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On Your Side

NEW DEMOCRAT ELECTION PLATFORM



My priority is people

Dear British Columbian,

You're about to make a choice that will directly affect the everyday life of you and your family.

Three political parties are offering very different alternatives for the future. Some put people first. Some don't.

As you consider the options, ask yourself:

- *Which party and which leader will do the best job protecting Medicare and education?*
- *Will your family benefit from a \$1.1 billion tax break to corporations?*
- *Which party will best provide government that's on your side?*

My priority is people like you. My priority is to protect health care, education and opportunities for our children. My priority is to make it possible for you and your family to look to the future with optimism and confidence.

I ask for your support to continue that work on your behalf.

Yours truly,



Glen Clark,
Premier



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The NDP will provide tax relief targeted to the middle class, not tax breaks for large corporations

Glen Clark and the NDP are committed to tax relief for people, not large corporations. Under the NDP, corporations will continue to contribute their fair share of taxes.

Premier Clark has already taken decisive action to help middle-class working families make ends meet by freezing ICBC rates, Hydro rates and tuition fees.

Three additional steps will create further tax fairness:

- A reduction in personal income tax targeted to the middle class.
- A reduction in tax for small businesses and new small businesses.
- A three-year extension of the current freeze on all taxes on individuals and families, and a prohibition on any new taxes on individuals and families to the year 2000.

These responsible tax reductions are possible because of British Columbia's strong economic growth, and the elimination, one year ahead of schedule, of the \$2.4 billion budget deficit left by the previous government.

These are not huge tax cuts, but they are tax cuts for those who need them most: working, middle-class families, not large corporations. The tax cuts further strengthen B.C.'s position as the province with the second-lowest taxes for families with average incomes.

At a time when many families are thinking about making ends meet, and trying to plan for their kids' future, Gordon Campbell plans a \$1.1 billion tax break for large corporations. An immediate corporate tax cut is his most often repeated promise — a commitment he has made in more than 30 speeches and interviews.

Jack Weisgerber and Reform also promise to eliminate the corporate capital tax, paid by the largest 8 percent of corporations. He says taxes paid by the middle-class working families should not be cut at this time.

We will protect Medicare

Gordon Campbell's proposal to cut \$3 billion from public services could start us down the road to a U.S.-style health care system where the quality of care you get depends on how much money you have. Coming on top of reduced funding from Ottawa, Campbell's plans are a step toward a two-tier health system with a top tier for the rich and a bottom tier for the rest of us.

Jack Weisgerber and Reform explicitly encourage corporate health care. "We should be encouraging that kind of competition within our health care system," says Weisgerber.

We will fight attempts to bring in U.S.-style health care.

British Columbia has one of the best health care systems in the world. Glen Clark and the NDP will keep it that way.

There's enough to worry about when a family member is sick without having to worry about how you'll pay the bill.

That's why Glen Clark is making health care a top priority. All British Columbians must continue to have access to high quality care.

Glen Clark and the NDP will:

- Protect health care from federal cuts in transfer payments and the threat of a U.S.-style user-pay system.
- Continue to reduce waiting lists for cancer treatment and key surgery procedures, including heart surgery, hip and joint replacement, and organ transplants. Heart surgery and cancer treatment waiting lists have already been cut in half.
- Protect hospital funding to meet the health care needs of B.C.'s fast growing population.
- Allocate new resources to fight cancer and heart disease.

Health care is important to our future as a province, and the way we provide it says a lot about the values we hold as British Columbians. It is a commitment to fairness and dignity for all, regardless of how thick their wallet is.

More schools and better access

All British Columbians should have access to the knowledge and skills they need to get ahead.

Education is an investment in the future. It pays big dividends. Young people must have access to a good education to succeed. Our province needs a well-educated work force to compete and win in the global economy.

Glen Clark and the NDP will:

- Build, expand and renovate schools to meet the needs of growing communities. More than 55,000 new student spaces have been constructed over the last four years.
- Guarantee space for every qualified B.C. student who wants to go to university, college or a post-secondary institute. By the end of 1996, 20,000 new student spaces will have been created.
- Keep tuition fees at affordable levels, and provide increased financial assistance for students who need it. Tuition fees have been frozen.
- Establish a new technical university in the Fraser Valley, and expand the B.C. Institute of Technology.
- Maintain a relevant and modern curriculum with high standards for learning, clear reporting to parents through letter grades, and a strong emphasis on the basics that are the foundation of learning.
- Support special education, school meal, and inner city programs so all students have a chance to succeed.
- Help students learn high-tech skills by placing computers in every school: one for every six students in elementary schools; one for every three in secondary schools.

Gordon Campbell said the federal government didn't go far enough when it cut hundreds of millions of dollars from education in B.C. And he has promised to eliminate the \$700 million that banks, developers and corporations contribute to education through the school property tax.

Jack Weisgerber's Reform has proposed funding cuts, "private sector competition", and a voucher system in education. Such changes could mean public subsidies to elite private schools, and a second tier of underfunded public schools.

Prudent steps to streamline government, and eliminate waste and duplication, will protect services to you and your family.

Gordon Campbell says he will cut \$3 billion from public services — proportionately a deeper cut than Alberta and Ontario — without cutting education or Medicare as they are doing in those provinces.

Health care, social services and education account for more than three-quarters of the B.C. budget. Everything else — environmental protection, policing, courts, jails, highway safety, fire protection, highway maintenance and all other public services — totals \$4 billion. Is it realistic for Mr. Campbell to maintain he can cut \$3 billion from that \$4 billion?

Jack Weisgerber also promises dramatic cuts. He admits this will mean reductions in the social safety net, health, education and other important services to families.

Glen Clark and the NDP are giving top priority to initiatives to protect funding for health care, education, and other public services that are important to middle-class working families.

There are serious pressures on these services. Ottawa has deeply cut transfer payments to British Columbia. That money has to be found someplace else.

One of Premier Clark's first decisions was to cut at the top, and reduce the number of ministries from 18 to 15. His cabinet is the smallest in 20 years. Further steps have reduced administrative overhead and management. Government has been streamlined by closing some crown corporations, and merging government departments and agencies.

These measures have eliminated more than 2,000 positions from government and saved \$210 million. They maintain British Columbia's position as the province with the most efficient public sector in Canada (Statistics Canada, Oct. 1995). We are doing more with less.

***We have the strongest economy,
and the best fiscal record in Canada***

The financial experts all agree. British Columbia has the strongest economy and the best fiscal record in Canada. No province has done a better job of controlling costs and maintaining services to people.

"(BC is benefitting from) strong economic growth coupled with spending restraint."

— PaineWebber Corporate Bond Research, Nov. 1995

"BC enjoys the highest provincial credit rating."

— ScotiaMcLeod, Aug. 1995

"BC's AA+ credit rating is the best in the country."

— Nesbitt Burns, Sept. 1995

"BC's debt levels remain the lowest in Canada."

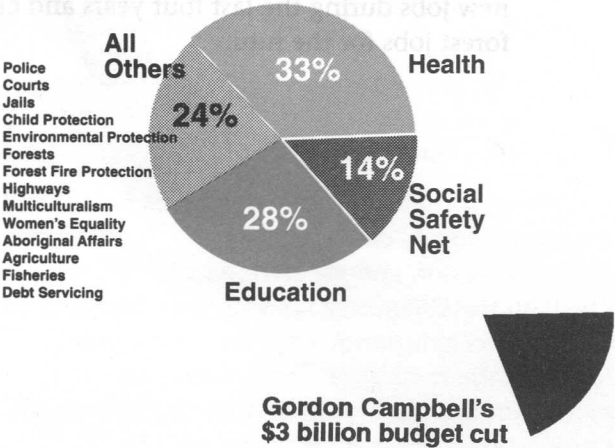
— Dominion Bond Rating Service, June 1995

"British Columbia is the least indebted province in Canada."

— Royal Bank, June 1995

B.C. is firmly number one. The deficit is gone, and services to people, including Medicare and education, have been protected.

B.C. BUDGET



"Despite all the slashing and all the headlines, Albertans still have the fattest public sector in the country. The leanest — by a wide margin — is British Columbia... Provincial public services were leanest in B. C. — 12 percent below the (national) average."

— Globe and Mail, May 29, 1995.

Our economic priority is jobs, not tax breaks for corporations

We want more opportunities for working men and women, and a chance for young people to build a good future.

The main economic plank put forward by Gordon Campbell and Jack Weisgerber is to give a tax break to corporations. This idea has already been tried by Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Brian Mulroney. In every case, it has failed to deliver benefits to working people.

British Columbians, young and old, deserve opportunities to get a good job, build a career or start a business.

We've made a good start. Over the last four years, more jobs have been created in our province than any other — a total of 177,000 new jobs since 1992. Projections for 1996 show that B.C. will continue to have the strongest economic growth in Canada at 2.7 percent, and that 40,000 new jobs will be created this year.

New Democrats will continue to make affordable investments in hospitals, schools, colleges and universities, public roads, transit, ferries and telecommunications. To compete in today's economy, we need healthy and well-educated people, and the roads and ferries to get our goods to market.

Glen Clark and the NDP will help create and protect jobs through:

- The most comprehensive youth employment program in B.C. history.
- A Jobs and Timber Accord that will tie access to public timber to job creation. Working with forest companies, we can get more jobs from each log cut — an estimated 21,000 new jobs over five years.
- Our forest industry's reputation as a world leader is being re-established through the Forest Practices Code. This has helped to create 15,000 new jobs during the last four years and ensure forest jobs for the future.

- Firm steps to strengthen salmon stocks and protect fishing jobs, including a comprehensive program to restore Pacific Salmon habitat, a new Fish Protection Act, and pressing Ottawa to take the steps that are needed to conclude a fair Pacific Salmon Treaty. Ottawa's plan to cut fishing licenses without adequate compensation is an affront to B.C. fishers.
- Support for new jobs in environmental technologies, energy and tourism.
- Training and work experience to help people move off welfare and into the work force.
- Modernizing infrastructure to support private sector jobs.
- Workplace training for thousands of people through Skills Now and expanded apprenticeship opportunities.

Gordon Campbell
 Liberals and Jack
 Weisgerber's Reform Party
 want to reverse these
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 back the clock to the
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 Vander Zalm's anti-worker
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 of replacement workers
 during strikes and lockouts.
 They opposed raising the
 minimum wage. They
 opposed the Employment
 Standards Act which has
 provisions such as allowing
 parents to take unpaid leave
 from their job to care for
 a sick child.

Finally we have a government
 that listens to the concerns of
 students."

— Michael Cardner,
 Chair B.C. Federation of Students
 March 19, 1998

A Guarantee for Youth – a future for our children

Investing in our future by giving young men and women the opportunities they need to succeed.

Premier Glen Clark has announced a Guarantee for Youth, the most comprehensive youth employment and training initiative in B.C. history. It guarantees affordable education, access to education, and an opportunity for work experience for young people.

The Guarantee for Youth provides:

- Guaranteed access to post-secondary education for all qualified students. New funding will provide spaces for 7,000 more B.C. students in 1996/97.
- Affordable tuition fees. While other provinces are increasing fees by as much as 20 percent to cover funding cuts by Ottawa, B.C. tuition fees will be frozen this year.
- In partnership with employers, Summer Works '96 will create 2,550 summer jobs for post-secondary students.
- The Youth Business and Entrepreneurship Training Program will help 1,000 young people learn the ropes and start their own small business.
- The First Job in Science and Technology Program will create jobs for 150 post-secondary graduates in science and technology.
- Expanded Environmental Youth Teams will provide practical employment and training experience to 1,340 young people.
- Youth Works will provide training opportunities and work experience for 80,000 young people.
- Opportunities '96 is a cooperative program that encourages the private sector to create 3,000 jobs for young people.

Young people face difficult challenges in the rapidly changing global economy. They deserve a chance to get a foot in the door, and get started in the world of work. Through the Guarantee for Youth, elimination of the unfair lower minimum wage for young people, and lowering the voting age to 18, Glen Clark is demonstrating that his government respects and understands the needs of young people.

"Finally we have a government that listens to the concerns of students."

— Michael Gardiner,
Chair, B.C. Federation of Students,
March 19, 1996.

A fair deal for working women and men

Glen Clark and the NDP are committed to making sure the benefits of B.C.'s strong economy are shared with working men and women, not just big business. New labour laws and standards over the last four years are positive steps towards fairness in the workplace.

We are proud of our record of supporting working families, and will continue to build on these achievements:

- Increasing the minimum wage to \$7.00 per hour benefits 80,000 minimum wage earners, including 55,000 women.
- A new Labour Relations Code levels the playing field for B.C. workers. It protects bargaining rights, protects against firing without just cause, prohibits replacement workers during strikes and lockouts, and supports speedier resolution of disputes.
- Minimum workplace standards for 1.5 million workers have been improved. A modernized Employment Standards Act provides family responsibility leave, protection for domestic workers, and new rules on flexible work schedules, overtime and notice of termination.
- A new Labour Force Development Board, with representatives from business and labour, advises government on labour market and training needs for the future.
- Expanded Workers' Compensation means virtually all B.C. workers, including farm workers, are now covered. A Royal Commission will investigate ways to further improve the WCB and ensure that workplace injuries do not leave workers destitute.

Gordon Campbell's Liberals and Jack Weisgerber's Reform Party want to reverse these initiatives. They want to turn back the clock to the confrontational days of Bill Vander Zalm's anti-worker Bill 19. They opposed the new Labour Code. They opposed the ban on the use of replacement workers during strikes and lockouts. They opposed raising the minimum wage. They opposed the Employment Standards Act which has provisions such as allowing parents to take unpaid time off from their job to care for a sick child.

Equality for women

We've made progress, but there is much more to do.

Gordon Campbell would turn back the clock. Campbell says he will eliminate the Ministry of Women's Equality, which spearheads the fight for equality. Members of his caucus have opposed steps to increase the number of women who serve on government boards and commissions.

Jack Weisgerber's Reform party opposes pay equity for women, and is "utterly opposed" to employment equity programs that open the doors for women and others to move into high paying non-traditional jobs.

Glen Clark and the NDP will continue to work for equality for women in all areas, including wages, jobs and promotions, access to training opportunities, and representation in government.

New Democrats stand with women in the fight for equality. Glen Clark and the NDP will:

- Continue to work to ensure women will have equal opportunities for good jobs and economic security.
- Help stop violence against women by supporting community-based intervention services, transition houses and safe homes, mandatory charging of offenders in cases of violence against women in relationships, the Safer Campuses Initiative, and counselling for children who witness abuse.
- Invest in child care so women and men can take advantage of training and jobs to support their families. Licensed child care spaces have been increased by 48 percent, to more than 63,000.
- Guarantee unimpeded, safe access to abortion, reproductive and other health services. The NDP will enforce the Access to Abortion Services Act and protect Medicare from federal funding cuts.

Tough on crime and the causes of crime

Glen Clark has made the fight against crime a top priority for government. The NDP is taking immediate steps to help you feel safer in your neighbourhood, on your street, no matter what time of day it is.

New Democrats will:

- Make sure police have the tools they need to fight violent crime. No one, especially women and children, should have to fear violence in their lives.
- Enhance community policing with the addition of 100 new police officers to make neighbourhoods safer.
- Establish a provincial homicide squad to close the book on unsolved murders.
- Take full advantage of new technology to identify criminals and put them behind bars by establishing Canada's first forensic dentistry lab.
- Aggressively combat sexual abuse of street kids. We will help young people get off the street and provide safe housing.
- Strengthen the rights of victims of crime, and give them the right to extensive information about their cases under the new Victims of Crime Act.
- Work with other provinces, and pressure the federal government to return dangerous criminals to face trial in their province of origin.
- Protect children through mandatory criminal record checks of individuals who work with kids.

Gordon Campbell's \$3 billion cut from public services, or the similar cut proposed by Jack Weisgerber, would weaken our police, court and correctional services. Their plans would weaken B.C.'s ability to fight crime.

CAVEAT, the national victims' rights group, gives British Columbia the highest grade among the federal and provincial governments for taking "a comprehensive approach to community safety and introducing a wide range of innovative programs." CAVEAT also praises B.C.'s "strong commitment to crime prevention."

— November, 1995

Pressure from corporations must not be allowed to undermine our commitment to protecting the environment

Gordon Campbell says his first environmental priority is to get rid of "the bureaucratic overload of environmental regulations". He has described sewage treatment as "a luxury".

Both Campbell and Jack Weisgerber opposed the tough penalties in the Forest Practices Code which require corporations to behave responsibly in our forests. They put corporations' desire for immediate short-term profits ahead of the long-term benefits of a healthy environment and sustainable jobs.

"What B.C. is successfully demonstrating to all Canadians is that a balance can be achieved between jobs and the environment."

— Ric Careless, World Wildlife Fund

Glen Clark and the NDP will protect British Columbia's magnificent natural heritage, and the environmental health of our province.

We must continue to be tough on corporate polluters and build on the historic progress made in protecting B.C.'s environment. Premier Clark and the NDP will:

- Support sustainable forests and long-term jobs. Initiatives such as the Forest Practices Code and Forest Renewal have changed the way we manage our forests to protect the environment and protect jobs.
- Reduce air pollution by implementing the toughest standards in Canada on CFCs and automobile pollution, expanding transit options, and phasing out beehive burners.
- Continue to improve water quality with pulp mill discharge regulations, salmon habitat protection measures, and expanded sewage treatment. The NDP has also halted the Kemano Completion Project dam, and banned bulk water exports and water diversions such as the North Thompson proposal.
- Protect unique and precious ecosystems and biodiversity. We are well on our way to the goal of doubling B.C.'s parks and wilderness areas — the NDP has protected 156 new parks and wilderness areas totalling almost 3 million hectares in all regions of B.C.

B.C. has received the highest environmental rating of any province in Canada from the World Wildlife Fund.

A strong multicultural heritage

The best from many backgrounds contributes to British Columbia's vibrant economy and culture.

As biodiversity strengthens our forests, cultural diversity gives unique strength and resilience to our society. Our multicultural heritage gives us an edge to help build British Columbia's future and success. In a global economy, we are uniquely positioned to be able to draw on the best ideas, traditions and approaches from many cultures and lands. Multiculturalism broadens our choices and enriches our lives. It strengthens our presence on the world stage.

Glen Clark and the NDP recognize the importance of the multicultural community and have taken steps to help increase understanding and respect for the contribution made by all cultures.

Premier Clark and the NDP:

- Value the rich cultural diversity of our province, and officially recognized it through B.C.'s new Multiculturalism Act.
- Will help stop organized hate propaganda and activities through the stronger B.C. Human Rights Act. Class action suits can now be laid.
- Ensure a speedy resolution of complaints, and reduce the time needed to hear cases, through a separate tribunal established under the B.C. Human Rights Code.
- Support the multicultural community by introducing additional languages into schools, including Mandarin, Punjabi and Japanese; strong ESL programs; educational materials to fight racism; and core funding for multicultural and immigrant service agencies

Gordon Campbell's multicultural policies are vague at best. The Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of B.C. says Campbell's policy "shows a lack of vision for multiculturalism. (It) does not value diversity nor does it indicate any commitment to educating the people of B.C. on the benefits and strengths of a diverse population."

Jack Weisgerber says multicultural initiatives are costing too much. He has made it clear that the B.C. Reform Party will scrap the multiculturalism program.

Reforming the old welfare system

Job training for those who can work, and dignity for those who can't.

Gordon Campbell and Jack Weisgerber would severely weaken our safety net. Their approach means forcing people to do menial, dead-end work to get a handout.

In a comment that starkly reveals his attitude towards single mothers and children, Weisgerber says B.C. Benefits is "all carrot and no stick".

While he advocates a \$1.1 billion tax break for corporations, Campbell will not stand up for B.C.'s poorest citizens. He says he will not fight reduced funding from Ottawa as the NDP has been doing.

British Columbia has Canada's strongest economy, leading in investment and jobs.

But not all of us share in that prosperity. One in ten British Columbians — and one out of every five children under five — relies on income assistance. For low-income working families the struggle to make ends meet can be even tougher. A single parent with two children and a minimum wage job would actually be better off on welfare.

The current system was developed 60 years ago to provide temporary help to people between jobs. It's badly out of touch with the realities of the 1990s. Our province today is part of a rapidly changing world economy. More and more people are coming to B.C. Our economy is shifting into new areas. And federal cutbacks are forcing us to do more with less money.

Glen Clark and the NDP are renewing B.C.'s social safety net through the B.C. Benefits program to put jobs and self-reliance ahead of handouts and dependency. These renewal measures will:

- Ensure a fair share for working families. All low-income families will receive new benefits, including a new Family Bonus and free dental and vision care for kids. These changes will make working a better deal than welfare.
- Help people move from welfare to work through job search and training programs for young people and employable adults.
- Fight fraud and abuse of the welfare system, making sure that money goes to those who need it.
- Provide support for people who have special challenges to live as independently as possible.

The objective of B.C. Benefits is to make work a better deal than welfare. In an independent study released April 22, 1996, the accounting firm KPMG projects that these reforms, combined with B.C.'s impressive job creation record, will reduce welfare case loads by nine to 14 percent. This is a potential saving of \$350 million to \$470 million.

Keeping our social safety net affordable is a constant challenge, especially with the federal government abandoning its commitments. Glen Clark and the NDP will continue to meet that challenge by re-investing savings into significant new job training and rehabilitation programs — helping more people, in more ways, than ever before.

- Protect Medicare from federal spending cuts, and the possibility of a 1.2% rise in the system. We will ensure that our health care system continues to meet the needs of families in fact, not just in theory.
- Ensure there's post-secondary space for all qualified students, and build a new technical university in Surrey by the end of this year: university colleges and technical spaces will have been increased by 20,000.
- Continue an uncompromising attack on crime and the causes of crime, including criminal record checks for people working with children, new rights for victims of crime, and strong new initiatives to fight violent crime and the sexual abuse of women and children.
- Continue to invest in child care so women and men can take advantage of training and jobs to support their families in communities throughout the province. Since 1991, licensed child care spaces in B.C. have been increased by 48 percent to more than 63,000.
- Help bring urban and suburban areas back to life through the Salmon Habitat Conservation Plan, improve air quality through cleaner fuels, cleaner vehicles and expanded transit, protect our spectacular parks as part of the Lower Mainland Nature Legacy.



We will support young families and fast growing suburban communities, not cut the public services they need

Young families and growing suburban communities have special needs — ranging from health to education, safety on the streets, child care, traffic and the environment — that are being addressed by government.

Glen Clark and the NDP will:

- Protect Medicare from federal funding cuts, and the possibility of a U.S.-style two tier system. We will ensure that our health care system continues to meet the needs of families in fast growing communities.
- Ensure there's post-secondary space for all qualified students, and build a new technical university in Surrey. By the end of this year, university, college and technical spaces will have been increased by 20,000.
- Continue an uncompromising attack on crime and the causes of crime, including criminal record checks for people working with children, new rights for victims of crime, and strong new initiatives to fight violent crime and the sexual abuse of women and children.
- Continue to invest in child care so women and men can take advantage of training and jobs to support their families in communities throughout the province. Since 1991, licensed child care spaces in B.C. have been increased by 48 percent to more than 63,000.
- Help bring urban and suburban streams back to life through the Salmon Habitat conservation plan; improve air quality through cleaner fuels, cleaner vehicles and expanded transit; protect our spectacular parks as part of the Lower Mainland Nature Legacy.

- Implement a comprehensive ten-year public transit program including light rail transit to be operating in the Lower Mainland by 2005, additional SkyTrain cars, the new West Coast Express commuter rail and Rapid Bus service. HOV lanes will be constructed on the Trans-Canada and Barnett Highways.
- Promote regional growth strategies, and give local governments the ability to cope with the problems associated with rapid urban growth through the Growth Strategies Act and the Georgia Basin Initiative.

Affordable treaties

Continuing uncertainty resulting from the absence of treaties in B.C. is costing us lost investment and lost jobs.

Gordon Campbell and Jack Weisgerber, after initially supporting the Treaty Commission process, now want to shut it down and start over. Such action — after all the parties have finally come to the table in a cooperative effort to reach agreement — would guarantee more delay, more uncertainty and more frustration. It would throw away five years of progress.

"Solutions are needed, and they are needed sooner rather than later. While the current treaty process is new and still unproven, early efforts suggest it will work more quickly than the courts. For investors who hate ambiguity, and for workers seeking jobs, this is very good news indeed."

— B.C. Central Credit Union,
Oct. 25, 1995

"The Liberals' new policy paper on land claims in B.C. is a blueprint for confusion, confrontation and delay."

— The Province, editorial,
July 17, 1995

Historic progress to end 120 years of injustice and uncertainty.

The NDP has made significant progress towards lasting treaties that will remove uncertainty about land use and investment decisions in British Columbia. About 50 First Nations groups representing 70 percent of Status Indians have entered the treaty making process with the federal and provincial governments.

Glen Clark and the NDP will continue to negotiate just and affordable treaties between aboriginal peoples, the federal government and the provincial government based on these principles:

- Work with Ottawa and First Nations, through the independent Treaty Commission, to ensure the process is fair for everyone.
- Ensure public access to negotiations. (As a minister in the Vander Zalm government, Jack Weisgerber signed an agreement that closed the first phase of the Nisga'a negotiations to the public. The continuing Nisga'a negotiations will be open.)
- Regional Advisory Committees will give local communities direct input to negotiations.
- Private property is not on the table. All terms and conditions of exiting Crown leases and licenses will be honoured.
- Equality before the law: maintain as negotiation policy the full and equal application of the Criminal Code and Charter of Rights, common environmental and forest management standards and a phase-out of tax exemptions.
- Overall land settlements will be in proportion to the aboriginal population of B.C.



Affordable treaties

Historic progress to end 120 years of litigation and uncertainty.

The NDP has made significant progress towards ending treaties that will remove uncertainty about land use and investment decisions in British Columbia. About 50 First Nations groups representing 70 percent of Status Indians have entered the treaty-making process with the federal and provincial governments.

It will continue to negotiate between aboriginal peoples and the provincial government.

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