

## Prairie Manifesto Project

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Province:  Alberta  Saskatchewan  Manitoba

Party: LIB Election Year: 1948

AA = Alberta Alliance  
CON = Conservative Party  
LP = Liberal-Progressive Party  
PC = Progressive Conservative Party  
SKP = Saskatchewan Party  
UFM = United Farmers of Manitoba

CCF = Cooperative Commonwealth Federation  
LIB = Liberal Party  
NDP = New Democratic Party  
SC = Social Credit  
UFA = United Farmers of Alberta  
WCC = Western Canadian Concept

Type of Document:

Platform

Constitution

Speech

Brochure / Leaflet

Newspaper

Advertisement

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Collected:

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Source:

SK-PARC (R178.1)

AB = Alberta  
SK = Saskatchewan  
MB = Manitoba

UofA = University of Alberta  
UofC = University of Calgary  
UofR = University of Regina  
UofS = University of Saskatchewan  
UofM = University of Manitoba  
BU = Brandon University

PARC = Provincial Archives  
LEG = Legislative Library  
SPC = Special Collections  
ULIB = University Library

# LIBERAL PLATFORM BASIS LAID

## Party's convention at Saskatoon approves nearly 50 resolutions

Some 45 to 50 resolutions dealing with everything from agriculture and labor to health matters and education, were approved by the provincial Liberal convention at Saskatoon.

It is these resolutions that will form the basis of the new Liberal platform—the platform through which the Liberal party will endeavor to reorganize its forces in Saskatchewan to oust the C.C.F. from office.

Here are the resolutions:

**Agriculture**

The importance of agriculture in the economy of Saskatchewan is recognized and accepted by every citizen. Its establishment and maintenance on a sound profitable basis is essential to the welfare of the province. The Saskatchewan Liberal party will keep before it at all times the

necessity of forming its policies in such a way as to assure the future progress and prosperity of our great agricultural industry.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself:

- To utilize all the facilities of the agricultural college, the agricultural department and a reasonable share of the revenues in co-operation with the Dominion department of agriculture:
  - To survey and maintain the fertility of the soil;
  - To organize submarginal areas into community pastures;
  - To store water for stock watering and distribution through irrigation;
  - To distribute information regarding the best methods in production gathered through experimentation to crop and livestock producers, in order to maintain the high standard of their products and so that the cost of production may be kept to its lowest possible level.
- To support the Dominion government in its efforts to stabilize returns to the farmers of this province by:
  - Giving full and complete effect and improve the Prairie Farm Assistance act.
  - Extending the application of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation act to the entire province.
  - Grading and standardizing our products to meet the demands of our customers in other provinces and outside Canada.
  - Entering into contracts with Britain which assure markets at relatively high floor prices for all our surpluses over long periods.
  - Establishing production and marketing methods which while maintaining continuity of supplies, will also prevent avoidable surpluses.

**Irrigation**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that it is essential in the interest of large areas of our province that irrigation schemes be constructed with a view to putting into production marginal and other lands that have been incapable in the past of producing paying crops. The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself in co-operation with the federal government to utilize all available water for irrigation projects in various parts of our province in order to create more profitable communities in those areas which have suffered from drought in the past and bring about a more prosperous and contented people. We commend the federal government for undertaking the construction of the South Saskatchewan Irrigation

**Livestock Board**

Realizing the tremendous and growing importance of the livestock industry and its vital place in the agricultural economy of Saskatchewan, the Liberal party pledges itself to enact legislation setting up a board of livestock commissioners to protect the interests of livestock producers of the province in the handling and marketing of livestock.

**Co-operation**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pioneered in promoting the co-operative movement in Canada, and the success and development of co-operative enterprise in Saskatchewan has been due to the legislation relating to co-operation which has been introduced from time to time by Liberal governments. The Liberal party believes that the co-operative movement is above party politics and that it should so remain and believe that political interference is prejudicial to the success of true co-operation.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that the growth and promotion of co-operative enterprises in the province can only continue so long as the right of private ownership and free enterprise is recognized as the basic principle in our economic and social life, and the principle of socialism is destructive to the co-operative movement.

Therefore, the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself: In the future as in the past, to encourage and assist the development and expansion of the co-operative movement believing as we do that it is the true and free expression of democracy and free enterprise.

**Federal Marketing Act**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that one of the most effective methods of maintaining farm production is the assurance to the producer of the orderly marketing of farm produce at fair prices. This has been clearly demonstrated in the past five years by the operation of the special products board.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to support a request to the federal government that a "federal agricultural marketing act" be set up providing for the marketing of different farm products by boards to be chosen from the producers themselves, such act to become operative in any province when such province passes enabling legislation, with provision that such act shall not be operative without a vote of the producers.

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**Veterans' Land Settlement**

Whereas a large number of veterans have been settled on provincially owned lands under a use-lease agreement, the Liberal party will immediately on its return to power give those veterans the opportunity of exchanging their present leases for purchase agreements and will give them credit on the purchase price of their lands of any moneys that have been paid as rent under their leases.

**Price Control**

Resolved, that the Liberal party in Saskatchewan urges the Dominion government to retain price control where necessary and until the danger of inflation is passed.

**Rural Electrification**

Resolved: that the Liberal party, when returned to power, will make available electrical power to farm homes at reasonable costs.

**Public Funds**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party will when returned to power discontinue the vicious and unexcusable practice of the present government of Saskatchewan of spending public funds for political and partisan purposes, propaganda and publications and will re-establish the practice of restricting the expenditure of the public funds to proper governmental purposes and in the public interest.

**Highways**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that there should be in the province a system of inter-provincial federal highways to be constructed and maintained by the Dominion government, and when returned to power will negotiate an agreement with the federal government with a view to turning over to the Dominion certain specific trans-provincial highways to be part of a Canada-wide hard-surfaced system of highways for the purpose of encouraging tourist traffic throughout the entire Dominion.

**Long Term Leases**

As security of tenure of grazing leases and reasonable fees for such leases are essential to maintain the cattle and ranching industry of the province and necessary to encourage the development of mixed farming; be it resolved that the Saskatchewan Liberal party in convention assembled pledges itself when returned to power: (a) to guarantee security to all long term leaseholders and the first right of renewal on the expiration of the lease; (b) to provide the right to the holder to assign or transfer such lease subject to the approval of the department; (c) to re-establish fees for such grazing leases that are fair to the lessor and the lesser alike.

**Revision of the taxation structure**

with a view to adjusting taxes on the basis of ability to pay and reducing the burden of taxes on real estate; it will utilize the largely increased subsidies now offered by the federal government to: repeal the education tax; make annual grants to municipalities to assist them in carrying out their duties. It will make an equitable adjustment of truck licenses and reduce the license fees on farm trucks; amend the Mineral Taxation act to provide exemption of this tax up to an area of two sections for one owner; abolish the present compulsory automobile insurance tax and replace it with a more equitable plan; make government owned commercial and industrial operations subject to local taxation on the same basis as privately owned concerns.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to support and press the federal government for the adoption as part of the income tax policy, the following provisions respecting deductions or allowances from income namely: 1. The exemption for a married man be increased to \$2,000 and for single persons to \$1,000. 2. That for each dependent an exemption of \$400 be allowed. 3. In addition in respect to the agriculture industry other than an allowance or allowances be made for wife and children for their work and services rendered or that a fixed percentage of the proceeds realized from the sale of dairy products, and poultry and hogs be allowed and deducted from such income.

**Farm Security**

It is recognized that all provincial legislation which gives real protection and security to the farmers of Saskatchewan was legislation passed by the Saskatchewan Liberal party.

**Education**

Resolved, that the following be adopted as the program of the Saskatchewan Liberal party respecting education:

**Finance**—In order to secure a more equitable distribution of the costs of education and to reduce the burden of local taxes on land and property, the province accept a much larger share of financial responsibility, that a schedule of standard rates of local taxation be established and that the difference between these standard rates and the costs of an adequate basic standard of education be met by equalization grants paid by the province.

**Handicapped children**— That special courses and classes be provided to meet the needs of physically or mentally handicapped children and young people in order to render them self supporting, useful and well-adjusted members of the human family.

**Opportunity classes**—That specialized courses of training and classes be provided for children and young people who are not well adapted to the usual types of educational procedure.

**Local autonomy**— That no changes affecting local powers of school administration be made without referring such change to a vote of the ratepayers concerned and that where larger units of administration have been established the question of continuing such units be referred to vote of the ratepayers concerned without the necessity of such ratepayers petitioning for a vote.

**Adult education**— That organized adult education be a function of the extension department of the university, the government providing financial assistance, and that the use of adult education facilities for the dissemination of political propaganda be discontinued.

**Superintendents**—That the provincial staff of school superintendents be increased so that each superintendent have charge only of the number of schools he can effectively supervise.

**Program Supported**

Be it resolved, that the Saskatchewan Liberal party commend the Dominion government for its excellent program of veterans legislation embodied in the veterans' charter now before parliament which is acknowledged to be the finest program in respect of ex-servicemen and women in the world, and be it further resolved, that we pledge continued support in the enactment of any further measures which would improve the said program.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself, when returned to power; to establish a policy whereunder veterans may buy Crown lands on reasonable terms and end the present program under which veterans cannot make a definite agreement to purchase lands on

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Also, that every effort be made to

**Scholarships**—In order to ensure that a family economic circumstances prevent no young person from securing the education for which he or she is fitted, the province establish an adequate scholarship fund of at least one half million dollars to assist worthy students to attend nurses training school, high schools, normal school, vocational or technical school or university and post graduate courses.

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See BASIS LAID—Page 12

move level. The Dominion Liberal party pledges itself in the future as in the past, to encourage and assist in the development and expansion of the co-operative movement believing as we do that it is the true and free expression of democracy and free enterprise.

**Federal Marketing Act**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that one of the most effective methods of maintaining farm production is the assurance to the producer of an orderly marketing of farm products at fair prices. This has been clearly demonstrated in the past five years by the operation of the special products board. The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to support a request to the federal government that a federal agricultural marketing act be set up providing for the marketing of different farm products by boards to be chosen from the producers themselves; such act to become operative in five years in those provinces where production has been hampered by the past of producing conditions. The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself in co-operation with the federal government to utilize all available irrigation projects in the province in the best possible manner to create more profitable conditions in those areas which are now in a state of drought in order to bring about a more prosperous contented people. We pledge the federal government to make the construction of irrigation projects in Saskatchewan to be empowered to inspect and to perform all duties under the provisions of the Livestock and Livestock Products Act—producers to be given adequate representation on such board.

**Dominion Co-operative Act**

In view of the report of the government's advisory committee on reconstruction and co-operation and development of co-operative activities in relation to agriculture should be recognized in and in view also of the fact that the fourth report of the special committee on reconstruction and co-operation has recommended that every possible assistance be given to the co-operative movement both consumer and producer, and because the power and expansion of co-operative movement throughout Canada and in this province in particular has made it necessary for provincial co-operatives to secure sources of supply in other provinces, thereby extending their business activities outside of the province, the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to urge on the federal government the need for the enactment of a Dominion co-operative act as a step necessary to the complete functioning of the co-operative movement in Canada.

**Interest of Agriculture**

In the interest of agriculture it is essential that there be included in the high schools of the province, a course in vocational agriculture and in addition, that residential agricultural schools be established and that educational institutions be given grants to provide courses in practical agriculture for both young men and women. The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that suitable students should be given scholarships which would enable them to attend these schools and also that a farm settlement scheme for qualified agricultural persons should be provided under which farms can be purchased with government assistance at low rates of interest.

We urge, moreover, that the short courses in agriculture be instituted in such schools to enable courses to be taken by all persons wishing to improve their knowledge of agriculture.

When returned to power the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to pass the necessary legislation to give effect to these principles.

**Industrial Development**

The Liberal party believes that while the basic industry of the province is agriculture and will remain so that the introduction of an economically sound industrial development will assist in providing for a more stabilized economy, resolved that the Saskatchewan Liberal party, upon its return to office in Saskatchewan, establish an industrial development.

make available electrical power to farm homes at reasonable costs.

**Public Funds**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party will when returned to power discontinue the vicious and uneconomical practice of the present government of Saskatchewan of expending public funds for political and partisan purposes, propaganda and publications and will re-establish the practice of restricting the expenditure of public funds to proper governmental purposes and in the public interest.

**Highways**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that there should be in the province a system of inter-provincial federal highways to be constructed and maintained by the Dominion government, and when returned to power will negotiate an agreement with the federal government with a view to turning over to the Dominion certain specific trans-provincial highways to be part of a Canada-wide, hard-surfaced, system of highways for the purpose of encouraging tourist traffic throughout the entire Dominion.

Realizing the importance of good roads to all citizens in the province, the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to improve and maintain all provincial highways bringing them up to the highest possible standard of construction within the means of the province and to purchase sufficient modern equipment to enable the province to make such equipment available to municipalities without cost for the purpose of constructing and maintaining municipal highways, and to provide generous grants for the providing of all main arterial roads in the province.

**Governmental Responsibility**

Whereas during the past two years many of the rights, functions and duties of the legislative assembly of Saskatchewan have been transferred to cabinet ministers and whereas the government has in turn assigned many of its responsibilities to experts and advisors, all of which is contrary to the principles of representative and responsible government.

The Liberal party will on its return to power, proceed at once to restore the legislature to its proper place in the functioning of a democratic government, and a Liberal government will resume the duties and responsibilities which the cabinet should accept under our system of government.

**Municipal**

The Saskatchewan Liberal party realizes and accepts the fact that strong and efficient local self-government enjoying the fullest measure of autonomy is necessary and fundamental to the effective functioning of democracy and confederation. The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that the interference with local autonomy which have been given to cabinet ministers during the past two years.

When returned to power it will restore to local government bodies the rights and powers which properly should rest with them. Changes in the boundaries of local units will only be made after consultation with the units affected. It will make annual payments to municipalities to assist them to carry out their duties and responsibilities and make government-owned commercial and industrial operations subject to local taxation on the same basis as privately owned concerns.

**Railways**

Whereas we are of the opinion that the use of the Hudson Bay route would greatly reduce transportation, time and costs of west-European goods being exported to Europe, therefore, be it resolved that the federal, provincial and municipal authorities do their utmost to bring the route in to popular use, thereby saving millions of dollars for western Canada.

Whereas freight rates on primary products are of primary importance to the living and welfare of the Saskatchewan farmer therefore, be it resolved that no increase of freight tariffs be allowed at present applying.

**Finance and Taxation**

Realizing that the costs of government are borne by the taxpayers that wasteful, extravagant and inefficient administration and unprofitable commercial ventures add to the tax burden of all citizens: The Saskatchewan Liberal party will: reduce the costs of government; re-establish prudent, economical and businesslike administration; eliminate waste and extravagance; discontinue the expenditure of public funds for political and partisan purposes; and propagate, devote its energies to the improvement and development of those services which can best be supplied by government.

It will carry out the following:

**Tax Policy**

The following provisions respecting deductions allowable from income tax: 1. The exemption for a married single person to \$2,000 and for a single person to \$1,000. 2. That for each dependent an exemption of \$400 be allowed. 3. In addition in respect to the agricultural industry other than an allowance of allowances be made for wife and children for their work and services rendered or that a fixed percentage of the proceeds realized from the sale of dairy products and poultry and hogs be allowed and deducted from such income.

**Long Term Leases**

As security of tenure of grazing leases and reasonable fees for such leases are essential to maintain the cattle and ranching industry of the province and necessary to encourage the development of mixed farming, be it resolved that the Saskatchewan Liberal party in convention assembled pledges itself when returned to power: (a) to guarantee security to all long term leaseholders and the first right of renewal on the expiration of the lease; (b) to provide the right to the holder to assign or transfer such lease subject to the approval of the department; (c) to re-establish fees for such grazing leases that are fair to the lessee and the lessor.

It is recognized that all provincial legislation which gives real protection and security to the farmers of Saskatchewan was enacted by the Liberal party in the present provincial government and that the legislation of the present provincial government has not only failed to further farm security, but has actually been detrimental to the welfare of farmers and agriculture generally. In that such legislation has resulted in: (a) the reluctance of land owners to sell farms except for all cash or only with a substantial cash payment, with the result that the average farmer is denied the opportunity of extending his farm holdings and young people, with limited resources are prevented from becoming established as farm owners; (b) failure to give security to farm debtors as evidenced by over one thousand foreclosures and cancellations of agreements and cancellations of mortgages for sale during the first 17 months of the present provincial government has been in power and this at a time when agricultural prosperity was the greatest in the history of the province, be it resolved, that the Liberal party in convention assembled pledges itself, when returned to power, to give farm debtors complete security in case of difficulties brought about by natural and economic causes, and at the same time to fully investigate the feasibility of adopting a policy that will provide: (a) the opportunity for young people, with limited resources, to purchase farm land and thus become established as farm owners; (b) the opportunity for owners of small farms to enlarge their holdings; (c) a guarantee to farm owners who may sell their land under a plan that the purchase price will be paid.

**Mother's Allowances**

The purpose of the mother's allowance is to enable the mother to care for her own children in her own home, therefore, the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself when returned to power, to increase the mother's allowance to a more adequate amount.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to a substantial increase in old age pensions to enable more adequate provision to be made for the aged population. The present progressive reduction and delay in the payment of old age pensions shall be discontinued and the age for the commencement of old age pensions shall be advanced to age 65 and we also urge that the federal government should provide superannuation schemes for all Canadians, and approved institutions be given the same grant as the Walseley home.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to a comprehensive plan for the establishment of modern fully equipped homes for the care of those of our citizens who are unable to properly care for themselves.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes that individual initiative should be encouraged by removing the present threat of government competition in the economic and social spheres. (b) The present restriction on the employment of women in industry should be removed. (c) The present restriction on the employment of women in industry should be removed.

**Teachers' Superannuation**

That in order to place the fund on a sound actuarial basis, the provincial government make equal annual payments to the service pension fund the amount of such annual payments to be actuarially determined.

**Teacher Training**

That in order to improve the quality of teaching services, entrance and leaving standards for normal school students be raised and that normal school students be selected on a basis of character, natural ability and aptitude for teaching as well as academic standing.

**Vocational Training**

Extension of vocational and technical training facilities and revision of curricula to meet the vocational educational needs of young people living outside the larger centres of population.

**Agriculture and Home Economics**

The establishment of a comprehensive program of agricultural and home economics courses from the elementary to post graduate university levels, including: (a) short courses at numerous locations in the province, (b) courses in residential schools fully equipped with land, buildings, stock, machinery, etc.

party of Saskatchewan endorse and that where larger units of the following labor relations administration have been established: 1. (a) The establishment of a national labor code by the enactment of Dominion and provincial legislation; (b) The establishment of Dominion and provincial Labor Relations Boards; (c) Legal responsibility of employers and employees in carrying out agreements in respect to provincial and Dominion legislation. The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to work in conjunction with the federal government to establish an income tax policy which in its application to agricultural industry will make allowances by way of deduction of exemption from the income of the head of the family, of an amount which will permit value being rendered by the wife and children.

**Education**

Resolved, that the following be adopted as the program of the Saskatchewan Liberal party respecting education: 1. In order to secure a more equitable distribution of the costs of education and to reduce the burden of local taxes on land and property, the province accept a much larger share of financial responsibility, that a schedule of standard rates of local taxation be established and that the difference between these standard rates and the costs of an adequate basic standard of education be met by equalization grants paid by the province.

Also, that every effort be made to secure further federal assistance for education. School buildings and equipment warrant the provincial government build and equip or generously assist in building and equipping schools.

**Teachers' Salaries**

That statutory provision be made for a schedule of minimum salaries based on academic and professional training, experience and efficiency.

**Teachers' Superannuation**

That in order to place the fund on a sound actuarial basis, the provincial government make equal annual payments to the service pension fund the amount of such annual payments to be actuarially determined.

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**Superintendents**

That the provincial staff of school superintendents be increased so that the superintendent have charge of the number of school effectively supervise.

**Program Support**

Be it resolved, that the Saskatchewan Liberal party, the Dominion government of the excellent program of legislation embodied in:

Superintendents—That the provincial staff of school superintendents be increased so that the superintendent have charge of the number of school effectively supervise.

**Program Support**

Be it resolved, that the Saskatchewan Liberal party, the Dominion government of the excellent program of legislation embodied in:

which they are settled and further pledges themselves to agree to credit payments made as rentals under the agreement on Crown lands by under-tenants for the sale of said land and breaking up into a fair association under the Veterans' Land act. Be it further resolved that this Liberal government will co-operate with the Veterans' Land act designed to expedite the settlement of veterans' claims and that the Liberal association of the province of Saskatchewan pledge themselves to all-inclusive training of itself to the province of Saskatchewan to provide for the care and treatment of the physically and mentally handicapped persons in the province.

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The Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to establish a health program for the province of Saskatchewan but only comprehensive and sufficient branches of health services, including dental, hospital, surgical, medical and pharmaceutical services, based on the right of the individual to a free choice of the doctor and hospital, and equal recognition of the profession of medicine in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Liberal party will proceed to enter into arrangements with the provincial government to enter into an insurance scheme whereby the health of the citizens may be provided for in the following manner:

1. Continuation and augmentation of services already existing to the general absorption of them into the overall scheme, i.e.: Cancer, Tuberculosis, V.D. control, etc.
2. Complete system of hospitalization.
3. Complete medical, surgical and nursing services, including travelling clinics in rural areas.
4. Dental Services.
5. Pharmaceutical Services, including certain drugs and medicines, all of which shall be subject to the scheme by the provincial government.
6. Optometry Services.

**Administration:** 1. By a central commission to have adequate representation to those receiving the service and those providing the service with approval of government. 2. All amendments to be made after consulting any of the groups concerned. 3. That local organizations be maintained and encouraged.

**Finance:** 1. State aided, contributory scheme, province-wide and all inclusive. 2. Haggerty report, cost of these services to be (21.60 per capita.) We recommend the Government of Saskatchewan contribute 10 percent, Dominion 10 percent, and the individual 10 percent.

**Natural Resources:** The Saskatchewan Liberal party believes in the proper development and conservation of the natural resources of the province and when returned to the province, the Saskatchewan Liberal party pledges itself to encourage the development of the province in the exploration and production of coal, oil, clays and other minerals. We condemn the C.C.F. policy in administration of the fisheries which has at once stifled our western more needed fishery which denies the fishermen a just share of the returns. We further condemn the marketing board set up by the present government as a waste of the taxpayers' money and a competitive monopoly of the fish industry of the province and an adequate supply of the fish produced at prices of the order of a dollar. We guarantee to the fisherman his full share of the fish and at the same time to the consumer a fair share of the fish.

The Saskatchewan Liberal party also condemns the policy of the present government in discouraging the production of mature timber, when there is a severe shortage of lumber returned veterans, when there are woodlots on parcels of land of different quality in many districts.

benefit to individual communities, therefore, be encouraged that information be given to individual and farm communities and domestic woodlots to establish Liberal woodlots to est- ment of fur resources. Be it resolved that this Liberal government have a convention every two years and that a meeting of the provincial council be held on every alternate year. This convention shall be held in the province of Saskatchewan. Be it further resolved that the Liberal association of the province of Saskatchewan pledge themselves to all-inclusive training of itself to the province of Saskatchewan to provide for the care and treatment of the physically and mentally handicapped persons in the province.

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