

# Moving into the 80's



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## NEW DEMOCRATS

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New Democrats believe that in a rich province like ours people have a right to some security.

That right no longer exists in Ontario. People with a lifetime of experience see their jobs disappear. Bills are harder to pay. Needed public services decline. Young men and women find it hard to get steady work.

There's always work to be done. The problem is that so much of Ontario's work is being done elsewhere. We import too much that we could make here. No province can afford that for long.

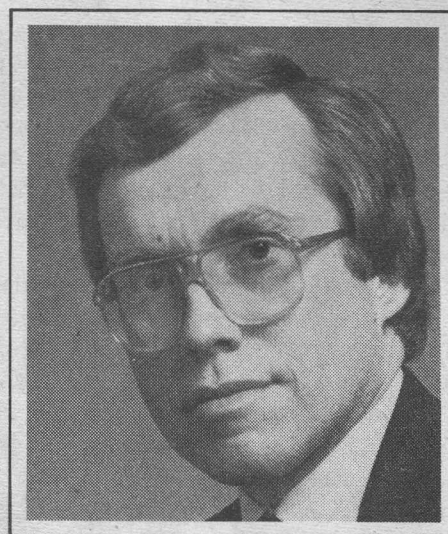
To pay our own way we need a full-employment economy, one where people get healthy pay cheques, not welfare cheques, and one which can afford decent social services for those who need them.

New Democratic policies will make it possible for everyone to make a contribution to the community and receive a fair share of the benefits.

This booklet outlines New Democratic programs for getting Ontario moving again. They will produce opportunities for people in all parts of the province.  
Let's go ahead!

*Mike Cassidy*

Michael Cassidy, Leader  
Ontario New Democrats



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# Industry

Canadian industry is badly under-developed. We depend more on manufactured imports than any other major nation. In 1979 alone we bought \$17 billion more in manufactured goods than we sold. Ontario, as the industrial centre of the country, suffers most from this dependence.

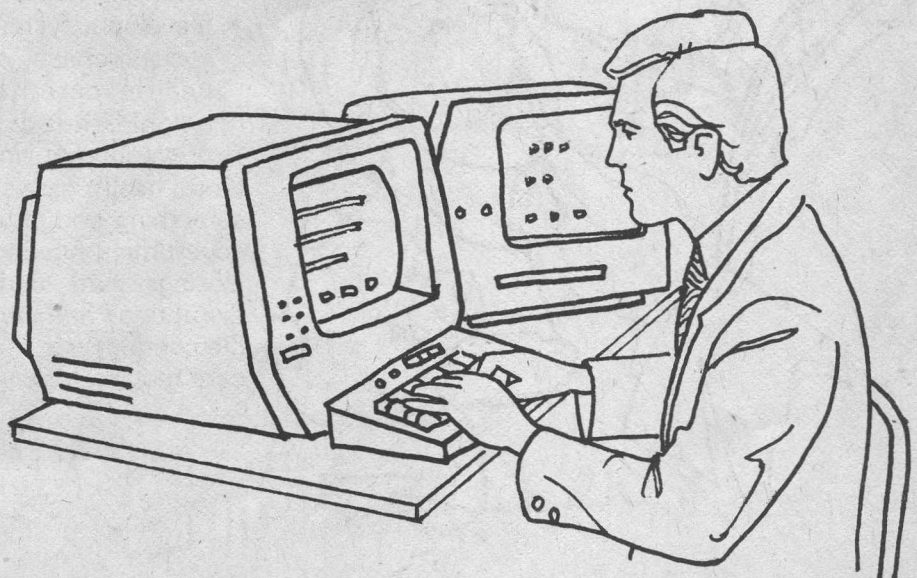
We shouldn't be in this situation. But too many of our industries are branch-plants of multinational corporations and don't compete hard enough. Others are just assembly or warehouse operations that import goods made in other countries for distribution here.

To create steady jobs we have to rebuild industry in Ontario on our own terms. A New Democratic government will:

- Aim to replace imports with domestically-made goods in vital areas like food, machinery, electronics and other high-technology products
- Build Canadian-owned industry in Ontario by working along with and investing in promising Canadian corporations
- Create Crown manufacturing corporations to take advantage of the many opportunities neglected by the private sector

- Make sensible use of our natural resources by expanding the forest industry into furniture and advanced wood products and by making the machinery now imported by the mining industry
- Require big companies to do their share of research and development in Ontario and expect them to buy their parts from Canadian suppliers
- Make sure that the skills needed by industry are available by means of a levy on major corporations for apprenticeship and training programs
- Use modern economic planning to ensure that as old industries decline new ones are growing up to take their place — and that workers displaced by plant closures are being retrained for the new positions

It was the New Democratic Party that led the struggle for adequate social programs in Canada. Now only New Democrats are describing how to create a secure economy which builds on Ontario's strengths and needs.

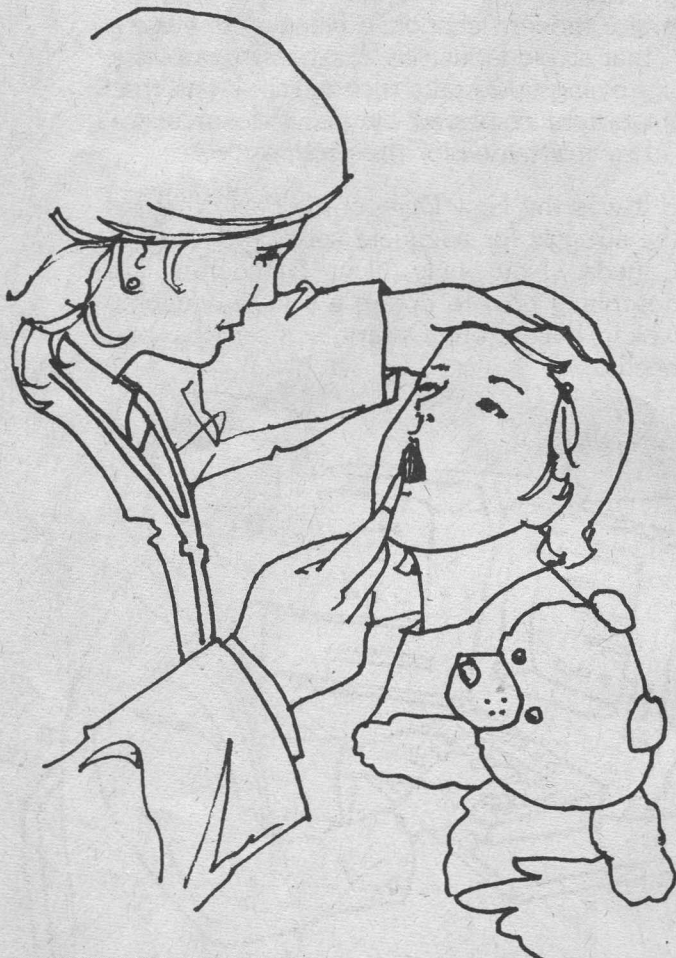


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# Health

New Democrats pioneered medicare in Canada. We believe a medical system should give priority to promoting good health rather than just treating illness. It should be available to everyone and based in the community.

But health care in Ontario fails these tests badly. It focuses on sickness rather than health. It is too expensive, too bureaucratic, too subject to periodic crisis.



A New Democratic government will:

- Stop doctor's billing patients more than the OHIP rate by negotiating a fair fee
- End OHIP premiums and extra charges for chronic care hospital beds
- Provide needed home care programs and extended care nursing beds throughout Ontario
- Improve health education programs in the schools and the community
- Strengthen environmental protection and occupational health and safety standards
- Set up a dental health program for children and increase the use of paramedics and nurse practitioners in medicine and dentistry
- Increase health services in rural and northern communities, including air-ambulance services to major health centres
- Hold down costs through province-wide purchasing of medical goods and developing companies to produce drugs and medical equipment in Ontario
- Extend OHIP to cover medicines, wheelchairs, eyeglasses, artificial limbs and medically necessary transportation
- Develop a system of integrated health and social service centres to provide basic health care, respond effectively to neighborhood needs and encourage prevention of illness

Good health care should be a basic right, not something bought and sold. It means steady government funding, not unexpected hospital closings and cutbacks that only create disruption and insecurity. Ontario's New Democrats are committed to getting health care moving forward again.

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# Farms and Food

Ontario has some of the finest agricultural land in the world. But it's disappearing fast. So are the farmers and a whole way of life along with thousands of jobs in food-processing industries.

As foodland is taken out of production we become too dependent on imported food and foreign suppliers. Last year Ontario spent \$1.5 billion to import food, much of which could have been grown in Ontario and processed by Ontario workers. Thousands of jobs have been lost and 548 processing plants have been closed in the past ten years.

A typical example of what's happening: in 1965, 80% of the canned peaches bought in Ontario were processed here. By 1976 the figure was down to 30%. Twenty years ago there were 38 plants processing peaches in Ontario. Now there is one.

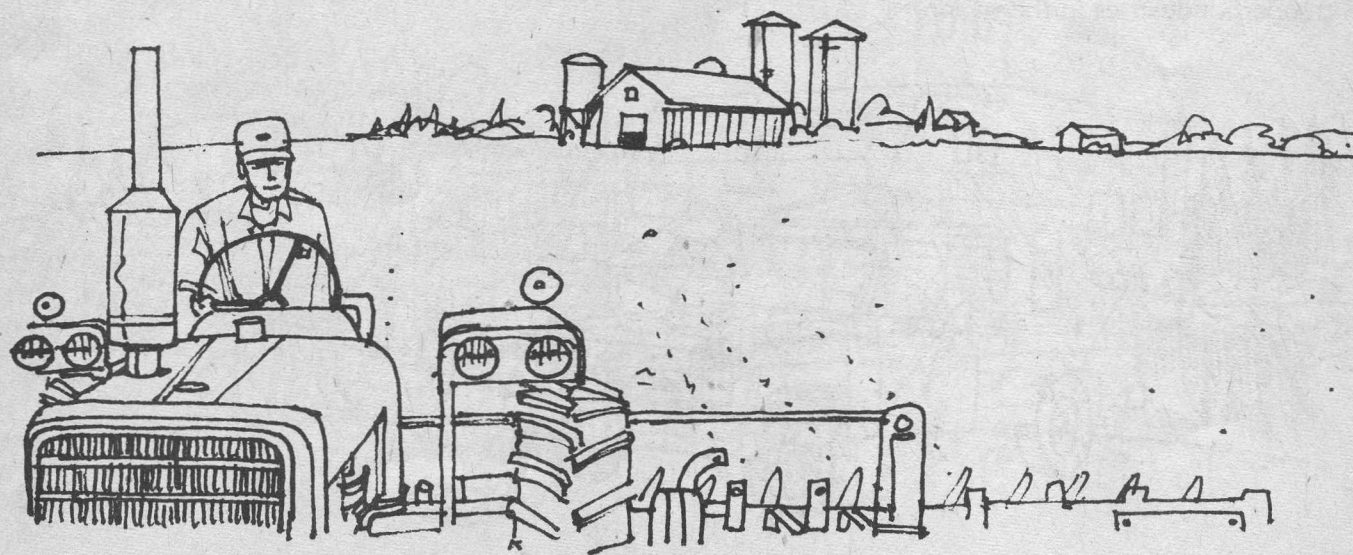
New Democrats are committed to preserving agricultural land and promoting food self-sufficiency. A New Democratic government will:

- Require that all good agricultural land be reserved for food production, with a fair

mechanism to consider reasonable exceptions

- Establish a land-bank system which will allow the government to buy farmland at a fair price and resell or lease it to new farmers or to farmers who want to expand
- Provide low-cost loans for purchases of land, farm equipment, and supplies
- Encourage co-operatives which will give farmers and consumers more control over processing, distribution, and retailing of food
- Create a Northern Agricultural Research Institute to promote greater agricultural self-sufficiency in the North
- Create markets for Ontario-grown goods by rebuilding the food-processing industry and passing legislation requiring supermarkets to stock available Ontario produce

Ontario is losing the capacity to feed itself. The need for aggressive action is critical. New Democrats believe that our prosperity, jobs, and way of life depend on our ability to grow our own food.



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# The North

Almost a million people live in Northern Ontario. They run the mining and forest industries which are vital to the province's economy.

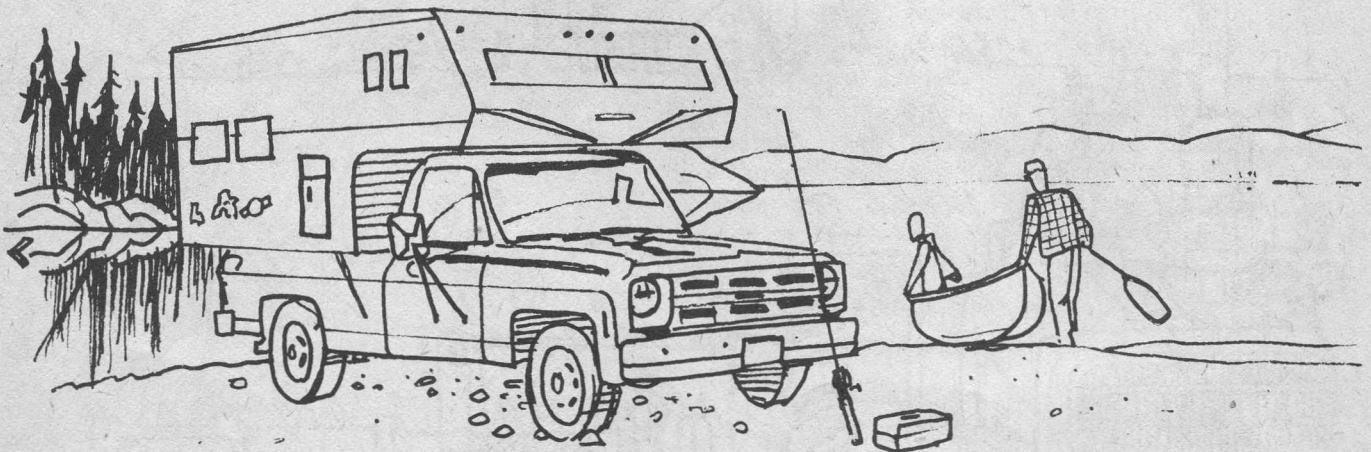
But too many Northerners live in one-industry towns that offer little job security. The region offers few employment opportunities for women. Young people often have to move away to find work. On top of that, Northerners suffer high costs for basic needs, inadequate educational and medical services, and poor communications.

The New Democratic Party has created a new strategy for northern development which uses the region's strengths to improve its standard of living and build a balanced economy. The New Democratic northern strategy will:

- Bring our natural resources into the public sector to guarantee long-term planning and start using raw materials in the North rather than shipping them — and jobs — away
- Use resource revenues to create a Northern Ontario Tomorrow Fund for building new, modern industries in the region

- Set up Crown corporations to manufacture the resource machinery and equipment which is now mainly imported
- Create a Northern Agricultural Research Institute
- Encourage local hydro-electric generation
- Attract medical professionals to the North by bringing hospital services up to southern standards and increasing support for community clinics
- Have OHIP cover air-ambulance and other medically necessary transportation
- Ensure that government services are available in French for the North's large Francophone community
- Enforce strict environmental standards to save our lakes and rivers from the pollution that threatens the tourist business and the whole northern way of life.

No one benefits in the long run when one part of the province gets a bad deal. New Democrats know that when the North becomes more self-reliant it will pay off for the whole province.



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# Natural Resources

Ontario is rich in resources. Our mining and forestry products are worth billions of dollars a year. This wealth should give us a solid base on which to build a secure economy.

But less than 2% of the value of our resources is returned to the Ontario treasury. Saskatchewan, by contrast, collects 22% and has booming resource industries.

Most of the minerals produced here are exported in crude or semi-fabricated form to create jobs in other countries. We don't even make most of the machinery used to extract these minerals.

Our forests have been wastefully used too. So little effort has been put into replanting that timber shortages are almost certain in the mid-1980's. And profit-hungry pulp-and-paper companies have let their plants run down so far that the government set aside millions of dollars of public money to get the industry back on its feet again.

A New Democratic government will:

- End the wasteful and unproductive use of our mineral and forest resources by bringing them into the public sector and planning their use wisely
- Direct the revenues from our resources towards longterm economic and industrial development, especially in the North
- Create Canadian markets for our raw materials by developing resource-based high-technology industries, including mining and forestry equipment
- Develop a Crown Corporation to harvest and regenerate our forests and ensure the permanent vitality of our forest products industries
- Create a Crown Minerals Corporation for exploring and developing Ontario's mineral wealth
- Insist that existing resource companies practice conservation, pollution control and proper employment levels and standards.



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# Environment

New Democrats have led the way in attacking environmental problems. As a result, Ontario has some of the best environmental laws in the world. Unfortunately, the Conservatives refuse to enforce them.

We're still burying our garbage, rather than using it as a source of raw materials and energy. And the Conservatives have exempted project after project from the Environmental Assessment Act since it was passed in 1975.

Acid rain is having disastrous effects on our lakes and tourist industry. Other industrial wastes and toxic chemicals remain serious problems. Even so, the Conservatives still agree with the claim of corporate polluters that it's too expensive to clean up, that proper pollution control threatens jobs.

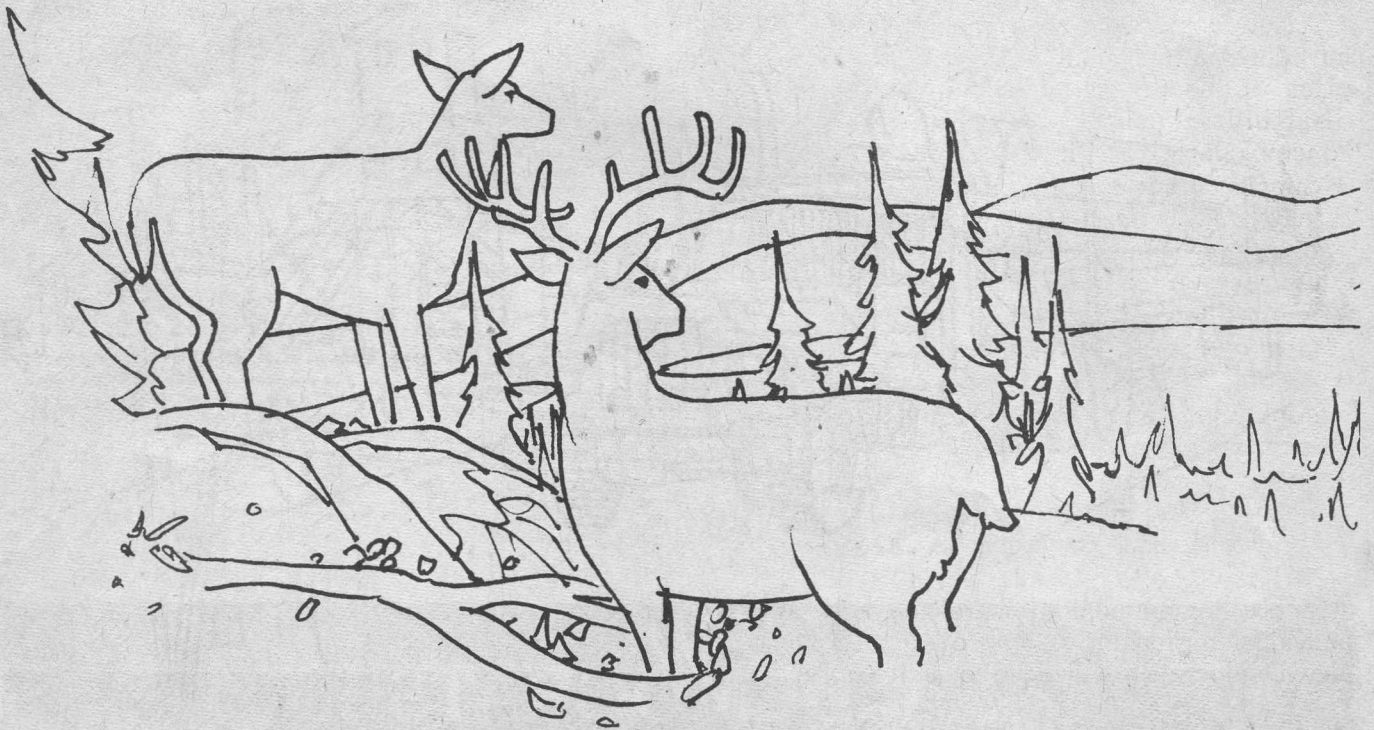
New Democrats know that cleaning up should create jobs, especially in the high-technology fields of pollution abatement and resource recovery. But the equipment has to be made here in Canada. A New Democratic government will:

- Promote recycling as a way of life in Ontario

by developing reclamation as an alternative to wasteful and ugly dumps

- Attack the acid rain problem by imposing pollution controls on domestic sources and fighting U.S. plans to increase coal burning at the expense of Ontario's air and water
- Set **and enforce** firm standards for the control, treatment, and disposal of industrial waste, based on the "polluter pays" principle
- Insist on an environmental assessment for all projects which might harm our natural surroundings
- Begin strict provincial regulation of toxic substances and press the federal government to do the same
- Aggressively promote development of the pollution control industry through government purchasing policy, regulation, and public investment

The New Democratic Party is committed to preserving and improving the quality of our Ontario environment. That means developing new technologies for keeping Ontario clean and safe — and for keeping people working.



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# Comprehensive Social Insurance

When a person is disabled by illness or injury the whole family suffers. In Ontario only a patchwork of programs even begins to deal with this problem.

The Workman's Compensation Board is a good example of how far we have to go.

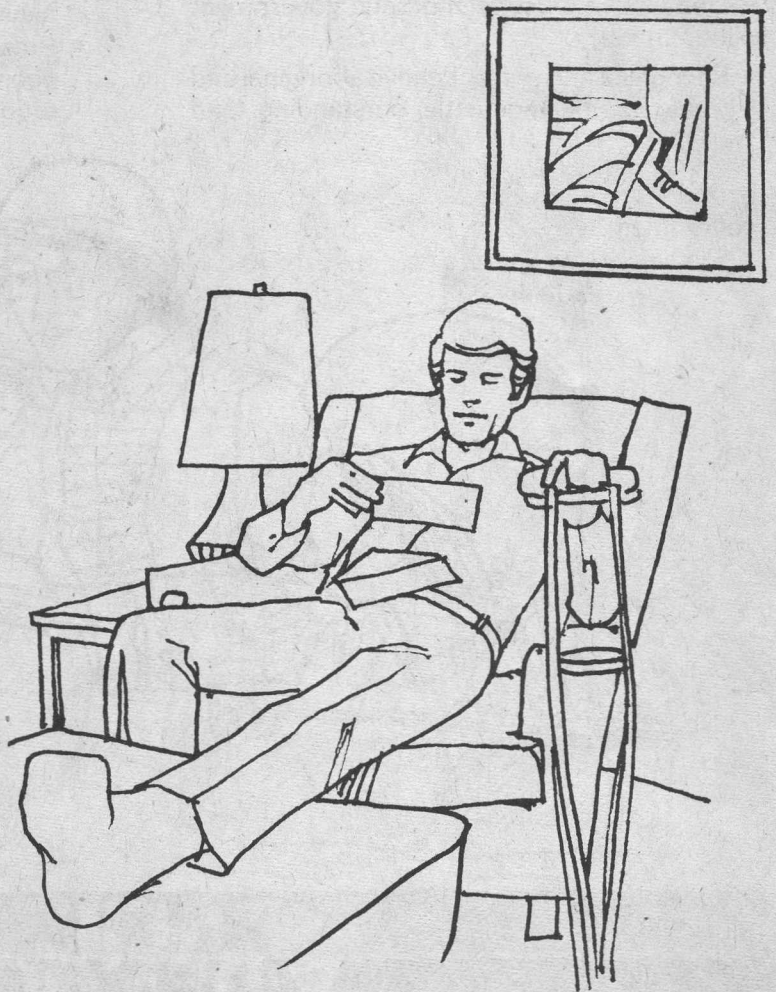
- It deals only with work-related accidents and illness, though the effects of accidents at home or on the street are just as serious
- The level of benefits is inadequate and doesn't keep pace with inflation
- There are long delays in processing claims, and many occupational diseases are not recognized to be work-related
- Injured workers cannot sue employers for adequate compensation even if their claim results from unsafe working conditions

The only real solution to these problems is a comprehensive social insurance program which provides compensation for illness and injury however caused.

A New Democratic government will begin to introduce a universal insurance policy in place of the present jumble of the WCB, disability pensions, pensions for the "unemployable," etc. It will:

- Supply compensation whenever illness or injury means permanent physical disability or loss of income, with benefits adjusted for increases in the cost of living
- Require large companies to offer suitable jobs to persons disabled at work
- Provide death benefits to ensure a continuing and adequate income for surviving dependents
- Encourage action to prevent accidents and sickness by promoting safer working conditions and programs of preventive medicine

A public commitment to share the costs of individual misfortune is long overdue. Only New Democrats are pledged to such a policy.



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# Native People

The kind of society we are is shown by our treatment of minorities and by our willingness to keep agreements. In the case of our relations with native people there's a lot of room for improvement.

Long ago, nations of native people made treaties with the government. They understood that those treaties would provide them and their descendants with the means to live in dignity and protect their cultures. It's time that started to happen.

The cycle of dependence that has made native people second-class citizens in their own land has to be broken. That means getting serious about the economic and social problems that burden Ontario's first inhabitants. A New Democratic government will:

- Recognize and respect native aboriginal and treaty rights and settle outstanding land

claims quickly and fairly

- Ensure that native people receive full compensation for any future extraction of forest and mineral resources from reserve lands
- Support efforts by native communities to establish economic development programs for creating good, stable jobs. A strong native-run wild rice industry in North-western Ontario, for example, would mean more long-term security for the area's native people
- Recognize native people's hunting and fishing rights
- Enable native communities to control their own schools and education programs, health and social services
- Press for meaningful involvement by native people in revising the Canadian Constitution



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# Energy

Ontario is a have-not province when it comes to energy. No other part of Canada has as much to lose from high prices or from depending on the multi-national oil companies.

Fortunately, for the moment we produce more electricity than we need. We have time to pause and rethink our energy future. The New Democratic Party is pledged to use the billions of dollars made available by halting present nuclear expansion to make Ontario self-sufficient in energy.

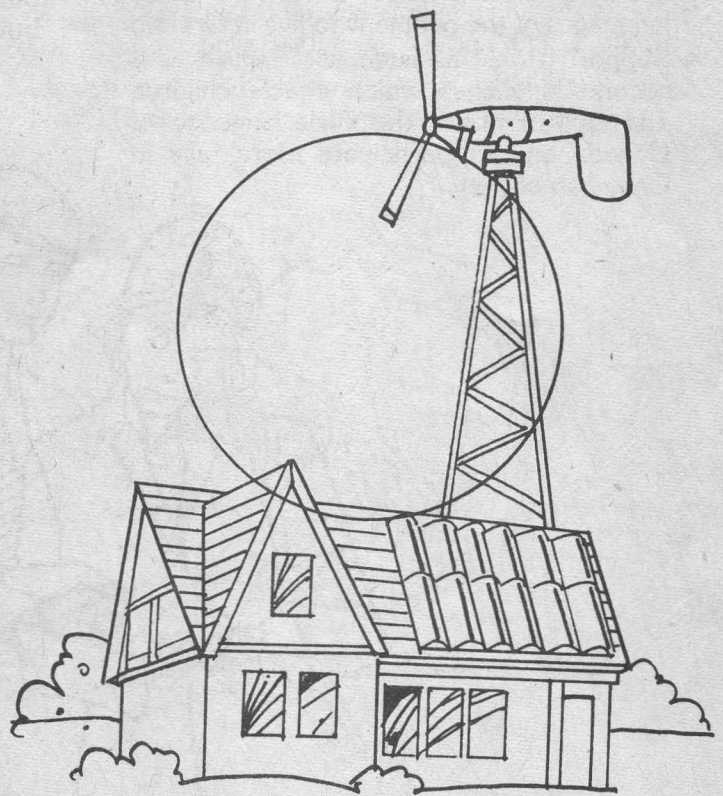
Saving energy is the fastest and cheapest way to increase our self-reliance. A New Democratic government will make conservation its highest priority. We will:

- Increase funds for efficient public transit systems and begin devising uses for waste heat of all kinds
- Develop strict programs for reducing energy use in commercial buildings, apartment blocks and industry
- Help homeowners make insulation and heating improvements and insist on sound energy design for all new buildings

Developing alternative sources of energy will strengthen Ontario industry while making us less dependent on others. A New Democratic government will:

- Finance the production of energy from renewable sources like garbage, forest industry waste, solar power and small hydro-electric power stations
- Expand public research and development and assist manufacturers in the renewable energy field
- Use public investment to build alternative energy industries

As Ontario becomes able to supply more of its own energy, we will improve our bargaining power with the oil companies and energy-rich provinces. We will use this power to oppose price increases when there is no assurance that the profits will be used for increasing our energy security.



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# Multiculturalism

Ontario's multiculturalism is a vital part of our provincial identity. Our diversity is a great asset which must be preserved and used to everyone's advantage.

A secure multicultural society requires two things. Everyone should be able to learn and appreciate his cultural heritage. And persons of every cultural and linguistic background should be able to take a full part in every aspect of the life of Ontario.

In order to advance these aims, a New Democratic government will:

- Make sure that what is taught in school fully and fairly reflects the part played by all ethnic groups in the history and culture of Ontario and Canada
- Include Heritage Language classes as an option in the regular school program so that children have a chance to learn the many languages of the people who live in Ontario
- Support programs such as "English as a second language" which enable children and adults to master the official languages of Canada and to participate more fully in Canadian society
- Strengthen the Ontario Human Rights Code and provide the resources to enforce it in a serious effort to combat racism, ethnic prejudice, and all forms of social inequality
- Where numbers permit, support day-care centres, nursery schools, and senior citizens' homes which serve the needs of specific ethnic groups
- Ensure that government agencies are staffed by people fluent in the major languages of the communities they serve, so that everyone receives full service
- Protect immigrants from exploitation in the workplace and ensure that bodies like the Workman's Compensation Board are sensitive to the needs of their ethnic clients

New Democrats will accord equal treatment to all Ontario residents in every government office and program. Working together we can build a better Ontario.



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# Taxes

Ontario families are overtaxed. We pay higher personal taxes than people in any other province except Newfoundland. But corporations pay much less than their share.

Half of the revenue that our corporate tax system could collect is given away to companies through tax loopholes — no strings attached.

As a result, most of the Ontario government's money comes from taxes that are not based — as they should be — on what people can afford. The Conservatives depend on the sales, medical and property taxes that hit people with low and middle incomes hardest.

A New Democratic government will:

- Close expensive loopholes that deprive the government of millions of dollars needed for essential industrial development and social programs
- Increase revenues from resources to levels that reflect the fact that our minerals and forests belong to the people of Ontario
- Eliminate medicare premiums — as most provinces did long ago — and progressively reduce sales taxes

Ontario home owners and tenants pay nearly \$2 billion a year in property taxes which have nothing to do with their income.

The New Democratic Party will:

- End the burden of "market value assessment," the new scheme that taxes people on the selling price of property even if they have no intention of selling
- Begin shifting the cost of education from municipal taxes to the provincial government
- Introduce a fair tax system which will reduce property taxes for families with incomes up to \$30,000 and eliminate them for persons who make less than \$10,000

We get the most from our tax dollars when the burden is shared in the fairest possible way. New Democrats want to make that happen.



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# Women's Rights

Women have never received an even break. That's why New Democrats are proposing the most wide-ranging Program for Equality ever adopted by a political party in Canada.

The New Democratic Program for Equality gives every citizen the chance to take a full part in the economic and social life of Ontario. It describes a full range of choices for women in both work and family life. A New Democratic government will:

- Make equal pay for work of equal value the law in Ontario. Women work for the same reasons men do, but for every dollar a man earns, a woman now makes only 58¢. That has to change
- Work with employers for realistic affirmative action programs, including apprenticeship training in the skilled trades, to get women into jobs they have been excluded from in the past. That's the only way to ensure equal access to jobs in an expanding industrial sector
- Establish a fully-funded system of child care

for all who need it. Although most women now work outside the home they still have the primary responsibility for raising their children. Supervised day care is a necessity for them

- Work with school boards to make sure that girls have access to non-traditional subjects and that occupational counselling for young women includes information about the full range of jobs in our society. We will also make sure that the materials used in our schools present a positive image of women

The New Democratic Program for Equality recognizes that women have special needs which must be taken into account in health and social services, in tax and pension reforms, in sports and recreation, in urban planning, in housing and in transportation policies. It states a total commitment to equality.

People have been talking about women's rights for a long time. Let's get moving on them.



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# Homes

Just having a place to live takes more than 30% of the average family's income. Young couples often can't find a house or apartment at the right price because builders prefer to put up luxury houses or condominiums which bring higher profits. High mortgage rates and property taxes tighten the squeeze on homeowners and tenants alike.

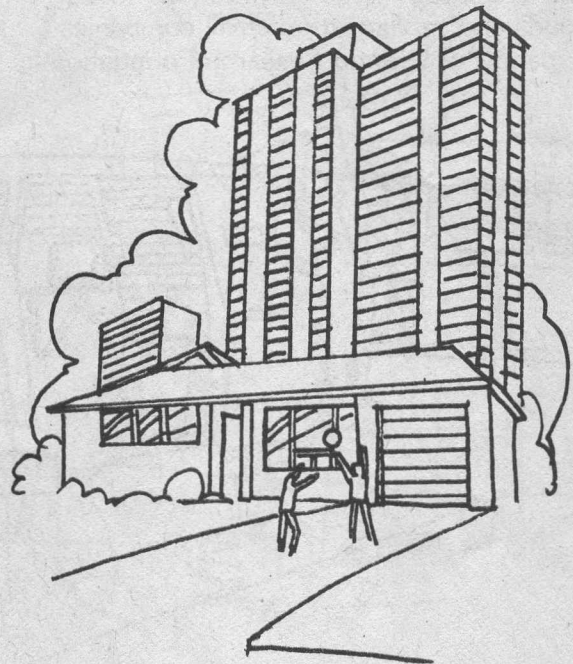
New Democrats believe that when it comes to basic needs like housing, people need firm protection. We will deal with the rising costs of living in one's own house by:

- Halting the introduction of "market value assessment", the system that makes people victims of rising property values
- Reducing the share of education and social services paid for by property taxes
- Establishing a Homeowners' Security Fund to help lower-income families pay a family's mortgage when rates get too high
- Renovating older housing and bringing it up to energy-conserving standards, then making it available at cost
- Establishing a Crown Corporation to build affordable housing and promoting housing co-operatives to keep prices down

Fair play for tenants began in 1975 when New Democrats forced a new minority government to bring in rent review. In 1981 there's clear need for improvement. A New Democratic government will:

- Extend rent review to buildings erected after 1975 and have the rent commission assess the condition of buildings when considering rent increases

- Have rent increases recorded in a public registry so that the rent doesn't go up each time a new tenant moves in
- Increase the supply of rental units by encouraging municipalities and groups to sponsor non-profit housing projects
- Ensure that tenants who live up to their leases are not disturbed or evicted
- Increase provincial funding for geared-to-income housing.



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# Small Business

Small businesses are an important Ontario resource. They provide 40% of all jobs in the province. Unlike many big corporations they are controlled by Canadians, respond to local needs and encourage a sense of community.

New Democrats think people have a right to work for themselves. We'll help men and women with good ideas get started — and keep going. A New Democratic government will:

- Make venture capital available to small businesses by expanding the Ontario Savings Bank into a full-fledged lending institution
- Reorganize the government's purchasing system so that small, Canadian-owned firms get a fair share of the business
- Launch a strong "Buy Canadian" program and encourage large corporations to buy goods and services from small companies
- Expand the Ontario Research Foundation

to provide research and development assistance to small companies

- Offer small businesses financial, technological, and marketing advice, along with labour-market forecasting services, job evaluation techniques and programs to train skilled workers
- Spare small businesses much of the regulation, paper work and red tape necessary for controlling multinational corporations
- Make sure these programs work by establishing a separate and effective government agency to act as the small-business advocate within the government.

In minority government, the New Democratic Party has achieved significant new protections for small retail establishments. A lot more has to be done to help all small businesses do their part in getting Ontario's economy moving again. New Democrats promise that help.



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# Franco-Ontarians

More than half a million French-speaking Canadians call Ontario their home. French is the majority language in much of eastern and northern Ontario. Yet in many ways, French is still considered a "foreign" language by the government.

The Conservatives have refused to provide legislative protection for French-language services in Ontario even though a bill to give that protection got unanimous support in the provincial legislature.

New Democrats believe that our French-speaking citizens have the right to maintain their distinct culture. Franco-Ontarians should be able to live in their own language where they form large communities. A New Democratic government will:

- Recognize French as an official language in the Legislature of Ontario and make it possible to communicate with all public agencies in either official language
- Make all government services available in French where there are concentrations of Franco-Ontarians
- Implement the recommendations of the Dubois Report, extending health, social and psychiatric services in French particularly in Northern Ontario
- Support proper municipal enumeration of Francophones in order to strengthen the mandate of local French Language Advisory Committees
- Guarantee Franco-Ontarians their right under the Education Act to French-language schools and ensure the possibility of completing a post-secondary education in French

Ontario cannot help to strengthen Confederation if it regards French as a second-class language. Ontario communities cannot thrive when they are divided by linguistic strife. The nation and the province can only benefit by making the linguistic rights of Franco-Ontarians secure.



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# Prices

There's nothing governments can do about inflation, right? Wrong! The government in Ontario could start by asking a few questions, like:

- When farmers need another 3¢ for a litre of milk, why should supermarkets be able to add an additional 4¢ markup of their own?
- Why should toilet tissue produced in



Ontario from Ontario trees cost more here than in the United States?

- Why should auto insurance agencies and telephone companies be allowed to raise their rates again and again with dubious justification?
- What good reason does Ontario have to keep charging OHIP premiums that hit low- and middle-income families hardest?

The answers to these questions aren't very hard. A New Democratic government will:

- Set up a Fair Prices Review Board to investigate price increases and roll back unjustified ones
- Appoint a Consumer Advocate to protest effectively when monopolies like Bell Canada ask for questionable new rates
- Join the four other provinces that offer low-cost public auto insurance
- Join most other provinces in cutting out OHIP premiums and bringing in other tax reform measures to aid the hard-pressed wage earner

The New Democratic Party also has plans to:

- Cut heating bills with energy-saving home conservation programs
- Give tenants improved rent review
- Encourage cost-saving co-op stores and services

But above all a New Democratic government will begin moving Ontario towards industrial self-sufficiency. We are aiming at a full-employment economy which gives the best possible defense against inflation — a steady job.

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# Co-ops

Co-ops make sense wherever people have a need — for day care, for health services, for consumer goods, for homes or for banking services. Co-ops are owned and controlled by their members who divide the profits among themselves fairly and democratically. Through them people work together for a common goal.

In Saskatchewan and Manitoba — where New Democratic governments set up departments to encourage co-ops — they are an attractive alternative to businesses controlled by corporations or the government.

In Ontario co-ops are a much neglected economic opportunity. While millions of dollars from the provincial treasury are handed out each year to private enterprise, the need to encourage co-ops has been ignored.

Some examples of what co-ops can do:

- Too many profitable branch plants in Ontario have been closed down by foreign head offices. By establishing a co-op, the people whose jobs are on the line could help

keep their community alive by running the business and going to work for themselves

- Too many Ontario residents are unable to find housing at reasonable cost. Housing co-operatives provide secure accommodations without the hassles or downpayment of ownership
- Co-ops can help assure an adequate supply of Ontario-produced food at reasonable prices through self-help enterprises in farming, food processing, and retailing

A New Democratic government will establish an Ontario Co-operative Development Corporation to encourage and assist the development of co-ops by providing them with financing, banking services, and management advice.

The New Democratic Party began as the CCF — Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. We believe that the government should help people to help themselves. Co-ops are a big part of that commitment.



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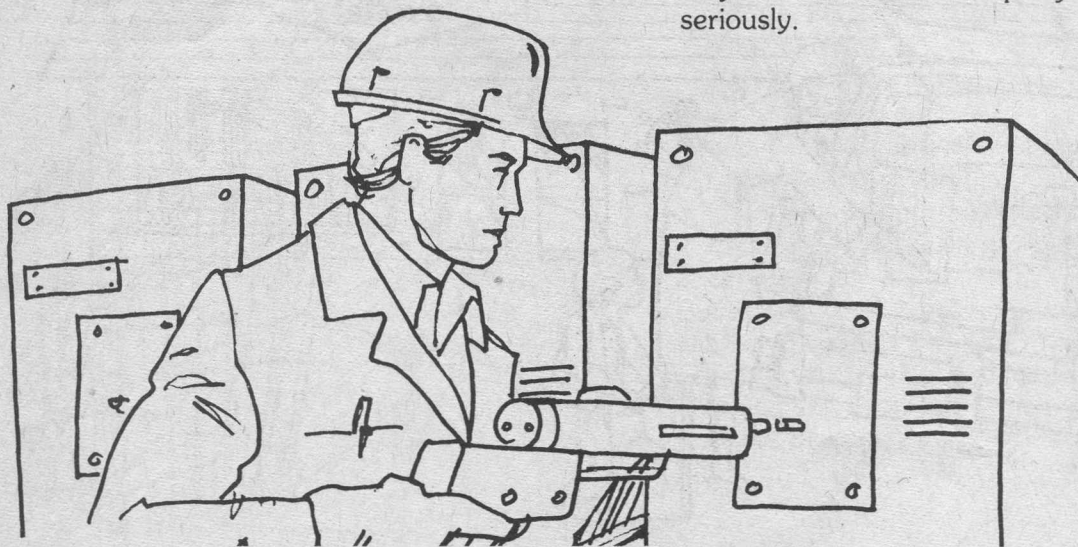
# Labour

Ontario's communities support highly profitable industries with their labour and their taxes. But we have almost no say in corporate decisions — like layoffs and plant closures — which seriously affect our well being.

To give working people the better deal they deserve, a New Democratic government will act on these important principles:

- Protection when plants close. As well as advance notice of closures and fair severance pay, we will work towards full pension portability and early retirement benefits for older workers
- Industrial responsibility. Before a plant shuts down, we will expect the company to provide public justification and either find ways of keeping the operation going or help find new jobs for its employees
- A safe and healthy workplace. We will set tough standards on mine safety, toxic substances, and other hazards and refuse to accept any corporation's claim that safety is too expensive
- Equality for men and women. New Democrats will put the principle of equal pay for work of equal value into law and launch programs to open all occupations to women
- The right to bargain. Since the tactics of some companies can still make it hard to start a new union, recognition should be automatic whenever more than 50% of a company's employees ask to unionize
- An end to strikebreaking. Ontario should not let outsiders promote conflict between labour and management
- Decent wages. To help protect unorganized workers against inflation and poverty, a New Democratic government will index the minimum wage to 60% of the average industrial wage
- Political rights. From teachers to civil servants, people who work for the public should enjoy the same rights as all other citizens
- Manpower training. A New Democratic government will insist that companies develop adequate apprenticeship and training programs rather than importing skilled workers while Canadians remain unemployed

Working people know that good labour policies mean good labour relations and security for their families and communities. Only the New Democratic party takes that goal seriously.



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# Human Services

Everyone should be able to take part in the life and work of our communities. A New Democratic government will help thousands of individuals and families escape welfare and go to work. We will:

- Replace the welfare system with an Income Security Program adequate to meet the basic living needs of every Ontario resident
- Build in incentives for going to work, together with basic job training and apprenticeship programs, employment counselling and placement services
- Develop a good day care system throughout Ontario so that everyone who needs child care can get it
- Coordinate responsibility and end buck-passing among government agencies by establishing a unified Ministry of Health, Community and Social Services

Handicapped and disabled persons have a lot to contribute to the community. A New Democratic government will:

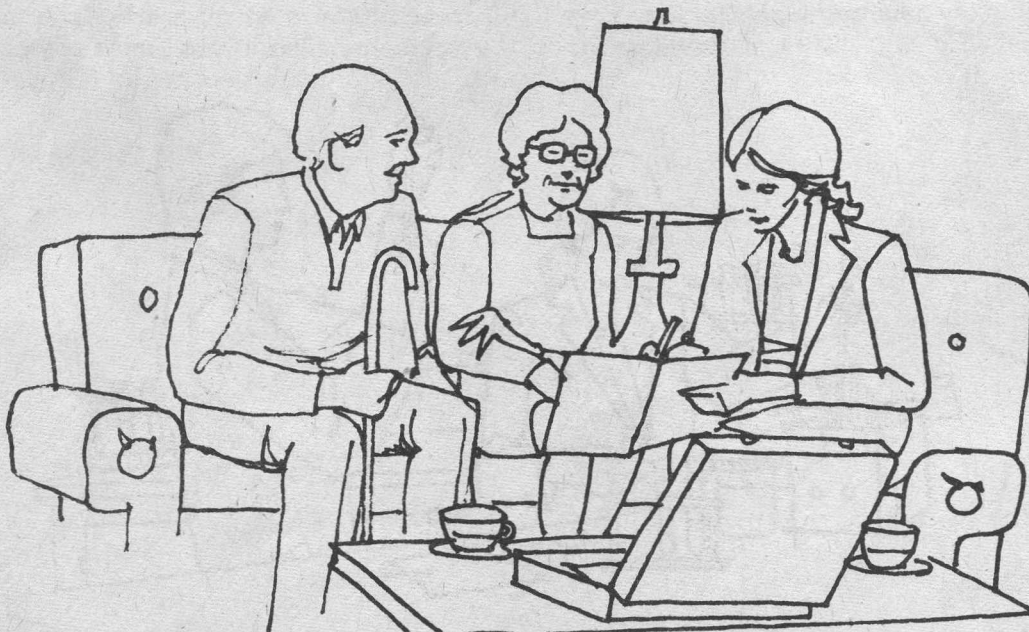
- Develop a comprehensive program of

education and training to enable handicapped persons to live as full a life as possible

- Require that government and large private employers hire reasonable numbers of capable disabled workers and that sheltered workshops pay decent wages
- Increase community housing and attendant care for the severely handicapped

The senior citizens whose work built Ontario deserve to be able to maintain their independence. A New Democratic government will:

- Raise the provincial pension supplement so that no senior citizen has to live in poverty
- Assist in meeting the rising costs of staying in one's own home and provide more housing alternatives for seniors
- Expand services such as Meals on Wheels that help people live independently
- Make public transit and building codes take the special needs of both the elderly and the handicapped into account.



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# Education

There was a time when a good education meant a good job. In today's industrial society the link between school and work is more important than ever. Ontario can develop only if it gives its citizens the skills needed for life in the modern world. A New Democratic government will:

- Make schooling relevant again by encouraging work-and-learning programs and on-the-job apprenticeship plans
- Upgrade community colleges and stress skills which economic forecasts tell us will be needed in the future
- Fund university education and research programs so that they can play their vital role in Ontario's industrial development

Today, for the first time in three decades, we have enough teachers and school rooms. This is our chance to reorganize education in Ontario so that it makes sense. A New Democratic government will:

- Ensure that more attention is given to individual students who need help,

especially in the early grades where it matters most

- Establish optional full-day kindergartens and bring child care into the education system
- Emphasize life-long learning and develop alternatives to full-time schooling for people who have to work and take care of a family

As a public institution our school system is responsible for seeing that everyone's educational needs are equally met. It has to aim at taking down all barriers to learning. A New Democratic government will:

- Provide funding for special education wherever it is needed, especially for children with learning problems and physical handicaps
- Improve programs of English and French for new Canadian and strengthen Heritage Language Programs
- Eliminate cost as a barrier to post-secondary education by cutting tuition fees and developing an effective student-aid program.



**NEW  
DEMOCRATS**



# Paying the Bill

Life in Ontario is still good for most people, but there are danger signals. The province has two pressing needs: industrial development and better services for people. The first has to pay for the second.

The best economic stimulus is people spending money. That means lower taxes for individuals, especially for the low and middle income earners who spend most of what they make on necessities.

There is no bill for this kind of stimulus. The cost to the province is covered by shifting from taxes on things we all have to buy to taxes based on what people can afford.

In fact, a fairer tax system will yield more revenue. One example: succession duties on the richest 3% of estates and full taxation of capital gains would bring in more than \$100 million.

Another example: to help fund development the province can begin to recover the more than hundreds of millions of dollars now lost

every year through corporate tax loopholes and no-strings-attached give-aways.

Assistance to corporations can make sense, but the "no-strings-attached" approach is too expensive and too inefficient. Ontario needs a government that will use public resources to build the economy in the best possible way.

Careful economic management in New Democratic Saskatchewan has led to nearly full employment and the lowest per capita debt of any government outside of P.E.I. If Ontario did as well, the increased productivity would mean an extra billion dollars in public revenues a year — and much reduced welfare costs.

A New Democratic government in Ontario will mean a return to the security people should be able to expect. Everyone shares in the benefits and savings brought by a healthy economy.

**New Democratic proposals for industrial and social development will pay for themselves.**



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