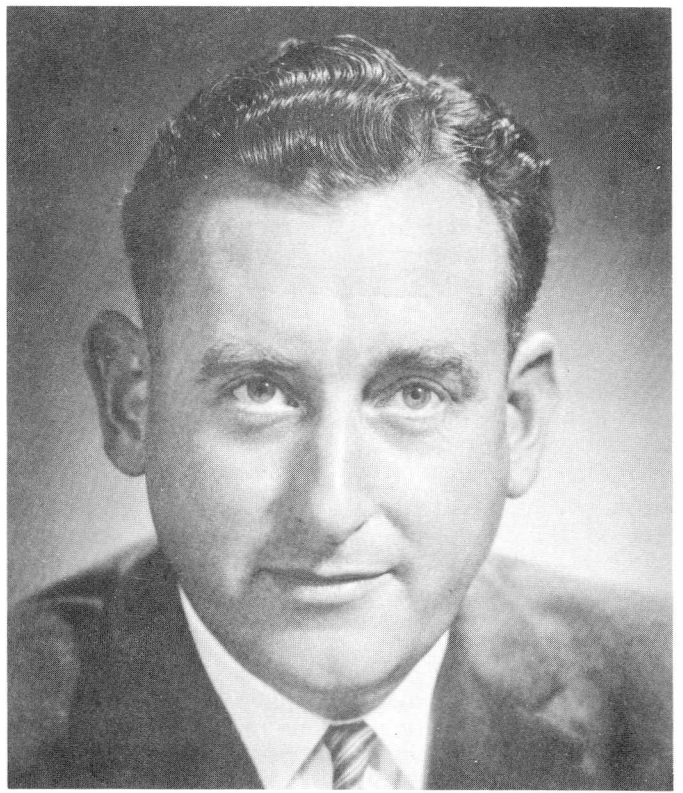
# **AGENDA FOR A NEW GENERATION**

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## FOREWORD

This province is on the threshold of a new era, a century of change and challenge.

Just as governments in British Columbia's first century provided leadership to encourage private investment in resource development, so must governments in our second century provide new, vigorous leadership to encourage private investment in processing these resources.

Government must also show positive leadership in solving the problems of human development: it is incongruous, in this age of affluence, that one quarter of B.C. families must walk the bitter path of poverty.

And we still lack equal educational opportunity for all in this province. Our hospital facilities still are inadequate, and thousands of older people are denied low-cost chronic care simply because enough facilities do not exist.

These are but some of the provincial, human and citizenship problems of the new era. The hand of government must be extended, leading the way to new levels of promise and prosperity.

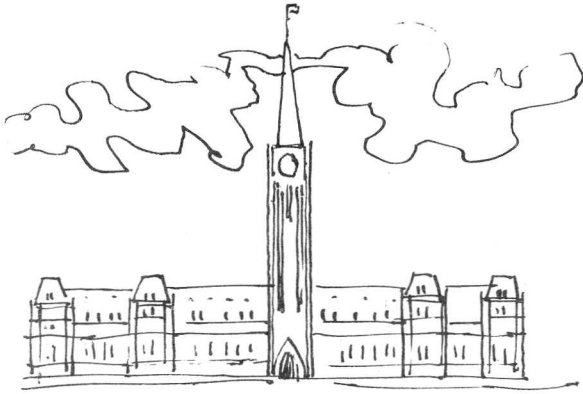
So it is that the Liberal Party of B.C. responds with an encompassing and workable program.

We call it an "Agenda for a New Generation."

B.C. LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

RAY J. PERRAULT  
B.C. LIBERAL LEADER

## FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS



The "Agenda for a New Generation" calls for an immediate end to the ridiculous cold war our provincial government is waging with the federal government.

This crippling, maverick attitude must be cast aside of our province is to reap the benefits available to it through Confederation.

We must take maximum advantage of all available federal assistance in federal-provincial aid programs. Our province, under the current government, has refused a staggering amount of federal aid.

Millions of dollars in the fields of hospitalization, education, agriculture, rehabilitation and urban development have been ignored because of narrow-minded provincialism.

For example, the federal government offered to spend \$10 million developing Garibaldi Park as a national park. The provincial government refused to relinquish the land. The \$10 million is almost five times as much as the entire parks budget this year.

Co-operation with Ottawa will mean more aid for provincial development. Our Agenda calls for co-operation in these fields:

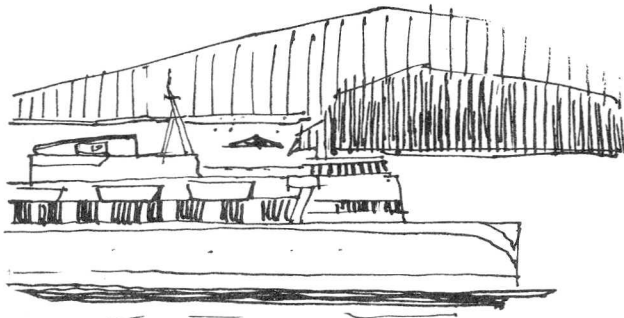
- Trade and tariff policies, and investment of federal dollars in provincial resource development;
- Hydro-electric development, particularly in transmission lines;
- Construction of roads to B.C.'s natural resources;
- Development of transportation facilities, including federal aid to ferry and railway systems;
- Negotiations for establishment of new communication links such as access routes through the Alaska pan-handle;
- Federal investment in scientific research, particularly in forestry, agriculture and fisheries;
- Policies to encourage outside investment to establish in B.C.

Only by showing an unreserved willingness to act as Canadians first and to place the nation's interest ahead of narrow provincial gain will B.C. achieve a position of respect and influence within the family of provinces.

And only by attaining such stature can we hope to obtain favorable attention for the national policies we advocate.



## PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT



### Crown Corporations

B.C. must be vigorously competitive on a world basis both in the production of goods and in the acquisition of new capital.

Demand for our goods and services must continue to grow if we want full employment and if our standard of living is to rise.

It is essential that a healthy climate for enterprise be established if these goals are to be reached.

An expansionist outlook requires that certain investments be undertaken by government; those which act as catalysts for new industry.

Government-owned Crown Corporations are vehicles by which this can be done. There are presently three Crown Corporations: the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, the B.C. Hydro and Power Authority and the B.C. Ferry Authority.

Crown Corporations should never compete with private industry but should augment and complement it. The Crown Corporation should be fully self-supporting, where possible, but this is not a critical test of its value. The critical test is whether the existence of the Crown Corporation fosters developments which provide greater total prosperity for the people.

#### 1. B.C. Hydro and Power Authority

The Agenda calls for speedy completion of both the Columbia and Peace River Power projects and supports full B.C. participation in a national grid. As much as \$500 million worth of low-interest federal money can be brought into British Columbia in this way.

Completion of a national grid with international connections will offer important possibilities for provincial development and power rate reductions to the consumer.

A Liberal government will give preferences to power sales to other provinces over sales of B.C.-produced power to the U.S.

Top priority will be given to the multi-purpose development (power, flood-control, navigation, irrigation, etc.) of the Fraser River and its tributaries. The fishery resources of the Fraser will be protected.

The prime objective of a New Generation government will be to reduce power rates in B.C. to a point where

they are among the lowest — not the highest — in Canada.

The Agenda also calls for further development of the oil and natural gas resources of this province. Again the object will be to make natural gas available at the lowest rates in Canada instead of the highest.

#### 2. Pacific Great Eastern Railway

The Pacific Great Eastern Railway has served British Columbia well since it was founded in 1914 to provide economical freight and transportation for the Interior and northern parts of the province.

However, there is still much to be done, and it is very expensive, and future capital projects cannot be met from operating revenues.

Huge new bulk loading facilities at tidewater are needed. The line must be extended west towards the Stewart-Cassiar Highway. The present 85-lb. track must be replaced with standard 100-lb. track over hundreds of miles. Much modern rolling stock must be bought.

Rarely are provincially-owned railroads eligible for federal subsidies. But if the P.G.E. and the federally-owned Canadian National Railway were to undertake certain joint operations, then the way would be open for federal subsidies for the P.G.E.

The Agenda for the New Generation will begin immediate negotiations to link the P.G.E. and C.N.R. lines between Ashcroft and Clinton in the Cariboo Country, and in the new yards in North Vancouver. This would provide a loop with two routes to the coast — one through the Fraser Canyon and the other down the Cheakamus Canyon and Howe Sound.

There could also be joint development of industrial sites, truck-loading facilities and harbor modernization in the Prince Rupert-Stewart area and on the Lower Mainland.

These necessary developments will be delayed so long as the provincial government holds to its isolationist outlook.

#### 3. The B.C. Ferry Authority

This service — vital to hundreds of thousands of people in B.C.'s coastal areas — will be improved and enlarged. We will implement a new service to Vancouver Island, by ferry from Iona Island in the Fraser River to Gabriola Island and then on to Vancouver Island.

This new crossing will be just 14 miles, as opposed to the present 36-mile trip on the present Horseshoe Bay —Departure Bay run, and travel time between the Island and mainland will be cut to just one hour.

The same number of ferries will double the number of trips, improving the efficiency of the service. Furthermore, parts of the Horseshoe Bay terminal will be abandoned, freeing much of that area for pressing recreational needs.

Liberals have supported the Ferry Authority since its inception. Our Party later was successful in restoring the federal ferry construction subsidy after it had been discontinued.



#### **4. The B.C. Research and Technological Authority**

Under a new provincial Liberal government, B.C. will become the Science Province of Canada.

This is a necessity because the world is engulfed in a new phase of the Industrial Revolution, where acquisition of specialized skills commands an important place in industry.

A new Crown Corporation, the B.C. Research and Technological Authority, will be formed. It will charge fees for services, as with other Crown Corporations in the industrial field. The Authority will do contract work for any B.C. firm interested in upgrading its technology.

Branches of the Authority will be strategically located throughout the province, geared to the industrial interests of the area.

In order to create a more highly skilled labor force, the Liberal Agenda will place emphasis on technological training and graduate education, particularly in the sciences and engineering.

### **Resource Development**

#### **1. Forestry**

B.C.'s largest industry needs the best in government management.

Modern knowledge and scientific techniques, the watchwords of the new generation, are particularly needed in the critical area of prompt and adequate reforestation.

More than 93 percent of all B.C. timber is owned by the people, so that virtually everyone has an interest in this industry which employs more than 80,000 persons and boasts annual sales of more than \$1 billion.

Scientific management by the new generation will greatly increase the allowable annual cut, providing more jobs in our largest industry and greater revenue for government.

Trees are a crop renewed only after 80 years. The sustained-yield policy theoretically limits the amount of timber cut to that which can be regrown, thus insuring forest resources in perpetuity.

There are more than 18 million acres of potentially productive forest land which the Forest Service itself reports as not growing commercial trees.

Every acre of this land scientifically reforested would allow another acre of mature trees to be cut now.

The provincial government in 1964 scientifically reforested only 6,000 acres of its vast forests.

Private industry, which manages only a tiny proportion of our forests, scientifically reforested more than 42,000 acres in the same year.

The small state of Oregon reforests more land in one year than B.C. does in five.

The government, in 1964, received \$55.9 million in taxes from the forest industry. Yet in 1964 and 1965 only \$4 million was expended on forest protection and supervision.

#### **2. Mineral and Petroleum Resources**

Mineral and petroleum resources are not renewable; we therefore must gain maximum value from every ounce of material extracted from the soil.

The new generation advocates that our resources be processed in B.C., creating jobs within the province and adding to the value of the resource.

Petrochemical plants, copper smelters, steel and fabricating mills are all possible in our province.

Kitimat was established to process raw bauxite obtained from foreign countries; Trail thrives as a centre which processes lead and zinc.

In contrast, many centres in this province which were established merely to extract raw ore became ghost towns when the resources were exhausted.

Our mineral, petroleum and natural gas production is approaching \$300 million per year. Our provincial wealth and our Canadian balance of payments are both greatly enhanced by this aspect of our economy since most of the production is for export.

Thus, every reasonable measure should be instituted to improve these industries.

A "roads to resources" program, in conjunction with the federal government, will be of significant help. So will improved harbor facilities. In addition, our Agenda's proposed B.C. Research Authority can play a key role in development of industries in B.C., to process these resources.

#### **3. Agriculture**

Our Agenda calls for an immediate new deal for those who earn their living in agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture, the "poor relation" department which receives less than one percent of the total annual provincial budget, has not provided the vital and dynamic programs required by B.C.'s farm population.

It is our intention to establish parity of farm income with that of other industries.

Our new deal calls for:

- An agricultural research division to provide, in co-operation with the federal department, the most advanced research aid for farmers. This will include product research to establish B.C.'s competitive agriculture advantages;
- Implementation of the provisions of the Clyne Expropriation Report, guaranteeing fair expropriation methods and the right of previous notice and fair appeal;
- Funds to launch a major campaign establishing additional export markets for B.C. breeding stock, beef cattle, poultry and hatching eggs, seeds, and a wide range of B.C. products;
- Extension of crop insurance to a wider range of crops;

- A research program to determine the exact need for farm labor. This will be co-ordinated with federal efforts to supply labor from surplus areas to those areas with a labor shortage;
- A new water management policy to insure that our best agricultural land is used to optimum efficiency. Food production will be increased through progressive drainage and irrigation policies;
- Immediate action to initiate provincial-federal flood control policies above the spawning areas of the Fraser River;
- Immediate steps to reduce the heavy burden of school taxation on farm land.

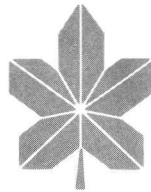
## Highways

Our Agenda calls for a vigorous highways program to remedy the critical weaknesses which exist in both established routes and new areas.

The provincial highway network forms the commercial lifeline of our province and while the highways have been greatly improved in recent years, many new all-weather roads are needed.

The Agenda pledges:

- Immediate action on a third crossing of Burrard Inlet — with both crossing and approaches to be financed by the province in co-operation with the federal government;
- An east-west harbor freeway in Vancouver;
- Completion of Highway 16 from Edmonton west to Prince Rupert as a northern outlet for prairie and central B.C. resources;
- Completion of the Clinton-Squamish highway, which will cut many miles off the Fraser Canyon route to the coast and provide an alternative in times of Canyon blockage;
- An improved highway from Williams Lake west to Bella Coola to open up the great Chilcotin Plateau;
- Completion of the Stewart-Cassiar route, which must be linked with the provincial highways system;
- Completion of the Vancouver Island highway to its full length;
- Negotiations with the federal and U.S. governments to pave the Alaska Highway from Charlie Lake to the Yukon border;
- Improvement of our established routes and connecting secondary highways, such work to be carried out in conjunction with other programs.



## URBAN DEVELOPMENT



The Liberal Agenda calls for new city and metropolitan policies to combat one of the great challenges facing the present and the new generation.

In 1940, 56 percent of the people in North America lived in cities. The figure today is 70 percent. A decade from now it will be more than 80 percent.

The trend today is to move westward, to cities and towns. Between 1956 and 1964, a total 400,000 persons moved to B.C., mostly to cities. Half of B.C.'s population today lives in one rapidly enlarging metropolitan area around Vancouver.

A generation ago, government policies in this province were quite properly aimed at rural areas and the ideal rural life.

Today, rural policies stumble on the same complex problems raised in densely populated cities: horse and carriage city streets become obsolete as suburban traffic jams them, strangling the core area . . . air and water pollution become unbearable nuisances . . . recreation facilities become trampled and inadequate through over-use . . . crime and delinquency breed in slum areas . . . competing local councils, harassed by inadequate revenues, are reluctant to join in a common effort to solve common problems.

Cities around the province require a new formula to provide better arterial routes in and out of their central business districts, connecting with the provincial highways system.

Transportation has been the foremost inhibitor of orderly growth in the metropolitan area of Vancouver. We must, within seven years, construct a parkway system to the Vancouver core area. This includes an east-west waterfront freeway, a third Burrard Inlet crossing and a north-south parkway.

The total cost will be \$350 million, and most of this must be borne by the provincial government.

Similar provincial assistance must be given to provide easy access to every city in the province.

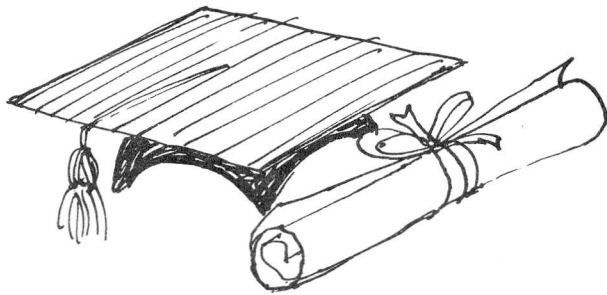
Architecture also is fundamentally important. All government buildings should be designed to lend grandeur to the communities they serve; most should be opened to architectural competition as were the Parliament buildings in Victoria.

Regional parks and recreational efforts must be sharply increased, and strict air and water pollution measures must be put into effect.





## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



This concerns services to people and includes education, health and hospital services, social rehabilitation, senior citizens' and youth affairs, medical care and Indian affairs.

### Financing Human Development Programs

Our Agenda for a New Generation calls for implementation of the fundamental Liberal belief that services to people should be paid for by taxes on people, and that services to land should be financed by taxes on land. It is one of the great inequities of our social structure that a significant portion of our basic problems in human development are financed by local taxes on residential land and family farm property.

Basic programs in human development, such as education and hospital construction, should be paid for by social service taxes, income taxes and various user taxes. They should not be financed by residential land taxes.

Soaring municipal taxation can be controlled only by removing the dependence of human development programs on the land tax base.

It is unacceptable, for example, to hold back construction of needed hospital facilities because of lack of property tax funds. It also is unjust to make property owners primarily responsible for the provision of these facilities.

Under the new generation's assault on soaring municipal taxation, hospital financing and other services to people will be derived from provincial funds.

### New School Tax Base

The most insatiable consumer of residential land taxes is education.

The Agenda for a New Generation calls for removal of basic school taxes from residential land.

While this long-standing proposal of the Liberal Party is being partially implemented by the Home Owners' Grant, the grant, in many cases, does not equal the basic school tax. And there is no benefit for those who must rent.

## Education

History has shown that no investment by the state has ever guaranteed a surer return than the education of its people.

The Agenda for a New Generation calls for a total commitment to education. The goals of this top-priority program are twofold: to improve the quality and enlarge the scope of all educational programs, and to extend the availability of these programs to all geographic regions of the province.

We will establish, under the Department of Education, an educational television channel to bring the classroom into the home. This channel will deal in primary and secondary education, vocational skills and cultural and academic programs.

### The new generation, to help the individual, will:

- Institute a travel and living expenses equalization grant, to ease the cost to residents of B.C. areas who must travel to larger centres for university, vocational or other institutional training;
- Enlarge the bursary program;
- Maintain a "hold the line" policy on fees for all post high-school educational programs;
- Offer special grants to universities, so they may promote degree-granting programs to individuals who can attend university only on a part-time basis.

### To diversify opportunities, the New Generation will:

- Further de-centralize university education by building a four-year university in the Okanagan, and by expanding the number of two-year colleges throughout the province;
- Enlarge the number of technical and vocational institutions in B.C. on the basis that any community with more than one high-school will need one post-high-school facility;
- Improve and expand adult education and technical and vocational training for those whose education was prematurely terminated, or whose skills became outdated through automation.

### The New Generation, to improve the quality of education, will:

- Greatly strengthen our universities' graduate schools, one of the weakest links in our present educational chain;
- Expand the scope of technical and vocational training, based upon the industrial manpower needs of B.C.'s economic areas.
- Subject our entire educational curricula to continuing review.

## Health Services

### 1. Hospitals

The Liberal Agenda will solve the shameful problem of inadequate hospital facilities by formulating a master plan of hospital requirements.

A Hospital Financing Authority will be established to finance the program, which will determine the need for hospitals in all areas. Provincial referral centres, teaching hospitals, chronic care and mental health facilities, plus facilities to deal with emotionally disturbed children, also will be integrated into the plan.

Our Agenda for a New Generation calls for this all-encompassing program because the present haphazard method has proved totally inadequate.

Hospital construction has neither paralleled population growth, nor has it kept pace with medical advances. Waiting lists for elective surgery have reached several hundred in some large acute hospitals. Delays of three or four months for beds are common. Dollar-a-day chronic or extended care beds are available only to a fortunate few under B.C. Hospital Insurance Service. Psychiatric beds are to be found in only a handful of communities. These beds, more often than not, are concentrated in outmoded mental hospitals; they should be part of general hospital facilities.

The New Generation's Hospital Financing Authority will finance our master plan of hospital requirements by channeling provincial funds into needed construction. Today, these funds are being collected from the sales tax for the use of hospitals. But they are not being spent on hospitals.

Our master plan will be implemented on a priority basis, and the Hospital Financing Authority will be staffed by professionals skilled in hospital construction, financing and needs.

One of the plan's top priority jobs will be completion of the teaching and research hospital at the University of B.C., a facility which will set standards for the province and will act as a diagnostic centre for difficult cases.

Another priority item: provision of adequate numbers of chronic care beds under the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service. The situation of today, whereby the life savings of a family can be wiped out because of a lingering illness of one of its members, must be erased.

The Agenda for a New Generation also calls for ambulance services to be brought under BCHIS, and institution of a provincial air ambulance service.

### 2. Medical Care

The Agenda calls for an immediate, comprehensive medical care program supervised by the provincial government.

Measures will be taken to ensure universal coverage and to make all present plans portable. Universal coverage can be achieved by reducing premiums and

expanding subsidization of the present B.C. Medical Plan. Portability will be achieved by ensuring that all recognized non-profit plans introduce appropriate benefits and administrative procedures.

The plan will immediately qualify for national medicare which is scheduled to be introduced as a 100th birthday present for Canadians July 1, 1967. Premium reductions will take place with federal government participation.

The New Generation accepts the philosophy that necessary legislative, organizational and financial steps be taken to make all the benefits of the health sciences available to all our residents, without hindrance of any kind.

The most vital first step is to see that all physician services are available regardless of financial means. As the next step, vital drugs must be available on the same basis.

A New Generation government will pay all prescription drug costs of over \$10 per year per individual, or \$20 per year for a family.

## Social Rehabilitation

The Liberal objective is to provide the challenge for a richer life.

In keeping with this more realistic, positive approach, the present Department of Social Welfare will become the Department of Social Rehabilitation.

Under this total re-organization of the social welfare program, major emphasis will be placed on prevention and rehabilitation.

The Agenda for a New Generation calls for:

- Re-organization of child welfare services to keep families together, reduce delinquency and to improve adoption services;
- An all-out assault on alcoholism and drug addiction, with programs stressing prevention;
- Establishment of homemaker services throughout B.C. to help families through difficult periods and to keep wage-earners on the job whenever possible;
- Realistic benefits, adjusted to the cost of living to protect economic standards in low income homes.

The New Generation will govern on the principal that there are no hopeless welfare cases; that government must try to help people help themselves; that neglect breeds a subsequent generation of problems, and that rehabilitation programs must continually be overhauled and rebuilt if they are to remain something substantially more than just welfare programs.

## Senior Citizens' Affairs

The Liberal Party will establish a new government bureau, Senior Citizens' Affairs, to help our senior citizens maintain comfort, dignity and peace of mind in their retirement years.

The bureau will:

- Establish "Golden Age Homes" throughout B.C. to supplement existing non-profit, low-rent housing programs.
- Review, revise and increase present senior citizens' supplementary pensions. Then on the basis of new rates which will enable our senior citizens to live in dignity, we will establish a senior citizens' cost-of living index which will become the basis for increases as living costs rise;
- Establish "courtesy ride" travel on government-owned buses during slack hours;
- Ensure that adequate chronic care facilities are available;
- Co-ordinate "second career" opportunities to enable the skills and experience of active retired persons to be utilized where required;
- Ensure that adequate boarding home facilities are available at modest rates;
- Organize senior citizens' tours and recreational facilities.

## Youth Affairs and Sports

British Columbia is a young province, and more than 800,000 of our citizens are under 25.

Yet this vast resource of youth is under-developed.

Our Agenda calls for youth to be served by establishing a Department of Youth whose responsibility will include all areas of youth development, including physical training.

One of the Department's progressive programs will be establishment of a Youth Leadership Training Centre to train young leaders in community service.

Our teen-agers, one of our most important resources, will be given the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of community projects during the summer months.

Apart from earning money for study costs, they will perform valuable work in establishing recreation programs, helping the underprivileged and assisting senior citizens.

The New Generation Liberal government will sponsor Canada's first annual Youth Games, a summer sports competition contributing to national unity and physical fitness.

A B.C. Fitness Council, similar to the national organization, will be formed to assist our province's amateur athletes.

The Council's two main objectives will be to establish community sports programs throughout the province, broadening the athletic base, and to assist our top amateur athletes in their struggle to reach championship calibre.

B.C. swimmers, for instance, brought great glory to this country in the recent British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Jamaica.

The province should assist these youngsters financially during their training periods, assuming pool costs, travel expenses, etc.

The same applies to our tennis players, skiers and other top athletes.

A full-time provincial sports co-ordinator will be appointed to establish and run provincial development programs.

A Fitness Council Board, consisting of top amateur sports officials from B.C., will be formed to administer the Fund available for assistance to deserving athletes.

## Indian Affairs

The present B.C. government has not met its obligations to the Indians of this province.

It has failed to recognize and accept the following basic principles in defining its role in relation to the Indian people:

- That Indians are citizens of the province and should receive the same provincial services that are available to other citizens;
- That the provision and financing of services to the Indians of B.C. solely by the federal government is inconsistent with the position of the Indian as a provincial taxpayer;
- That the province presently is capable of providing a wide range of services at the local level.

Under our Agenda for a New Generation, we will work with the Indian people, the federal government and other interested agencies in helping B.C. Indians participate fully in the social, economic and political life of the province.

Our B.C. Indians thus will share the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship and participate in the life of the communities in which they live on a basis of equality with all other citizens.

We will review provincial legislation to determine whether it discriminates against our Indian people, or restricts their access to a normal range of provincial services.

Our Agenda calls for us to consider means by which Indian reserves may be considered as municipalities, thus qualifying for provincial programs, grants and services normally extended to municipalities by the province.

A provincial Liberal government will call together Indian leaders and federal government representatives to assess the needs of Indian communities for electricity and roads, and to ensure that these needs are met on the same basis as the needs of other communities. Our Agenda calls for a study of provincial legislation relating to taxation by municipalities of non-Indian leasehold interests on Indian reserves.

This will be done to overcome Indian complaints that taxation by municipalities is restricting the development of their reserves, and that Indians receive few services for the taxes collected.

## CITIZENSHIP DEVELOPMENT



The Agenda for a New Generation will enhance the privilege of citizenship by broadening individual rights and instituting political reform.

Citizenship is the richest prize that great nations of history have been able to bestow, and individual rights and individual dignity are the stuff of that citizenship. In Canada, the provinces have jurisdiction in the fields of civil rights and property; the provinces also establish the rules and procedures for government at the provincial and local levels.

Thus, the quality of Canadian citizenship depends upon provincial idealism and ethics.

### Individual Rights

The New Generation will grant B.C. citizens:

- The right to sue the provincial government without first obtaining permission from the Crown — which, for all practical purposes, is our provincial cabinet. England years ago abandoned the absurd notion that the Crown could do no wrong, thus guaranteeing any individual the right to his day in court against the government. Most Commonwealth countries, and most other Canadian provinces, have followed suit. B.C. has not.
- The right to full access to our courts, regardless of means. A comprehensive legal aid system will be implemented to insure this.
- The right to challenge bureaucratic procedures in government. The office of Ombudsman, or commissioner of grievances, will be created to achieve this end.
- The right of protection from financial suffering which so often follows crimes of violence. A Victims' Indemnity Fund will be established.
- The right of fair compensation for expropriation of property. Present expropriation laws will be completely overhauled and simplified. A consistent set of procedures will be established to grant full justice to the individual.

The New Generation Liberal government, in addition to providing these five basic rights, will place the full weight of the provincial government behind efforts to modernize federal divorce laws.

## Highway Safety

Our Agenda calls for firm programs designed to help reduce B.C.'s shocking traffic accident toll.

Five hundred persons were killed on B.C. roads in 1965. Totally apart from the human tragedies involved, the cost of accidents to B.C. taxpayers was \$90 million last year.

Our New Generation government will re-establish government-supported high school driver training.

A Provincial Traffic Safety Commission will be established to educate our citizens, establish proper highway engineering and safety standards, and to establish safety programs in all areas of B.C.

Traffic law enforcement will be stepped up, and vehicle testing will become mandatory.

Improved licensing procedures and tough law enforcement against drinking drivers also will be part of the program.

## Political Reform

The Agenda for a New Generation is dedicated to the principle of "government with the consent of the governed".

This ideal implies more than endorsement of a political party at election time. It also implies an absence of tyranny during the period of office, a willingness to nourish democratic institutions, and a desire to enhance political procedures.

The New Generation thus will introduce the following measures to put these principles into practice:

- Re-distribution of seats every second parliament by a non-political commission following definite criteria;
- Fixed election dates;
- A verbatim Hansard or account of debates in the Legislature;
- Modernization of Legislature rules, bringing them abreast of other jurisdictions;
- Introduction of an oral question period of ministers in the House;
- Establishment of a night-sitting time limit in the Legislature;
- Introduction of limited radio and television coverage of the Legislature;
- Reactivation of House committees to allow expert testimony on important bills before the House, and also to enable citizens' views to be effectively placed before the elected members.

## Consumer Affairs

Our Agenda reiterates the Liberal demand that a Consumer Protection Bureau be formed to fight consumer fraud in all its forms.

The Liberal Party in B.C. seven years ago pioneered the concept of such a Bureau to combat the racketeers whose frauds cost our people millions of dollars per year.

Under our Agenda, the Consumer Protection Bureau will work in conjunction with the Attorney General's Department and law enforcement agencies to make certain that reasonable protection against fraud is afforded our citizens.

The Bureau also will initiate a major campaign of public information and education.



## LEISURE AND CULTURE



### Recreation, Conservation and Tourism

The Agenda for a New Generation calls for the budget of the tiny Department of Recreation and Conservation to be trebled, and the office renamed the Department of Recreation, Conservation and Tourism.

Step One is necessary because the Liberal Party realizes we are heading for a future where the workday will become shorter and life expectancy greater, a future where there will exist not only opportunities for creativity, but more opportunity for tedium.

Step Two will be taken because we recognize the importance of the thriving \$200 million-per-year tourist industry in this province. We must promote this industry on a year-round basis.

Fish, wildlife, parks and the outdoor recreation based upon them cannot be looked upon as a fortunate gift of nature that can never run out.

Highways, increased leisure and affluence, tourist promotion and a growing population place an ever-increasing pressure on our outdoor recreational heritage. Provincial government planning and spending has not kept pace with these advances.

The Liberal Party will:

- Set aside and acquire where necessary key wildlife habitat areas and co-operate fully with the federal government in joint management programs for waterfowl;

- Institute an intensive fish and wildlife management program in the Fraser Valley. This would include the construction of a new hatchery, establishment of public shooting areas, and full co-operation with the regional parks authority;
- Co-operate with the federal government in the development of Garibaldi Park to meet the burgeoning recreational demands of the Lower Mainland;
- Allocate funds for the management of our fish and wildlife resources in keeping with the value of fish and wildlife, and parks, to the provincial economy;
- Strengthen the staff and authority of the Pollution-control Board, and co-operate with the federal and municipal governments to clean up existing pollutions in the province and keep B.C. pollution-free;
- Create an inter-departmental planning commission to work out an integrated inter-resource development program for the province's renewable natural resources.

### Cultural Affairs

B.C., of all our provinces, offers perhaps the most stimulating environment for artists and writers. Our Agenda for a New Generation, therefore, calls for establishment of an encompassing cultural affairs program.

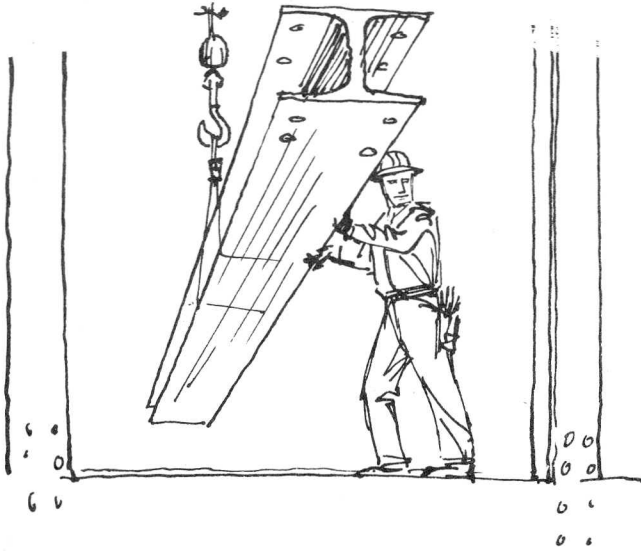
This will include a youth program, establishing an early interest in youngsters who may wish careers in the performing arts and the various artistic fields.

The program also will establish funds and grants-in-aid to assist non-profit organizations in their artistic and literary endeavors. Distribution will be based upon the importance of the endeavor to the community, the soundness of the organization involved, and the dedication of its participants.

The program also will encourage the arts and crafts of our many ethnic groups, including B.C.'s native Indians.



## LABOR



The Department of Labor will be re-named the Department of Labor and Manpower. Departmental responsibilities will be broadened and a full-time Minister will be appointed.

The new, expanded department will co-operate fully with the Federal Department of Manpower and Immigration in the application of manpower policy in this province. Full provincial-federal co-operation will assure maximum employment and the most efficient utilization of B.C.'s labor resources.

Together with its other duties, the new department will concern itself with the challenge of adjusting labor and management to technological change. It will concern itself with important duties such as mobility programs, the training and rehabilitation of workers, occupational counselling and executive and professional services.

The Agenda calls for a totally new climate of labor-management relations. It is the Liberal belief that the costly weapons of strike and lockout have become obsolete. Therefore, a New Generation Liberal government will expand and strengthen mediation services as a means by which disputes can be resolved before strikes and lockouts occur.

Encouragement and assistance will be given to continuous consultation and negotiation between labor and management.

A province-wide Industrial Development Council, made up of labor, management and community representatives, will be formed to assess B.C.'s economic goals and to help promote full employment. The Council will co-operate fully with the Economic Council of Canada and with other federal programs.

The Industrial Development Council will include a Research Division which will provide objective information to labor, management and, if necessary, to the general public when major industrial disputes arise. In addition, the Council will provide objective information to both labor and management on a continuing basis.

We will, under our Agenda, initiate wide-ranging reforms in the area of workmen's compensation procedures. New payment levels will be established to meet rising costs.

