

Better Plan *for a* ***Better Manitoba.***

Lower Taxes
Better Services
Stronger Economy



**Progressive
Conservative**

Letter to Manitobans

This election is about change. Change to a better future for all Manitobans.



It's time to get Manitoba back on track. After 17 years of paying more and getting less, our province needs a change for the better.

Our new PC Team is proposing a Better Plan for a Better Manitoba with **Lower Taxes, Better Services,** and a **Stronger Economy.**

Working together, we can do better for families, seniors, and our children.

We believe in Manitoba values of integrity, caring, inclusion, common sense, and teamwork. These are the values that built our province. These are the values you deserve in your government.

Your PC Team is ready to go to work for you on Day One!

We want to make Manitoba the most improved province in all of Canada. With better health care and education for you and your family. Better jobs and opportunity to keep our young people here. And a clean, open government that earns your trust each and every day.

That's our commitment to you.

Please read our Better Manitoba plan. Then, give us your ideas on how to build an even better Manitoba. Go to www.pcmantoba.com and share your ideas for a #BetterMB!

I want to be your Premier because I want to work hard each and every day for you and your family for a better future together.

On April 19th, together we can make a new start for a stronger, better Manitoba.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian".

Brian Pallister

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Manitoba – Canada's Most Improved Province

Your PC Team has one goal: to make Manitoba the most improved province in five priority areas.

Better Jobs

- ✓ Most improved province in job creation performance.

Better Care

- ✓ Most improved province in shortening ER and other wait times.

Better Education

- ✓ Most improved province in student reading results.

Better Value

- ✓ Most improved province in family tax relief.

Better Together

- ✓ Most improved province in partnership initiatives with business and communities.

Our #BetterMB plan will focus on concrete results through specific actions in each of these five priority areas.

Manitoba's Values Are Our Values

More than ever, we need a new government based on Manitoba values. A government that reflects those values in everything it does.

Values like trust, compassion, common sense, inclusion, and teamwork.

Priorities that will focus our work and values that will guide our decisions.

Priorities that come from Manitobans themselves.

We will be a value-based, principled government. Manitobans will know who we are and what we will do.

Trust

Manitobans are trusting people. We give our trust and we expect it to be given back through open, clean government.

Sadly, that is not what we have today.

What we have today in Manitoba is broken trust from a broken government. Promise after promise has been broken by this government. First it lost its integrity and now it has lost its way.

Your new Progressive Conservative government will restore Manitobans' trust and return integrity to their government.

Compassion

Compassion is a value that binds us together as Manitobans. We care deeply about our communities and we care deeply about one another.

We volunteer and donate to charity each and every day. We do so not just because we are compassionate people, but because we know in doing so we help others become who they can be.

Government must be a partner in caring. We will be that partner and that government.

Common Sense

From prudent financial management to getting the best deal with your money, we value government that doesn't just do the right things, but does them the right way. That's just common sense.

Common sense that values your money. Common sense that eliminates wasteful government spending and invests the savings in the priorities that matter to you and your family.

We will make it a priority to bring Manitoba common sense back to government.

Inclusion

Inclusion means opportunity. The opportunity to learn, advance, and contribute.

We know that inclusion in education means new learning opportunities for young Manitobans. We know that inclusion in the economy means low-income Manitobans must have a way up from poverty.

We also know that inclusion in society means more economic opportunity and social progress for Indigenous people in our province.

A new Progressive Conservative government will foster a more inclusive Manitoba for all.

Teamwork

Teamwork is the essence of partnership. Partnership leads to prosperity. Working together as a province makes us stronger and more prosperous.

To build our province and fulfill our optimism we must work in partnership with one another. When we work together as a team, there is nothing we cannot achieve.

A new Progressive Conservative government will be a reliable and visionary partner for Manitoba public servants, communities, business, and voluntary organizations.



SELINGER'S NDP: BROKEN TRUST. BROKEN GOVERNMENT.

After 17 years, the NDP government of Greg Selinger is old, tired and has lost its way. It has broken promise after promise. And it has failed to deliver result after result.

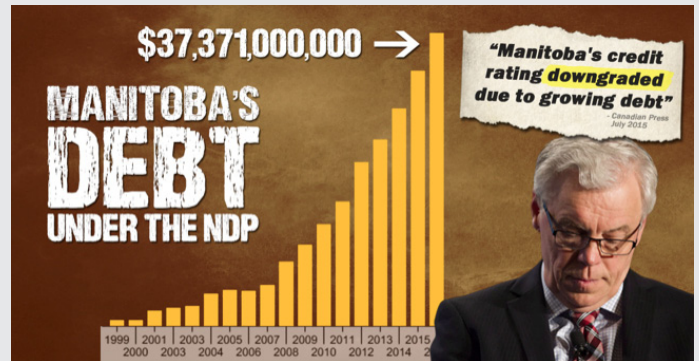
Despite paying the highest taxes in western Canada, our province ranks last in health care performance, education results, financial management, social justice, and job creation.

The NDP raised the PST to 8% in 2013 after promising not to, and without holding the referendum that was required under the Balanced Budget Act.

They broadened the PST five times, raised the gas tax and increased the Land Transfer Tax.

**YOU HAVE PAID UNDER
SELINGER'S NDP.**

\$1 BILLION MORE IN NEW TAXES SINCE 2011



Manitoba's debt has reached over \$37 billion dollars. Each citizen's share of the debt is over \$28,000 which is among the highest in Canada.

The NDP government wasted over \$1 million putting up signs with the slogan "steady growth and good jobs."

SELINGER'S NDP

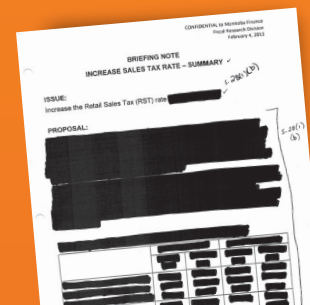
OCTOBER 4, 2011

Greg Selinger's NDP win a majority government promising to balance the budget by 2014 with no tax increases.



APRIL 17, 2012

NDP up gas tax by 2.5 cents a litre and broaden the PST to cover hair styling, home insurance and workplace benefits.



APRIL 1, 2014

Selinger considered higher PST: Ombudsman confirms secret government records exist that "include reference to a 9% RST."

2011

2012

2013

2014



APRIL 16, 2013

Greg Selinger breaks his promise and raises the PST to 8%, compared to only 5% in Saskatchewan. In fact, Manitoba now has the highest PST in Western Canada.

**PST
8%**

OCTOBER 15, 2014

Manitoba falls to last place in Canada

Manitoba's Schools Ranked Last in Canada	
SUBJECT	RANK
Reading	10th
Math	10th
Science	10th

Premier Selinger caused an unprecedented revolt and rebellion in his caucus leading his most trusted advisors and colleagues to resign and also resulted in secret severance payments to NDP staff totalling nearly \$700,000 dollars so far.

Manitoba has more than 11,000 kids in the care of Child and Family Services under the NDP's watch. CFS is seizing a record number of newborns - one a day — rather than supporting parents.

Manitoba has the longest emergency wait times in Canada and the highest ambulance fees in the country.

Over the decade 2005-2014, Manitoba remained the least prosperous province West of Quebec. *Manitoba Employers Council, 2016*

Manitoba's NDP failed to heed warnings from credit rating agencies and as a result saw the first credit rating downgrade in 30 years.

Under the NDP's education system, Manitoba students are scoring the worst in Canada on national testing in literacy, numeracy and science.

Today, under the Selinger NDP, Manitobans pay more and get less. An average family in Manitoba pays over \$4,000 more in income taxes and PST than the same family next door in Saskatchewan.

MANITOBA'S PROSPERITY CHALLENGE

Selinger Economic Record (Manitoba vs BC, AB, SK, and ON)

- Highest Provincial Sales Tax rate (tied with Ontario);
- Highest general corporate tax rate (tied with Saskatchewan);
- Highest payroll tax rate;
- Smallest Basic Personal Exemption for personal income taxes;
- Lowest small business corporate tax exemption
- At \$45,539 in 2014, Manitoba's GDP per capita continues to make Manitoba the least prosperous province
- Manitoba lags all provinces with the highest percentage of workers in the labour force without a high school degree
- Manitoba dropped to last for the percentage of the labour force with a university degree
- Average Weekly Earnings were last at \$863.00

Source: Manitoba Employers Council, 2016

THE SELINGER RECORD

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

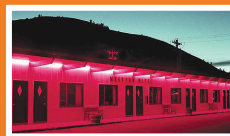
Manitoba has the longest Emergency Room (ER) wait times in the country.



MARCH 8, 2015

All government work slows to a crawl while the NDP leadership race takes place. After allegations of vote tampering and a last minute secret deal to secure votes, Greg Selinger wins by only 33 votes to remain Premier.

JULY 15, 2015



Children's Advocate reports the crisis of children in care "has deteriorated into a chronic state of emergency." The report finds the number of children placed in hotels ranges from 25 to 65 on any given day.

MANITOBA CHILD AND FAMILY REPORT CARD

"A CRISIS THAT HAS BECOME CHRONIC"

NOVEMBER 24, 2015

According to the Manitoba Child and Family Report Card 2015, poverty in Manitoba has become a "chronic nightmare" with 1 in 3 children living in poverty. And nearly 2 in 3 children living in single parent homes are in poverty.

2014

2015

2016



NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Five high-ranking NDP Cabinet Ministers resign saying "Selinger is increasingly being driven by his desire to hold on to his leadership, rather than by the best interests of Manitobans."

MAY 7, 2015

Greg Selinger pays 7 former staffers nearly \$700,000 in payouts after they "quit" to support one of his NDP rivals.



JULY 10, 2015

Manitoba's credit rating downgraded for the first time in 30 years. The provincial debt has doubled under the NDP from \$16 to \$33 billion in just 8 years.

THE DOUBLE DEBT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NDP promise to balance books by 2014 is broken. Deficit balloons to \$452 million.

\$452 MILLION DEFICIT

\$185 MILLION LESS

MARCH 8, 2016

NDP "Fantasy Fiscal Update" announces more federal infrastructure money. But federal budget shows Manitoba will get \$185 million LESS, not more. Selinger will have to raise PST to make up the difference.

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

The Selinger NDP has spent over a million dollars promoting itself with “Steady Growth” signs with few real signs of actual steady growth. On a per capita basis, we have the lowest GDP west of Quebec.

We need to keep more young people here with new quality job opportunities. Under the Selinger NDP, Manitoba has seen an exodus of young Manitobans seeking their futures elsewhere.



NDP TAXES ARE NOW AMONGST THE HIGHEST IN CANADA.

Greg Selinger promised not to raise the PST in the last election, but he did – from 7% to 8%. He also applied the PST to more and more items to get more money. From home insurance to health benefits, the Selinger NDP found new ways to take money from Manitobans.

EXAMPLES OF NDP EXPANSION OF PST

- Legal, accounting, engineering and other professional services
- Insurance premiums, including property, group life, trip cancellation, land titles
- Spa treatments
- Non-medical skin and nail services
- Hair services under \$50
- Tattooing and piercing

Northern Manitoba is rich with people and potential. But it has been ignored and taken for granted by the Selinger NDP for far too long. Unemployment is unacceptably high, in fact, the highest in Canada.

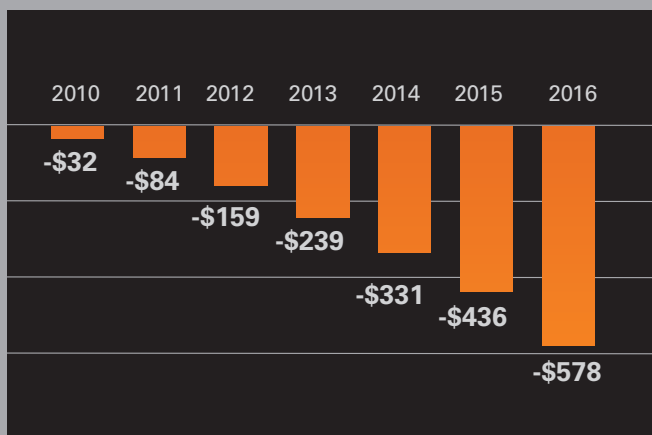
Youth unemployment is far too high. When opportunity slips away, so does our future. Under the Selinger NDP, young people are losing that future.



Your PC Team sees amazing opportunity in this region's resources and communities. We will make northern economic development a priority of our new government.

When you add in the higher PST, the Selinger NDP has taken over \$1 billion more in new taxes from Manitoba families.

BRACKET CREEP TOTAL COST TO THE AVERAGE MANITOBA FAMILY



1. *Better Jobs*

Jobs and economic growth are at the centre of our Better Manitoba plan. More economic growth helps us afford better front line services like health care and education. It enables us to invest in what matters most to Manitoba families.

Government needs to be a partner with business and communities to create new economic opportunities. We need to attract more investment, build strategic infrastructure, and help home-grown entrepreneurs get the capital they need to innovate and create jobs.

This requires a new attitude. An attitude that sees government as a partner not a competitor. Government that works alongside people and business, not above them.

A new Progressive Conservative government will be that kind of government.

It's time for a Better Plan for a Better Manitoba.

It's time for a better plan for jobs, growth, and opportunity.

Our Commitments:

✓ **Lower taxes**

✓ **Build strategic infrastructure**

✓ **Support entrepreneurs**

✓ **Promote Manitoba tourism and trade**

✓ **Reduce red tape for business**

✓ **Yes! North**

✓ **Foster Arts and Culture**

Our Better Manitoba plan will grow Manitoba's economy by lowering taxes, building strategic infrastructure, working with business and entrepreneurs to expand, and promoting our province as the 'go to' place to invest and trade.

Lower Taxes

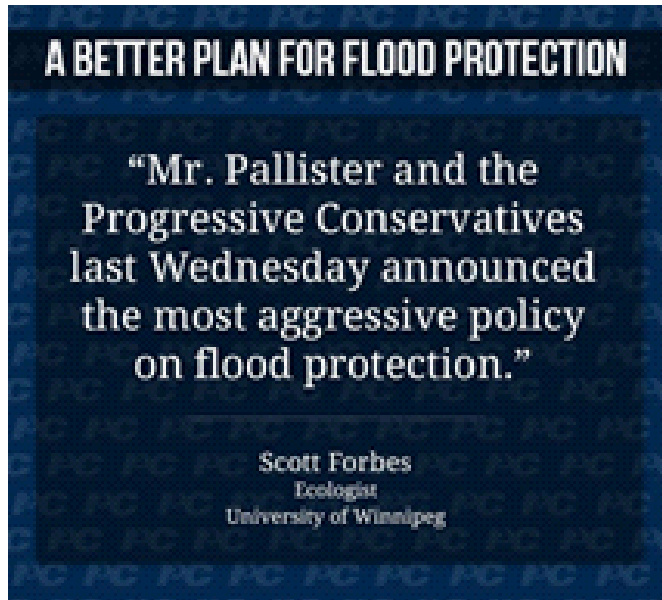
A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Roll back the PST to 7% in our first term.
- ✓ Index the tax brackets and the basic personal exemption by the rate of inflation within our first full budget year.
- ✓ Further raise the basic personal exemption towards the national average within our first term.

Strategic Infrastructure

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Invest no less than \$1 billion a year in strategic infrastructure with the goal of supporting economic growth in Manitoba.
- ✓ Our funding will be guaranteed and predictable to enable better civic and business planning and will provide a measurable return on investment.
- ✓ Make it a top priority to build the flood protection necessary to keep Manitobans and their communities safe, beginning with the outlet needed to alleviate flooding around Lake Manitoba.



Support Entrepreneurs

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Develop a comprehensive access to capital strategy in consultation with the business community. This strategy will identify and address capital financing needs across the full venture capital spectrum – from idea to commercialization. The strategy will include improvements to the Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit and a community-led, government-championed approach to available federal programs.
- ✓ Champion the Enterprise Machine Intelligence and Learning Initiative (EMILI), a prime example of what can be accomplished when Manitoba's business community bands together.



Promote Manitoba

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Adopt Travel Manitoba's Plan 96/4 to increase tourism to the province.
- ✓ Join the New West Partnership immediately upon forming government.
- ✓ Create a Premier's Enterprise Team, an advisory team of top business leaders to work with the premier and government to create new jobs and economic growth in the province.

Reduce Red Tape

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Establish a Red Tape Reduction Task Force of business, labour, community agencies, and government to find and reduce unnecessary red tape that stifles growth and kills jobs.

Yes! North

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Create a special, targeted program for Northern Manitoba called *Yes! North*.
- ✓ Develop partnerships needed to attract new companies, assist entrepreneurs, and facilitate expansion of existing businesses to provide quality jobs and a stronger economy in the North.
- ✓ Focus on two priority areas: 1) Sustainable development of natural resources, including forestry and mining. 2) Tourism opportunities, including beluga whale watching, polar bear and aurora borealis tours, fishing and hunting.

In Brief: Our 10-Point Economic Growth Plan

1. **Improving economic competitiveness** by rolling back the PST to 7% and creating a red tape reduction task force.
2. **Attracting new investment** by establishing a comprehensive Access to Capital Strategy for job creating venture capital.
3. **Fostering a skilled workforce** by investing in education results for students and focusing scholarships and skills training on current and emerging business needs.
4. **Investing in infrastructure** by at least \$1 billion each year, in new strategic infrastructure that focuses on a clear return on investment for long-term economic growth.
5. **Promoting Manitoba trade internationally and nationally** by creating a Team Manitoba trade initiative to generate new business opportunities in target markets and joining the New West Partnership to create more procurement and investment opportunities here at home.
6. **Encouraging new immigration** by enhancing the Provincial Nominee Program to welcome more qualified and skilled immigrants from around the world as well as encouraging increased family immigration.
7. **Building on Manitoba industrial strengths** by developing targeted growth strategies for key sectors such as information technology, arts and new media, aerospace, agriculture and manufacturing.
8. **Showcasing Manitoba tourism** by adopting Travel Manitoba's Plan 96/4 and expanding upon our *Yes! North* strategy.
9. **Creating clean, green economic opportunities** by supporting low-carbon growth opportunities and innovation.
10. **Ensuring a strong financial foundation** for growth by providing prudent financial management, investing in front line services, undertaking a comprehensive value-for-money review across departments and agencies, and offering transparent, accountable budgeting to Manitobans.

Arts and Culture

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Develop a Manitoba Cultural Funding Model & and Policy Review that will improve funding and autonomy of Manitoba's arts and culture sector.
- ✓ Work with the arts and culture community in partnership with the private sector and link to tourism promotion, to ensure ongoing development and investment.

Selinger NDP Record of Manitoba Hydro mismanagement

Since Greg Selinger became Premier, hydro rates have increased by more than double the rate of inflation, or nearly 30%. As a result of Selinger NDP mismanagement, rates are projected to more than double over the next twenty years.

Manitoba's energy regulator, the Public Utilities Board has expressed concern over the fact that Manitoba Hydro has consistently underspent and scaled back PowerSmart programs instead of investing in energy efficiency.

The Public Utilities Board commented in a 2014 review of Manitoba Hydro's major capital plans that "There is an inherent conflict of interest when a utility acts as both a seller of electricity and a purveyor of energy efficiency".

The Selinger NDP has not been honest with Manitobans.



Manitoba Hydro: Keeping it Public and Investing in Energy Efficiency

The Public Utilities Board said energy savings programs should be divested from Manitoba Hydro and an independent arm's length entity should be developed instead. The Selinger NDP has refused to follow this advice.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Above all else, keep Manitoba's largest Crown Corporation publicly owned.
- ✓ Adopt the recommendation of the Public Utilities Board that an independent arm's-length entity be created to take on responsibility for developing and implementing planned targets for saving energy.
- ✓ Report annually on energy savings targets to Manitobans.
- ✓ A Progressive Conservative government will send the Bipole III construction project to the Public Utilities Board for a proper review that Greg Selinger never allowed.

"Jurisdictions such as Vermont that have established independent arm's-length entities to deliver DSM programs have had considerable success in reducing energy consumption and maintaining program performance." — Manitoba Public Utilities Board, needs for & alternatives to review (2014)

A Clean Green Manitoba

Manitoba is home to a multitude of beautiful and diverse natural environments with the ability to capture the heart and imagination of residents and visitors alike. Whether it is our vast plains and parkland regions, northern tundra, flourishing boreal forests or our inland seas and sandy beaches there is truly something for everyone to enjoy right here at home.

That's why we must preserve and protect our natural heritage. We must pass it on to future generations for them to use and enjoy. It is an important part of our economy too, employing thousands of Manitobans.

What is needed now is new leadership to implement true conservation and stewardship in Manitoba; one that is action orientated with a focus on sustainable use of our natural resources and heritage not rigid protectionism and adversarial policies.

The current government's approach is to block progress and regulate. Multiple layers of confusing regulations and adversarial approaches against people and communities have neither helped nor worked.

On the most difficult issue of our time, climate change, the Selinger NDP has consistently failed to meet its own targets for emissions reductions. We have failed to take advantage of our clean, green energy grid and build new opportunities for innovative solutions. The harnessing of market forces to help build and achieve innovation has been completely ignored under the current government.

Manitoba is not immune to climate change. We must do our part to reduce emissions. In doing so, we can position Manitoba to take advantage of new

opportunities as the world transitions to more clean energy use and a low-carbon economy, at which Manitoba has a natural and commercial advantage.

We know Manitobans are willing to do their part when it comes to protecting our environment and conserving our natural resources. A new Progressive Conservative government will partner and work with Manitobans to ensure the sustainability of our environment and sustainable use of our natural resources. We will take sustained, effective action on climate change with a made-in-Manitoba approach to contribute our share of emission reductions and make Manitoba a new leader in clean energy growth, innovation, and technology.

A Clean, Green Manitoba

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

Clean Lakes and Waterways

- ✓ Implement a province-wide program based on the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) model to help reduce flooding and improve water quality and nutrient management, in partnership with stakeholders including landowners, ngo's, federal and municipal governments.
- ✓ Implement watershed-based planning for drainage and water resource management with a goal of no net loss of water retention capacity in watersheds.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation

- ✓ Develop comprehensive harvest co-management strategies in consultation with First Nations, Metis and licensed hunters and anglers to give local communities a greater voice and ensure long-term sustainability of our wildlife populations.
- ✓ Curtail unsustainable and unsafe hunting practices such as night hunting to keep all Manitobans safe.
- ✓ Implement effective and innovative big game surveys to improve and increase the transparency of population data for managers.
- ✓ Develop and implement a credible strategy to secure certification of Manitoba's commercial fisheries.

Parks and Protected Areas

- ✓ Develop a framework to reconcile the needs of industry and rural and northern communities while continuing to enhance the network of protected areas in Manitoba's natural regions.
- ✓ Act on the required consultation for the future of land under park reserve status.
- ✓ Institute a two-year moratorium on all lease and service fees for cottages found within provincial parks.

Climate Change Action

- ✓ Work with the federal government and other jurisdictions as we develop a made-in-Manitoba climate action plan containing the following elements:
 - Carbon pricing that fosters emissions reduction, keeps investment capital here and stimulates new innovation in clean energy, businesses and jobs.
 - Land-use and conservation measures that sequester carbon and foster adaptation to climate change.
 - Reduce emissions from commercial buildings through building codes and other measures putting government operations and infrastructure on a path to carbon-neutrality.
 - Encourage the adoption of fuel saving technologies and measures within the transportation sector.

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

Under Greg Selinger, health care has gotten worse, not better.

The NDP promised to get rid of 'hallway medicine'. They turned it into 'highway medicine' where too many Manitobans travel elsewhere to get the care they need.

Despite growing strains on resources and stresses on health care workers, the NDP government has allowed problems to grow.

ER wait times have risen, not fallen. The longest waits in all of Canada are in Winnipeg.

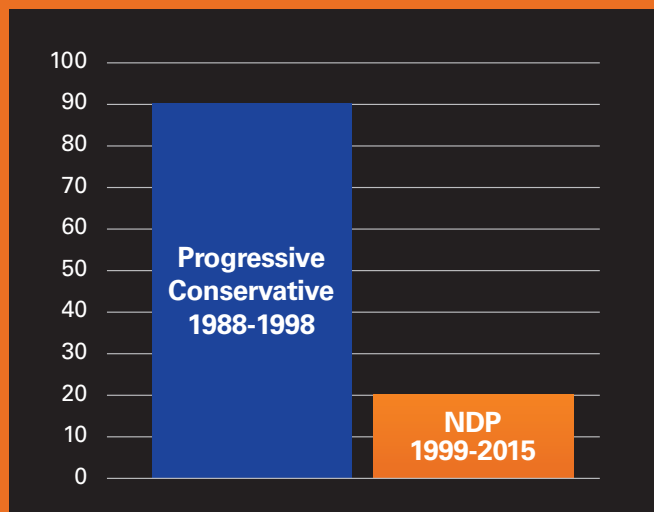
Physician recruitment has stalled. More doctors left Manitoba than anywhere else in Canada.

Worse, they have no plan on how to fix it.

Seniors care has gotten worse under the Selinger NDP.

Despite a growing, aging population, the NDP government has ignored the need to build more personal care home beds that seniors need. Before the Selinger NDP came to power, an average of 90 new PCH beds were built each and every year. Under the Selinger NDP, PCH construction has

Average Personal Care Home Beds Built Each Year



dropped to only 20 new beds per year.

Wait times for PCH placements have skyrocketed to as much as over 6 months in some parts of the province. Today, over 1,200 seniors are waiting to access a personal care home bed.

Manitoba's various Child and Family Services agencies currently have stewardship over more than 11,000 Manitoba Children. This number has more than doubled during the Selinger NDP's time in office.

Instead of addressing this critical problem, the Selinger NDP has tried to manipulate the way children are counted in a desperate attempt to show a reduction in the number of children in care.

Children engaged with Manitoba's Child and Family Services system deserve a government interested in protecting them, not the government's reputation.

It's time for a better plan for a better Manitoba.

2. *Better Care*

Caring and compassion are Manitoba values.

Providing the best possible health care to families, seniors, and patients is the most fundamental role of government.

Front line services are an essential aspect of a quality health care system Manitobans depend on. Families need to know that health care will be there for them when they need it.

We respect the work of front line health care workers. We will work together with front line health care providers to improve the care and services Manitobans receive.

Families with children need more childcare options. Safe, healthy and regulated childcare options need to be more available.

Strong communities protect their most vulnerable. We need to improve the safety, security, education and health of our most vulnerable children.

It's time for a better plan for health and family care.

Our Commitments:

- ✓ **Lower ambulance fees**
- ✓ **Shorter ER and priority procedure wait times**
- ✓ **Keeping doctors in Manitoba**
- ✓ **Building more personal care home beds**
- ✓ **Dedicated stroke unit**
- ✓ **Mental health strategy**
- ✓ **Increasing childcare options**
- ✓ **New legislation to better protect children at risk**

Lower Ambulance Fees

Manitoba has the highest ambulance fees in the country. Under the Selinger NDP, Manitobans pay on average over \$500 for an ambulance.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Reduce ambulance fees by half beginning in our first year in office, to bring them more in line with the rest of Canada.

Shorter Wait Times

A new Progressive Conservative government will take urgent action to begin to shorten wait times by:

- ✓ Striking a Wait Times Reduction Task Force of front-line health care experts. This task force will be given an aggressive mandate to recommend specific actions to shorten wait times in emergency rooms and for other priority procedures and treatments where we have ranked below the Canadian average.
- ✓ The Wait Times Reduction Task Force would include frontline workers, health care professionals, and impacted stakeholders charged with a specific and targeted mandate and reporting structure to start reporting back within 6 months.

It would:

- Conduct in-depth analysis of who is seeking treatment at ERs and for what conditions.
- Identify roadblocks and solutions to improving access.
- Identify opportunities to enhance the overall wellness of Manitobans including preventative measures.

Keeping More Doctors

A new Progressive Conservative government will focus on keeping more doctors practicing here in Manitoba by:

- ✓ Establishing an improved doctor recruitment and retention program with a goal to have the most improved retention rates in our first term.
- ✓ Creating a more collaborative recruitment environment that focuses on a team-based approach.
- ✓ Hiring experts in effective recruitment processes including foreign recruitment of practice-ready doctors.
- ✓ Promoting hometown doctors through education in local communities.
- ✓ Conducting exit interviews with departing doctors to determine their reasons for leaving.
- ✓ Reviewing the levels of incentives offered within the province and in other provinces while reducing the impact of Manitoba's high tax environment.

Building More Personal Care Home Beds

A new Progressive Conservative government will improve care for seniors and families by:

- ✓ Fast-tracking the construction of 1,200 personal care home beds to alleviate the health care crisis facing seniors and families caused by the Selinger NDP.
- ✓ Investing more than \$160 million over the next 8 years to make this happen.
- ✓ Developing a funding model to fast-track construction of personal care homes with non-profit organizations, faith-based groups and community leaders similar to the successful Heritage Life Personal Care Home in Niverville.

“The shortage of PCH beds is province wide, and the rate at which it is being dealt with is very poor.” — Blair Skinner, Mayor of Pinawa.

Dedicated Stroke Unit

Every other Canadian province has realized the value of dedicated stroke units and have established these unique medical units, placing Manitobans at a disadvantage for receiving stroke care due to being the only province without a stroke unit.

There are approximately 2,000 stroke cases a year in Manitoba and that number is rising due in part to an aging demographic. In fact stroke is the leading cause of adult disability in Manitoba. A dedicated stroke unit can reduce the chances of death and disability for all people regardless of the severity of the stroke by up to 30%.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Establish a dedicated stroke unit.

Mental Health Strategy

One in 5 Manitobans experience mental health issues in a given year. 70% of mental health problems first appear in childhood and adolescence. Every year over 10,000 people visit Winnipeg ER's for a mental health crisis.

Many people experiencing mental health issues are not able to access mental health services in a timely manner because community services are inadequate so they end up in an ER.

Better coordination across the health system will reduce avoidable ER visits, hospitalizations and wait times. It would help people from being discharged from emergency without appropriate community support. Manitoba needs to follow best practices and combine mental health and addictions into a comprehensive strategy.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Develop a comprehensive mental health strategy combining mental health and addictions programs and services with an emphasis on better coordination and access.

More Childcare Options

There are 550 fewer family childcare home spaces today in Manitoba than when the NDP assumed office. Only 22% of childcare spaces in Manitoba are located in schools. Manitobans have told us they want increased access to home based daycare spaces and want the ease and convenience of daycare spaces in schools.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Reduce the cumbersome regulatory framework in place to open and operate childcare centres.

- ✓ Increase operating funding for licensed, family childcare home spaces.
- ✓ Work in consultation with school divisions to increase the number of childcare centres in schools.
- ✓ Increase incentives to become an Early Childhood Educator (ECE), and promote ease of access to ECE training by expanding training programs to more educational institutions.
- ✓ Continue the partnership with Family Dynamics, a community agency specializing in childcare supports for families.

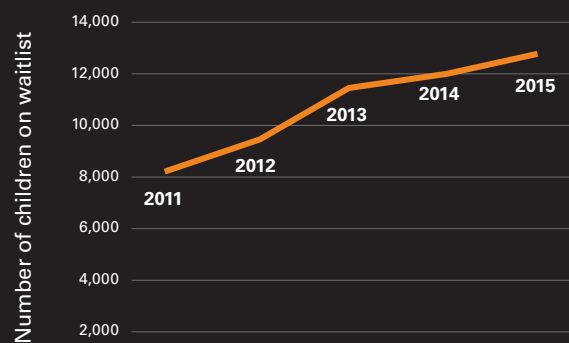
"It's not easy to establish a licensed home daycare." – Pat Wege, Executive Director, Manitoba Child Care Association (Oct 2014 Winnipeg Free Press Article)

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

Under Greg Selinger childcare access has worsened not improved.

Today, there are more than 12 000 children waiting for a daycare space in Manitoba. That number has grown steadily, up more than 4,500 since the last election. Today, only 23% of Winnipeg children have access to a daycare space. Manitoba parents consistently report the lowest degree of child care accessibility in Canada.

Daycare Space Waitlist in Manitoba



Child & Family Services – Improved Protection for Manitoba Children

A Progressive Conservative government believes the needs of vulnerable children must be put first. We will establish a made-in-Manitoba model that reduces barriers to promote collaborative service provision to improve the safety, security, education and health of our most vulnerable children.

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Introduce *The Protecting Children Act* to make it easier for government departments, child and family service authorities, community service providers and law enforcement agencies to share information and collaborate when dealing with victimized and at-risk children.

"There is no coordination among various government departments that fund many of these (child welfare) programs, so there is no way to ensure against gaps in service"
– Justice Ted Hughes, presiding over the inquiry into the death of Phoenix Sinclair

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

Under Greg Selinger, education has gotten worse, not better.

In 1999, Manitoba students were in the top half of Canada when their scores on literacy, math and science were compared to students in other provinces. Today, after 17 years of NDP government and despite increased spending, our results have fallen to the worst in Canada.

The results of the Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP) by the National Council of Ministers of Education revealed Manitoba students had the lowest results on the national scale in literacy, math and science.

Our teachers and our students are among the best and brightest, but our education system under the NDP government is failing.



Manitoba's Schools Ranked Last in Canada	
SUBJECT	RANK
Reading	10th
Math	10th
Science	10th

3. Better Education

Education is about inclusion and opportunity.

It is the path forward for all young Manitobans to personal success and growth. Investing in education is an investment in our future.

We must provide a stronger way up for Manitoba's children. We can do so by working in partnership with teachers, parents, and schools.

Teachers are where education begins. Supporting teachers in their classroom efforts has to be the top priority to get better education results for our children.

To improve education results we need to focus on reading at the critical early ages, empower teachers to grade and guide students, and empower parents to engage with schools by ensuring they know more about what is occurring in those schools.

We will partner with post-secondary institutions to develop a comprehensive approach to scholarships and bursaries that reduces barriers. It is important to ensure any deserving Manitoban seeking a quality education has that opportunity.

It's time for a better plan for better education.

Our Commitments:

✓ **Read to Succeed**

✓ **Long-term literacy plan**

✓ **Enhance scholarships and bursaries**

✓ **Empower teachers and parents**

Read to Succeed

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Develop a Read to Succeed program to ensure children graduating Grade 3 are able to read at or above national levels.
- ✓ Focus the ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum with identified and specific learning literacy objectives.
- ✓ Direct more purposeful reading and writing in every subject.
- ✓ Assign collaborative reading assessment teams to assist students whose reading proficiency is low or not improving to determine actionable improvement strategies.
- ✓ Establish province-wide reading labs with trained educators and effective resources.
- ✓ Enhance mentorship programs linking middle years students with early years students to help improve their literacy skills.

Long-term Literacy

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Develop and invest in a long-term literacy plan in consultation with front-line education stakeholders.
- ✓ Establish a clear and reputable benchmarking system for student literacy with key milestone indicators to track progress through their educational career so they can read to succeed.

Improved Scholarships and Bursaries

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Raise total funding available to over \$20 million by increasing the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative fund to \$6.75 million, with a one-third matching component from government to allow for more private donors.
- ✓ Work with post-secondary advisory councils and industry to promote scholarship and bursary programs with strong labour market outcomes and employability potential.

Empower Teachers and Parents

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Provide teachers full professional discretion on the crafting of plain language report card comments on student performance including issues of student behaviour.
- ✓ Ensure teachers are empowered with full discretion to issue appropriate marking for student work and provide greater transparency and accountability.
- ✓ Build a more supportive and inclusive education system province-wide by reducing red tape in special needs education funding applications.
- ✓ Establish a new category under the Celebration of Excellence in Teaching Awards to recognize teachers who go above and beyond to benefit their students.

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

Promise after promise – from the PST to more doctors –has been broken. Even their government is broken with an unprecedented rebellion to oust Greg Selinger as premier. How can Manitobans trust a party that does not even trust its leader?

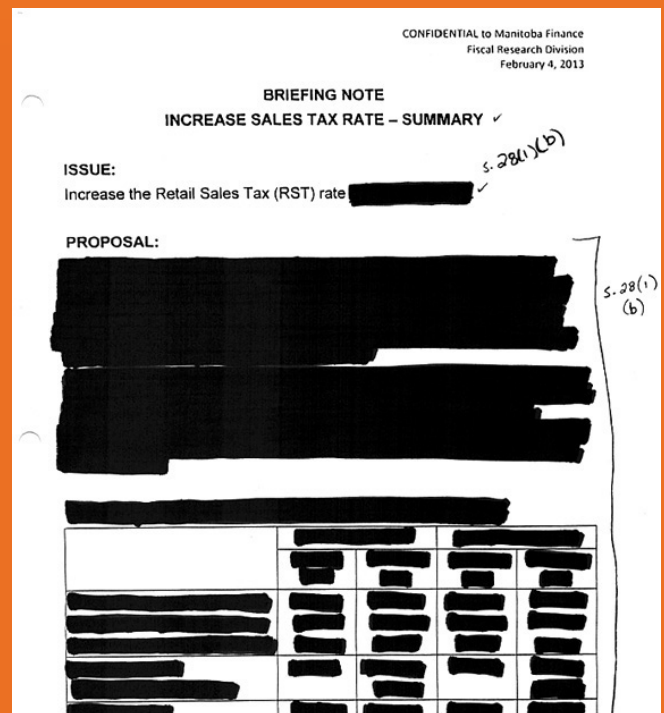
After breaking their promise to not raise the PST, the Selinger NDP then took away the right of Manitobans to vote on the measure. A referendum law on tax increases was revoked to ensure Manitobans would not have a say to raising the PST from 7 to 8%. Two broken promises in one step, all to raise taxes.

Despite claims they operate an open government, the Selinger NDP continues to hide sole-source contracts given to their Party friends. Open, competitive bidding gets the best price for Manitoban taxpayers. That's called 'smart shopping'. But the NDP constantly ignore this common sense practice. This wastes money and drives up taxes.

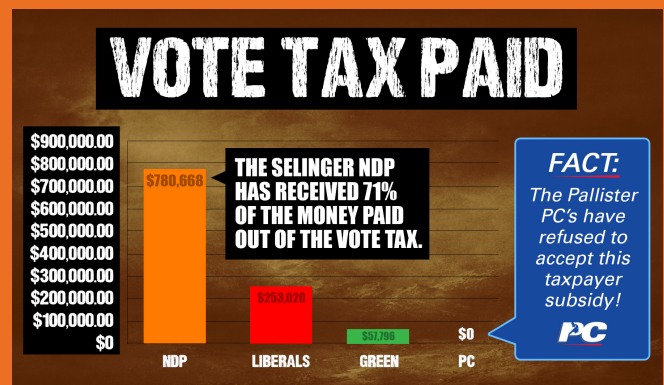
"We were told that the minister subsequently directed MIT to prepare a Treasury Board submission that recommend purchasing \$5 million of Tiger Dams for IRTC though an untendered contract." Manitoba Ombudsman Report, January 2016

The Selinger NDP runs a secretive government, regularly hiding information from Manitobans on their sole-sourced contracts and over spending. The Tiger Dams is only one example.

“Flat out, what Mr. Ashton did was conduct unbecoming of a minister of the Crown. He is unworthy of public trust. His actions were never reviewed under a code of conduct for MLAs and ministers. But the smell of betrayal — of his duties to his office, his departmental staff and the taxpayer — is sickening.” Winnipeg Free Press Editorial January 8, 2016



Tax dollars should go to front line services for families, not political payouts to parties. But the NDP brought in legislation to give political parties ongoing taxpayer subsidies. From 2012 to 2015 the NDP and Liberals took over a million dollars of this vote tax subsidy, of which 71% has gone to the Selinger NDP. This needs to end.



4. *Better Value*

Trust and integrity is at the heart of what Manitobans expect from their government. They give their trust and they expect clean, open government in return.

There is an urgent need to restore trust and integrity to Manitoba's government. This begins with the 'tone at the top'. Setting clear expectations about ethics and accountability rules by government and MLAs is the first step. Ensuring taxpayers' money is spent prudently and properly is another. Being open and accountable with more access to information and regular reporting to Manitobans on what their government is doing is important every day.

The openness of government must reflect the fact that elected officials are simply the caretakers of that which belongs to Manitobans. The accessibility of government must be held to the standard that without the ability to access government, nothing is truly open. The ethical standard that we establish must be one that is leading and not lagging the nation.

Information that belongs to Manitobans should not benefit government in a partisan way or to protect it from scrutiny and accountability. This requires both a legislative change and a cultural shift toward open government.

Tax dollars should go to front line services for families, not political payouts to parties. But the NDP brought in legislation to give political parties ongoing taxpayer subsidies. From 2012 to 2015 the NDP and Liberals took over \$1M of this vote tax subsidy, of which 70% has gone to the Selinger NDP. This needs to end.

It's time for a better plan for better value.

Our Commitments:

- ✓ **Open government initiative**
- ✓ **New conflict of interest powers**
- ✓ **Eliminate partisan advertising**
- ✓ **Fairer elections**
- ✓ **Open information**
- ✓ **Restore right to vote on major tax increases**
- ✓ **Cancel the NDP 'vote tax'**
- ✓ **Smart shopping for government purchasing**
- ✓ **Ensure labour fairness**
- ✓ **Value for money**

Open Government

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Bring in Manitoba's first Open Government bill which will establish new, higher standards for transparency, accountability and MLA ethics, with open contracting procedures, and give real authority to independent Legislative officers to investigate and report.
- ✓ Reduce the size of Cabinet by one-third, saving millions of dollars each and every year, leading with the right tone at the top.

New Conflict of Interest Powers

A new Progressive Conservative Government will:

- ✓ Provide the Conflict of Interest Commissioner with the power to investigate alleged MLA breaches of conflict legislation and recommend appropriate dispositions to the Legislative Assembly. The Commissioner will have the powers and privileges of a commissioner under The Manitoba Evidence Act and will be able to take complaints directly from the public.
- ✓ Allow the Auditor General to hire auditors independently, as requested by the Auditor General.

Eliminate Partisan Advertising

A new Progressive Conservative Government will:

- ✓ Empower the Auditor General to review all government advertising to ensure that it is non-partisan and information-based only.
- ✓ Allow advertising by crown corporations operating in a monopolistic environment only to focus on a specific business or social objectives and not engage in simple branding.
- ✓ Ensure that MLA mail outs and publications adhere to non-partisan publication rules.

Fairer Elections

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Ensure that all by-elections are called within six months of a vacancy unless they occur within one-year from a general election.
- ✓ Establish a fixed election period as recommended by Elections Manitoba so that the start date of the election is known while adhering to the current fixed Election Day act requirement.
- ✓ Permit the Commissioner of Elections to appear at the annual Elections Manitoba Legislative Committee to respond to questions regarding ethical conduct during elections.
- ✓ In consultation with the Commissioner of Elections, amend provincial election legislation to provide sanctions for violation of election rules.

Open Information

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Create an Open Data portal to provide government collected data, that is non personal or confidential, in an accessible, machine readable and free basis.
- ✓ In consultation with the Manitoba Ombudsman, strengthen access to information including the creation of a proactive disclosure system for a variety of types of information and documents that are currently only available through Freedom of Information application processes.

- ✓ Ensure taxpayer paid public opinion research is free from political manipulation and serves the interests of those who paid for it by requiring it be disclosed publicly within six months of being received by government.

- ✓ Transfer authority for the use of the Manitoba Legislature and grounds from Manitoba Infrastructure and Trade to the non-partisan Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Restoring Manitobans' Right to Vote

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Bring in legislation in the first legislative session restoring Manitobans' right to vote on any proposed major tax increases.
- ✓ Mandate a 20 per cent reduction in ministerial salary for the premier and cabinet ministers if they try to take away Manitobans' right to vote in order to impose a tax hike.

Cancelling the NDP Vote Tax

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Cancel the NDP vote tax subsidy for political parties saving taxpayers \$2.4 million over the next four years.

Smart Shopping

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Reduce the use of untendered contracts and ensure they are used only in exceptional circumstances.
- ✓ Increase the powers of the Auditor General to conduct random audits of departmental and crown corporations' use of untendered contracts to ensure stronger transparency and accountability.
- ✓ Legislate financial reporting requirements and immediate mandatory disclosure of all untendered contracts, such as Tiger Dams.

Labour Fairness

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Level the playing field and reduce the Selinger NDP red tape preventing unionized or non-unionized Manitoba companies from participating in government tenders.
- ✓ Restore fairness by eliminating the Selinger NDP policy of forced unionization. A PC Government will allow all Manitobans, whether union members or not, to work on public contracts.
- ✓ Guarantee the right to a secret ballot vote in workplaces, to foster a more open labour environment.

Value for Money Review

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Conduct a comprehensive value for money review to gain an independent assessment of government spending and ensure better value for taxpayer dollars. Our review will include the establishment of a robust evaluation of all government programming and a diligent tracking process that measures benefits and impacts. The ultimate goal will be smarter spending, smarter investments and better allocation to support key government priorities.

THE SELINGER NDP RECORD

The Selinger NDP has a record of broken trust from a broken government. They have long since given up on acting as a team. Just over a year ago, five senior Cabinet Ministers resigned saying they could no longer trust Greg Selinger.

Time and time again, this government makes decisions affecting people, communities, and business without consultation. They amalgamated local communities, raised the PST, and closed ERs all without listening to Manitobans.

Manitobans want a government that works alongside them not above them.

It's time for a Better Plan for a Better Manitoba.



5. Better Together

Teamwork is essential to partnership. And partnership is essential to prosperity. Working together – as teams – puts Manitoba on the path to prosperity and better government for people.

Manitoba needs a government that believes in working with the private sector, not against it. That believes enterprise and innovation can be fuelled by government as a partner, assisting where it can, staying out of the way when it must. We will be that partner.

Manitoba's municipalities and communities need a government that will partner with them on infrastructure investment and planning, on tourism promotion, on trade and investment opportunities. We will be that partner. We look forward to this dialogue with all of our municipalities – Winnipeg and Brandon and local governments all across Manitoba.

Finally, Manitoba needs a government that truly believes front line public servants and the services they provide make a positive difference in people's lives. Asking them to do more and more with less and less while fattening government at the top makes no sense.

Those on the front lines need support from the top, not interference by the top. Front line workers' ideas can lead to more effective and efficient service delivery, saving taxpayers' money and helping people more efficiently. They need a true partner. We will be that partner.

To build our province and fulfill our optimism we must work in partnership with one another. When we work together as a team, there is nothing we cannot achieve.

It's time for a better plan for working together.

Our Commitment:

- ✓ **Front line services and workers pledge**
- ✓ **Create business teams to promote Manitoba**
- ✓ **Fair Say to municipalities**
- ✓ **Work respectfully and collaboratively with Indigenous People**
- ✓ **Social innovation bonds**
- ✓ **Curling Centre of Excellence**

Front Line Services

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Protect front line services and the jobs of the workers who deliver those services.

Working with Business

A new Progressive Conservative government will create a Premier's Enterprise Team to:

- ✓ Assist the Premier and government by: Making Manitoba a top national and international destination for investment, trade, innovation, and tourism.
- ✓ Promote Manitoba on the national and international stage by participating in trade and investment missions with targeted business communities in key markets.
- ✓ Ensure government programs are targeted, responsive and effective in the support they provide to job-creating businesses and sectors.

A BETTER PLAN FOR MUNICIPALITIES

"It's the strongest, clearest position we've seen to date from any of the parties..."

Brian Bowman
MAYOR OF WINNIPEG

Fair Say to Municipalities

A new Progressive Conservative government will give municipalities a 'Fair Say' by:

- ✓ Developing a new partnership process with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) and the City of Winnipeg to establish a basket-funding model and lessen the frustrating application-based funding approach. We look forward to this dialogue with all of our municipalities-Brandon and local governments all across Manitoba.
- ✓ Working with the AMM and the City of Winnipeg to prioritize capital projects based on a return on investment model in advance of major capital decisions - not for short-term political motivation, as has been the practice under the Selinger NDP.
- ✓ Reducing red tape and allowing more efficient access to programs through a single window system.
- ✓ Ensuring all infrastructure dollars budgeted are fully allocated and spent to benefit all municipalities. The PC party has committed to invest no less than \$1 billion annually in strategic infrastructure.
- ✓ Working with municipalities through our commitment to a new and improved doctor retention and recruitment program.

Working with Indigenous People and Communities

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Work positively and respectfully with Indigenous people and communities
- ✓ Establish a duty to consult framework for respectful and productive consultations with Indigenous communities.
- ✓ Build respectful and effective partnerships involving all levels of government to responsibly and sustainably develop our natural resources.
- ✓ Supporting Urban Aboriginal Economic Development Zones in partnership with First Nations to create jobs and economic opportunities together.

Social Innovation

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Foster new business, social and community partnerships aimed at giving Manitobans work and social supports through Social Innovation Bonds. Sadly, we lead in social problems; our government will lead in finding solutions.
- ✓ Foster innovative community and private sector partnerships that promote practical home ownership opportunities for First Nations families such as the partnership between The Manitoba Real Estate Association and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

Curling Centre of Excellence

A new Progressive Conservative government will:

- ✓ Establish an international curling centre of excellence to build on Manitoba's reputation as the curling capital of the world, enhance our standing as a world leader in the roaring game, and promote the development of high-performance curlers, clubs, coaches and the sport itself.



Conclusion

Manitobans want change.

Our #BetterMB plan will deliver that change through:

- ✓ **Lower taxes**
- ✓ **Better services**
- ✓ **Stronger economy**

We will make Manitoba the most improved province with concrete results in jobs, health care, education, value in government, and working together.

Our plan is based on the values of Manitobans. We will be a partnership government, working alongside you to move us all forward.

Our approach will be responsible and secure. We will protect frontline health and education services for people and the workers who provide them. We will invest in priority areas to grow our economy and create jobs. We will help build a clean, green Manitoba for our children. We will provide open government that is based on trust and accountable to you.

Please join us in building a stronger, better Manitoba.

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#BetterMB