



# Principles & Policies

**Alberta Alliance Party**

Suite 1185

5328 Calgary Trail

Edmonton, AB

T6H 4J8

Phone: 780-444-4758

Toll-Free: 1-866-968-7864

Website: [www.AlbertaAlliance.com](http://www.AlbertaAlliance.com)

## principles

- 4.1 We believe in the inherent value and dignity of the individual citizen, that all citizens are equal before the law and entitled to fundamental justice, and that those citizens have certain fundamental and immutable freedoms, namely:

freedom of speech and the freedom to advocate, without fear of intimidation or suppression, public policies which reflect their most deeply held values;

freedom of religious belief and practice; freedom of peaceful assembly and the freedom of choice of association;

and the freedom to own, enjoy, and exchange private property in a free market.

- 4.2 We believe that the family is the essential building block of a healthy society, and the primary mechanism by which Albertans pass on their values and beliefs to the next generation; and that because of this unique importance, the family must be strengthened and protected from unnecessary intrusions by government.

- 4.3 We believe that Albertans have a personal and social responsibility to care and provide for the basic needs of those who are genuinely unable to care and provide for themselves; and that this responsibility begins with the family and extends from there to voluntary private organizations.

- 4.4 We believe that the necessary functions of government should be delegated to the appropriate order of government closest to the people, that the division of powers among different orders of government must be respected, and that all citizens are entitled to benefit equally, without prejudice, from the services offered by government.

- 4.5 We believe that political parties should be guided by stated values and principles which are shared by their Members;

that the people's elected representatives exist to serve their electors honestly, ethically, and with concern for all;

that their duty to their electors supersedes their obligations to their political parties or personal views;

*(principles continued)*

that they should treat public moneys as funds held "in trust" to be spent wisely and with prudence;

and that law-makers and the institutions of government must be subject to the same laws as apply to the people themselves.

**4.6** We believe that government should reflect the will of the citizens, and that this will should be expressed through democratic processes including:

free and fair elections in which the citizens choose their own representatives to govern them through representative and accountable institutions;

the power of the citizens to recall elected representatives who violate their mandates;

the power of the citizens directly to initiate the legislative process;

and the power of the citizens directly to decide on matters of public policy by referendum.

**4.7** We believe in the ethical and accountable execution of the business of government.

**4.8** We believe that the interests of Alberta are best served by a strong, unified, equal and democratic Canada.

**4.9** We believe that economic freedom, entrepreneurial spirit and the right to private property are essential to economic prosperity and political freedom.

**4.10** We believe in and accept our responsibilities for the preservation of Alberta's heritage and cultural diversity and the conservation and renewal of our environment for present and future generations.

**4.11** We believe in the freedoms of thought, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication.

*(principles continued)*

- 4.12** We believe that government must be responsive to the needs of the people of the province, and must seek their responsible participation in the economic and social development of Alberta.
- 4.13** We believe in the principles of universal public access to health care and education.
- 4.14** We believe in the responsibility of government to:
- (i) ensure that future generations will have similar economic, social and environmental opportunities.
  - (ii) be fiscally prudent: balance budgets, limit taxation and minimize the size and growth of the public sector.
- 4.15** We believe that government's proper task is to serve the general interest, not special interests, and that special interest groups should therefore get their support from their supporters, not from government.
- 4.16** We believe in the supremacy of the Legislature over the judiciary and we believe that whatever the Legislature has manifestly done shall not be undone by judicial review.
- 4.17** We believe that the leadership of the Party is accountable to its members for ensuring that policies espoused by the Party are guided by those principles.
- 4.18** We believe in public service – that governments, civil servants, politicians, and political parties exist to serve the people, and that they should demonstrate this service commitment at all times.

## democratic policies

### **Accountability**

An Alberta Alliance Government will implement a computerized voting system in the Legislature to allow all votes to be instantly tabulated and recorded in Hansard. Local media in each constituency would be encouraged to report their MLA's voting record.

An Alberta Alliance Government will hold open Cabinet meetings at least once a month that are televised and broadcast live on the Internet.

An Alberta Alliance Government will give all government MLAs a meaningful new role in policy development and service planning through a new system of Cabinet decision-making.

An Alberta Alliance Government will give all MLAs and citizens a better voice in government through active legislative committees.

### **Cabinet**

An Alberta Alliance Government will reduce the size of the Provincial Cabinet to twelve members.

### **Commissions / Boards**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute elections for all provincial boards and commissions every four years in conjunction with the provincial legislative elections.

### **Conflict of Interest**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute strict conflict of interest guidelines facilitated through the Provincial Ethics Commissioner's office.

### **Constitutional Reform**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports popular ratification of all Constitutional Amendments by a simple majority vote in at least two-thirds of the provinces (including the Territories) representing at least 50% of the country's population in a national referendum.

An Alberta Alliance Party Government would only agree to any province leaving Canada if the province seeking separation from Canada meets the terms

*(democratic policies continued)*

of the federal Clarity Act. The decision to leave Canada must be determined by a referendum of the people of the province. The result of a referendum must be free of ambiguity both in terms of the question asked and in terms of the support it achieves if that result is to be taken as an expression of the democratic will that would give rise to an obligation to enter into negotiations that would lead to secession.

### **Equality**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the concept that all Canadians have all rights, privileges and responsibilities equally.

The Alberta Alliance Party opposes the entrenchment by law of any recognizable group, as a "Distinct or Unique Society" with special privileges and exceptional rights not available to other Canadians. Equality of all citizens is the very essence of democracy and cannot be compromised.

### **Federalism**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports a renewed level of respect and cooperation between the federal and provincial governments. However, the Alberta Alliance Party will defend Albertans against intrusions by the federal government by protecting the property, legal and democratic rights of Albertans.

An Alberta Alliance Party government will not cooperate with any proposed or implemented federal legislation contrary to Party principles.

### **Electoral Reform**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute fixed election dates for all elected officials in Alberta. MLA's would be elected for a four- (4) year term; however, the Legislature would still have the right to call a vote of non-confidence at any time.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform to assess all possible models for electing the MLAs, including preferential ballots, proportional representation, and our current electoral system.

Give the Citizens' Assembly a mandate to hold public hearings throughout Alberta, and if it recommends changes to the current electoral system, that option will be put to a province-wide referendum.

*(democratic policies continued)*

We will establish an independent process for defining new electoral boundaries. Consideration will be given to bioregional differences, and only a 25% variance in population will be permitted.

An Alberta Alliance Government will reduce the number of MLA's.

An Alberta Alliance government will limit the term of the Premier to two consecutive four-year terms.

Free Votes in Caucus and Legislature

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute free votes in the Legislature. We will allow all MLAs to vote according to the dictates of their consciences or as has been specifically indicated by their constituents. The defeat of a government bill will not mean a vote of non-confidence in the government but simply a defeat of that particular piece of legislation.

The Alberta Alliance Party will institute free votes within the Alberta Alliance caucus. The party position will be determined by a simple majority vote of the caucus.

#### **Freedom of Information**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute the most open and comprehensive freedom of Information act in Canada, which will open government for all people.

#### **Government Reform**

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish an independent agency responsible for determining the salaries and benefits of elected governmental officials and senior civil servants, for ensuring that appointments to government tribunals, boards and senior civil service are done through a qualification-based process and are not politically motivated patronage appointments, and for dismissing appointees for just cause.

An Alberta Alliance Government will invite all Members of the Alberta Legislature and all Alberta Members of Parliament to hold annual joint conferences aimed at publicly identifying and exploring solutions to the issues of concern to Albertans.



*(democratic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance government would ensure that MLA pension plans and severance packages would be consistent with private industry.

### **Legislative Dates**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby Throne Speeches, Budget Announcements, Legislative Sessions and other important legislative dates would be on a set date each year.

### **MLA Accountability**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program of MLA accountability to their constituents. Each MLA will be required to file a monthly report to the Auditor General. In order to facilitate consistency and control costs, the Auditor General will publish a yearly report on each MLA's activities.

Each MLA report will include:

How they voted,

Their attendance record,

Their involvement in committees, cabinet, etc, and

A complete accounting of all funds received from the Government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program of complete public financial disclosure on all MLA expenses. In addition a receipt must accompany any and all expenses.

The Alberta Alliance Party supports representative democracy. An elected member of the legislature is responsible to vote and to express views from his or her constituents even when those views run contrary to the party.

An Alberta Alliance Government will remove all tax-free allowances to MLA's.

### **Municipal Government**

An Alberta Alliance Government will support greater dialogue and co-operation between the Province and Municipalities.



*(democratic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will support the assignment of government functions to that level of government most appropriate to the situation.

Any downloading of services would be followed with the appropriate amount of funding.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase the power of municipalities to make decisions affecting their jurisdictions, and promote a greater delegation of municipal decision making to local communities.

An Alberta Alliance Government will pass a Community Charter to outlaw provincial government "offloading" of costs onto municipal governments, and to give local governments greater autonomy and better planning tools to reduce pressure on property taxes.

**Patronage**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute Merit Employment legislation, to restore a professional, non-partisan public service founded strictly on merit - not political patronage.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute an impartial confirmation process for the appointment of senior bureaucrats, Crown corporation heads and high-level government appointees, ensuring appointments are based upon qualifications and/or relevant industry experience.

**Property Rights**

An Alberta Alliance Government will entrench individual property rights within the Alberta bill of rights and a provincial constitution.

**Provincial Constitution**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a Provincial Constitution under which all people would be equal. The Provincial Government, during all future Federal Constitutional negotiations, would be bound to not deviate from the provisions of the Provincial Constitution.

An Alberta Alliance Government will determine the inclusions in the Provincial Constitution through a process of a constituent assembly of elected participants,

*(democratic policies continued)*

the results of which would be brought to the people of Alberta in a binding referendum for their approval.

### **Recall**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute the right of recall of all elected officials by their constituents.

### **Referenda**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute legislation allowing the citizens of Alberta to call for a referendum or initiative on a matter of significant public concern upon the presentation of a petition signed by at least 5% of the total voting population of Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will call a referendum on any matter which it feels is of significant public concern.

Should a referendum be called regarding a pending piece of legislation, the passage of the legislation would be decided by the outcome of the referendum, and will be binding upon the government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will only use Section 33 (the Notwithstanding Clause) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, with the consent of the Alberta people in a referendum.

### **Representative Democracy**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the concept that the elected members of the legislature are first and foremost responsible to their constituents.

### **Senate Reform**

An Alberta Alliance Government will endorse and advocate the concept of a reformed Canadian Senate that is elected by the people of each province with equal representation from each province and that would have complete, effective parliamentary powers. Through this "Triple-E" Senate reform, the equality of all Canadians will be enhanced, by ensuring that the concept of representation by population is balanced by the need for equal provincial representation.

*(democratic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will hold a provincial referendum on Senate reform. The positive result of which will mandate serious consideration of our Triple-E Senate proposal at the national level.

An Alberta Alliance Government, in order to balance the representation between urban and rural centers, will institute a Provincial Triple E Senate, in which Provincial Senators would be elected by the people, in five equal electoral regions and have real, effective powers.

An Alberta Alliance government will only recognize Alberta elected Senators to the Federal Senate. It will not recognize any federally appointed Senators.

**Vote of Non Confidence**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a policy of requiring a proclaimed vote of non-confidence, and not the defeat of any one bill, in the Legislature, to cause the defeat of the government.

democratic

## economic policies

### Agriculture

An Alberta Alliance Government recognizes agriculture as one of our province's most important industries and will always act in the best interests of Alberta farmers to strengthen the industry thereby benefiting all people in Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government supports the family farm.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work towards to a freer, market driven system.

An Alberta Alliance Government supports the elimination of all indirect taxes and tariffs on farm inputs.

An Alberta Alliance Government supports an end to freight rate discrimination.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute an enhanced marketing program for Alberta agricultural products, nationally and internationally.

An Alberta Alliance Government will support active ongoing research into environmental protection for agriculture such as "holistic resource management".

An Alberta Alliance Government will oppose international agriculture subsidies as damaging and restrictive.

The Alberta Alliance Party believes the practice of agriculture is one of the cornerstones of human civilization. We encourage agricultural practices which are environmentally sound, economically viable, and humane.

An Alberta Alliance Government will remove subsidies from unsuitable agricultural land and encourage its return to natural prairie, forest or wetlands.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage research and education to help farmers sustain the productive capability of the land.

An Alberta Alliance Government will review all public land leases and their use.

An Alberta Alliance Government will place a priority on reducing provincially controlled input costs for farmers and other businesses such as Crown lease rates, fuel tax, income tax, and other government charges such as vehicle license fees and will call upon the federal government to do its part in reducing the costs of inputs.

*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate all mandatory provincial marketing boards and will allow producers to form voluntary inter-provincial marketing and export associations.

An Alberta Alliance Government will make it a major priority to develop an effective, financially viable, long-term agriculture safety-net program.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage and pursue private sector value added opportunities for Alberta's agriculture sector at every opportunity and will create an economic atmosphere in Alberta that encourages entrepreneurs to start value-added businesses in our province.

An Alberta Alliance Government supports giving Alberta farmers market choice by giving the right to choose selling grain independent of the Canadian Wheat Board or to continue selling through the Wheat Board voluntarily.

An Alberta Alliance Government will review the current crop insurance program with producers.

The Alberta Alliance Party recognizes that roads used heavily by those involved in the agriculture sector are as vital to Alberta's economy as paved highways and will ensure that these roads are included in any future highway and road repair strategies.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish an agricultural mentoring / apprenticeship program that would match graduates of agricultural education programs with active farmers interested in mentoring new farmers.

### **Budget**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a "Zero Based" budgeting program in all government departments. The basis of this budgeting system calls for a justification of all funds spent each year; not simply a standard percentage increase as presently exists.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a mandatory yearly balanced (projected and actual) budget provision for the Province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will not borrow any funds for current government financial obligations.

*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will pass Truth in Budgeting legislation that ensures all provincial finances are fully, accurately and honestly reported under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase funding for the Auditor General's Office, to help identify and prevent waste, and to increase value-for-money.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate the use of Special Warrants, to prevent government from spending taxpayer's money without prior legislative approval.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require Crown corporations to be directly accountable to a committee of the Legislature for their financial management and budget plans.

An Alberta Alliance Government will reward provincial government departments and agencies that operate efficiently and under budget to retain up to 35% of their budget surplus for use in future year's capital and/or operating expenses.

### **Banking System**

An Alberta Alliance Government will return the Treasury Branches of Alberta to their original purpose of providing competitive financial services for Alberta's families, farmers and small businesses.

An Alberta Alliance Government will actively support efforts to increase competition amongst financial institutions within Alberta.

### **Crown Lands**

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase access to Crown lands and resources, to create jobs in tourism, mining, forestry, farming, ranching, and oil & gas.

### **Debt Reduction**

An Alberta Alliance Government will use 100% of any surplus to repay any debt owed by the Alberta Government.

*(economic policies continued)*

### **Domestic Trade**

An Alberta Alliance Government will work towards the removal of all inter-provincial trade barriers.

### **Employment Insurance**

An Alberta Alliance Government will opt out of the Canada Employment Insurance program and replace it with an Alberta Employment Insurance program for Albertans.

### **Energy**

An Alberta Alliance Government will support a free market approach to energy production, which will provide abundant energy supplies at competitive prices for Albertans and for export.

An Alberta Alliance Government will support education and research into energy-efficient homes, businesses and government offices.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require that building and land use planning codes have high standards of energy conservation.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage recovery of waste energy through co-generation, such as providing heat for buildings from cooling water at power plants.

An Alberta Alliance Government recognizes the importance of the energy resource sector to our province and sets as a goal reducing the cost of doing business to the industry.

### **Environment**

An Alberta Alliance Government will actively oppose implementation of the Kyoto Accord.

An Alberta Alliance government will not adhere or enforce restrictions and/or quotas outlined in the Kyoto Protocol that are deemed to have a negative impact on the Alberta economy.

An Alberta Alliance Government will study the concept of "environmentally sensitive zoning".



*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will initiate the position of a provincial environmental ombudsman.

An Alberta Alliance Government will research methods to improve indoor air quality standards and ensure that health is not compromised by the use of energy efficient but harmful materials.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage water conservation on water taken from lakes or rivers for agricultural, industrial or domestic purposes.

An Alberta Alliance Government will impose strict regulations on all effluent producing industries, and ensure that the costs of water treatment or purification are borne by the polluter.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require Ecological Impact Assessments for all large projects, projects in particularly sensitive areas, projects that involve unproven technologies, and any projects that generate significant public concern.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require that Ecological Impact Assessments be all encompassing in terms of the environment and the people affected by each project, and include the cumulative effect of related projects.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require that Ecological Impact Assessments review panels be elected by the citizens of Alberta, have local representation, and have the power to approve, change, or halt any project they review.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish balanced ecological reserves in Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will recognize the value of parks to society and protect these areas from intrusive activities.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ban any trade in wild animals or wild animal parts, which could constitute a threat to natural wildlife populations.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a Clean Drinking Water Act. The Act would create a designated lead agency under the Ministry of Environment with responsibility for province-wide standards, monitoring and enforcement.

*(economic policies continued)*

The Clean Drinking Water Act will:

- Ban the dumping of untreated waste & untreated sewage into waterways.
- Create incentives for water conservation, such as providing assistance for municipalities to modernize their water delivery systems to metered user- pay systems.
- Conduct an inventory of all polluted groundwater and water bodies, and develop and implement strategies for cleaning them up.
- Strive to eliminate toxins from our environment.

An Alberta Alliance Government will rehabilitate sites with contaminated soils and vigorously pursue legal claims against the landowners originally responsible for the contamination.

An Alberta Alliance Government will allow private prosecutions against companies or individuals who allegedly have damaged the environment.

The Alberta Alliance Party believes that conserving Alberta's environment is a critical issue but must continue to be balanced with the future need for economic development opportunities in our province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that environmental laws and regulations will be reasonable, sensible and will always have a relationship to reality and common sense.

The Alberta Alliance Party recognizes the vital contributions Conservation Officers make to our province and will work with them to ensure they are properly screened, trained and equipped to the greatest possible extent to ensure their safety while carrying out their duties.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require governments to meet high environmental standards in their own operations (e.g., in procurements, recycling, and healthy building construction).

**Equalization Payments**

The Alberta Alliance Party believes the present provincial equalization program is unfair and unacceptable. An Alberta Alliance Government will pursue changes

*(economic policies continued)*

that would make each province fully responsible for providing and paying for reasonably comparable levels of service at reasonably comparable levels of taxation.

### **Financial Responsibility**

An Alberta Alliance Government will cut the "red tape" and regulatory burden by 1/3 within three years.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that Cabinet decides major capital spending decisions and land-use decisions in public, and not behind closed doors.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute complete financial disclosure of all provincial finances including the Heritage Trust Fund, government Crown Corporations and all government investments. These disclosures would be made in the Legislature with a complete accounting available to all Alberta citizens.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a "Waste Buster" Website for taxpayers to help identify, report and stamp out government waste.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate open tendering on government contracts to allow fair competition for businesses and provide better value to taxpayers.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate government subsidies to businesses that give some companies an unfair advantage over their competitors.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that Crown corporations are subject to local zoning and land-use by-laws.

An Alberta Alliance Government will grant the Provincial Auditor full access to all government funded companies, all Crown Corporations and subsidiaries of Crown Corporations.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a merit system within government departments rewarding individuals for service levels, initiative and efficiency.

*(economic policies continued)*

### **Forestry**

An Alberta Alliance Government will permit only those forestry methods, which are ecologically and economically sustainable.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a working forestland base, to provide greater stability for working families and to enhance long-term forestry management and planning.

An Alberta Alliance Government will create a market-based stumpage system that reflects global market realities and local harvesting costs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will invest in research to promote forest stewardship.

### **Grants**

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate government funding to special interest groups, while recognizing the contributions of all ethnic communities and encouraging self-generated and self-funded cultural activity.

### **Heritage Fund**

The Alberta Alliance Party believes that the Heritage Fund belongs to the people of Alberta and not the government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will set up the fund as a separate Crown Corporation thereby limiting the involvement of the government of the day.

An Alberta Alliance Government will limit withdrawals from the Heritage Fund for government purposes by holding a binding referendum on all such withdrawals.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a policy of providing from the earnings of the Heritage Fund a tax-free dividend to each person who has been a citizen of Alberta for one year. This dividend will be based upon a formula set out in the provincial constitution and will be issued on a set date each year.

An Alberta Alliance Government will model other aspects of the Heritage Trust Fund managing principles after the Alaska Permanent Fund.

*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a policy of depositing a set percentage of government natural resource income each year into the Heritage Fund.

An Alberta Alliance Government will build up the value of the Heritage Fund with the goal of using a portion of the interest earned by the fund to eliminate Alberta's personal income tax.

**Labour**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports a comprehensive program of co-operative partnership between Business, Labor and Government to enable Alberta businesses to compete effectively in a global marketplace.

An Alberta Alliance Government will pursue an aggressive program of cooperative workplace health and safety inspections.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute legislation that would allow individual workers the right to voluntarily determine their membership in labour organizations.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute legislation allowing for competition to the Workers' Compensation Board.

An Alberta Alliance Government will give workers and employers greater flexibility in Employment Standards to negotiate mutually beneficial relationships that help them compete and prosper.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate workers' democratic right to a secret ballot vote on certification under the Labour Code and ensure the same rules apply for certification as de-certification.

An Alberta Alliance Government will make the Workers' Compensation Board more responsive to workers' and employers' needs.

**Mandatory Tendering**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a procurement policy whereby all purchases by the Government will be through an open tender process.

*(economic policies continued)*

### **MLA Salaries**

An Alberta Alliance Government will remove any and all tax-free payments received by MLA's.

### **Pension Plan**

An Alberta Alliance Government will withdraw from the Canada Pension Plan to create an Alberta Pension Plan. This plan will offer the same benefits at a lower cost while giving Alberta and Albertans control over the investment fund. Pensions are a provincial responsibility and permitted as evidenced by the Quebec Pension Plan.

### **Privatization and Crown Corporations**

The Alberta Alliance Party heartily endorses the concept of free and profit oriented enterprise. As such, it is inconsistent with the role of government to own and operate competitive business activities. The history of government involvement in private enterprise has been one of significant financial and competitive losses.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute privatization of crown corporations.

### **Small Business**

An Alberta Alliance Government will support small business as the economic engine that drives the Alberta economy and provides the majority of job creation within the province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will review all regulations affecting small business to ensure that they are reasonable, functional and fair.

### **Spending Control Legislation**

An Alberta Alliance Government will limit growth in government spending to the rate of inflation and increase in population growth within Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will impose financial penalties on Cabinet Ministers who exceed their department budget.

*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will base all program spending on the historic average for provincial natural resource revenues.

An Alberta Alliance Government will remove the expression "one-time spending" from political discourse.

### **Subsidies**

An Alberta Alliance Government will phase out all government subsidies.

### **Taxation**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a flat, fixed percentage rate Provincial Income Tax. The Income Tax rate would be lowered by almost one-third to 7% (seven) with basic personal exemptions almost doubled to \$20,000.00 with deductions for recognized charitable donations.

An Alberta Alliance Government will oppose the past application of unfair and industry specific taxation such as the National Energy Program from the federal government. All industries should be treated equally and fairly under the taxation system.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work with the federal government to ensure that our tax treatment of stock options and capital gains is globally competitive.

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the direct assessment and collection of taxes by each level of government, as they require; thus allowing taxes to be open, visible and easily identified.

An Alberta Alliance Government will actively work towards disentanglement and the elimination of duplication of government authorities and services.

An Alberta Alliance Government will use a significant percentage of revenue derived from alcohol sales to compensate for alcohol and drug rehabilitation cost increases.

An Alberta Alliance Government will fight for Alberta's fair share of federal tax dollars through a more equitable distribution of federal government transfer payments and contracts.



*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate many of the "nuisance" taxes and user fees.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that dedicated taxes go to their sources. Gasoline taxes, for example, would go to road maintenance and other transportation services and not into general revenue. Hotel taxes will be used for tourism enhancement programs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will phase out taxes on investment and productivity to stimulate economic growth and job creation.

**Taxpayer Protection Act**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby provincial and municipal tax increases must seek approval via binding referendum.

An Alberta Alliance Government will collect our own personal Alberta income tax as we already do for corporate income tax.

**Technology**

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a new Premier's Council on Technology to help bridge the "digital divide" and recommend strategies to enable all Albertans to participate in and benefit from increased jobs and opportunities in the new economy.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work to extend high-speed, broadband Internet access to every community in Alberta through wireless technology, cable, phone lines and fibre optics.

An Alberta Alliance Government will put more computers in schools and more resources into enhancing computer literacy.

An Alberta Alliance Government will make Alberta a world leader in E-government, to give all citizens and businesses better on-line access to core services, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

An Alberta Alliance Government will use on-line procurement technology to lower operating costs and maximize taxpayers' value-for-money on all major government purchases.

*(economic policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will cut the cost of paper flow by digitizing government data, forms and information.

### **Tourism**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports tourism as a major growth area for the provinces' economy. As such an Alberta Alliance Government will negotiate cooperative control over the National Parks in Alberta be shared with the Government of Canada in order to have Albertans included in deciding the fate of our natural heritage rather than simply the federal government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will stimulate tourism with a plan to improve operators' ability to successfully compete for visitors from around the world.

### **Transportation**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program of upgrading provincial transportation systems to provide a viable network that would join all regions within Alberta. This would result in enhanced domestic and international agricultural and business export opportunities.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate that all revenues generated by a provincial gasoline tax will be used for transportation purposes (i.e. road upgrading or public transportation).

An Alberta Alliance Government will focus resources on improving Northern and rural transportation.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a comprehensive transportation strategy that recognizes the interdependence of national, provincial and municipal responsibilities in maintaining Alberta's transportation infrastructure.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a cooperative dialogue with municipalities on transportation.

## social policies

### Arts and Culture

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage and support, through funding for community projects and school programs such as music, art, theatre, dance, sculpture, reading-writing and other arts and cultural activities as an essential enrichment of life and integral part of Alberta's communities and cultural diversity.

### Discrimination

The Alberta Alliance Party condemns discrimination.

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the right of each individual to pursue their goals and objectives in a free society secure in the knowledge of their equality under the law.

### Education

The Alberta Alliance Party believes that the single most important factor in educational achievement is a supportive home life. As such an Alberta Alliance Government will work to empower parents in the educational process.

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the concept of School Choice. School choice is about giving all parents the chance to be integral participants in their children's education. Power and choices make people feel more involved, more effective and more satisfied as citizens. Children whose parents can choose their best educational environment learn better and have a better chance to become productive Alberta citizens. It's about improving public education and better preparing our kids for the future. It's about equality, it's about empowerment, it's about choices for our parents and chances for our children...ALL our children.

The Alberta Alliance Party believes that whether rich or poor, those adults who know the child the best, care the most, and are most affected by the success or failure of their decision, should select the school that their child will attend.

#### *Ten Principles of Fair and Effective School Choice Legislation*

To be fair and acceptable, school choice legislation should observe the following principles:

*(social policies continued)*

1. It must not disturb families happy with their child's current school.
2. It must not reduce per-pupil spending in the public schools and should not increase total public spending on education except for those increases that would naturally occur as the result of increased student numbers or a growing commitment to education on the part of Alberta's citizens.
3. It must ensure that participation in the system of opportunity scholarships is voluntary for both the families and the schools. No person or educational institution will be mandated to do anything.
4. It must include all schools - public, private, and religiously affiliated - that wish to participate and are prepared to accept reasonable measures of accountability.
5. It must introduce no new regulations on private schools that would threaten their mission, identity or autonomy; and offer a similar and prompt deregulation to those public schools that wish it.
6. It must include provisions to assure that children from low-income families have fair access to public schools their families prefer.
7. It must safeguard the interests of the families and the taxpayers by ensuring that no school that advocates unlawful behavior; teaches hatred of any person or group on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion or gender; or deliberately provides false or misleading information shall be eligible to redeem opportunity scholarships.
8. Its implementation must be gradual, orderly, and fair, protecting individual schools from abrupt large-scale reductions or unwanted increases in their number of students.
9. It must phase in opportunity scholarships for children who are already outside the school system including those who are home-schooled.
10. It must be compliant with federal and provincial constitutional provisions, readily understood by ordinary citizens, and able to be implemented without excessive administration.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a student based funding system for financing education which would allow funding via "Alberta Opportunity

*(social policies continued)*

Scholarships" to follow the student to the accredited education facility of parental choice.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate that Alberta Opportunity Scholarships include all funding for student education - instruction, support and capital.

An Alberta Alliance Government will set high standards for education. These standards addressing student readiness, teacher quality, high school graduation, and family literacy must reinforce the overall goal to improve student learning from early childhood to adult education.

An Alberta Alliance Government will expect our education system to improve by measuring progress and know when we succeed and when we fail. The process will measure student learning from year to year and become the backbone of the province's accountability system.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a clear reporting mechanism for achievement. Once progress is measured, it must be reported to the students, parents and communities the schools serve. Given reliable and easy to understand information on the quality of their schools, parents can become better partners in the effort to improve.

The Alberta Alliance Party proposes that all schools will receive a report card on how well they perform. They will receive grades from A to F and will receive rewards for performance. School performance will not just include overall student achievement, but schools will be measured also on how well the lowest performing students learn. Schools will not receive passing marks if the lowest performing students are left behind. Schools making excellent performance or significant improvement will be recognized. Parents will receive report cards on how well their child's school performs each year. Report cards are valuable tools for assessing the progress of our children and can serve the same function for our schools.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate the policy of social promotion (being promoted without demonstrating achievement) in Alberta's schools. Students will be required to meet standards in order to be promoted to the next grade.

An Alberta Alliance Government will reward schools for achievement and improvement. The private sector has long used incentives to improve

*(social policies continued)*

performance. It works. The public sector however sometimes confuses uniformity with fairness. The true measure of fairness is when compensation matches the quality of work.

An Alberta Alliance Government will help failing schools. Schools with added challenges need our help and attention. They need our best teachers, our strongest partnerships, and our most determined parents.

An Alberta Alliance Government will reward high performing educators. What incentives does the system now have for improving teacher performance? How do we recognize excellence? Excellence has disappeared from some teacher evaluations systems. How would we react if no student were allowed to make an A in a subject? If we want A+ schools, we have to identify and reward excellent educators.

An Alberta Alliance Government will hold educators accountable for performance. Just as we reward excellence, we must identify, provide assistance to, and hold lower performing teachers accountable for their performance. Our plan requires teachers who have received less than satisfactory evaluations to demonstrate competence prior to being recertified to continue teaching. As a condition of recertification, these teachers will have one year of probation in which to correct deficiencies and will be required to pass the subject area test for their area of certification. The duty to fairly and accurately assess teacher performance will be a prominent part of the statutory duty of school administrators.

An Alberta Alliance Government will focus on improving teacher training.

An Alberta Alliance Government will invest more in school safety. Alberta will establish a premier school violence and crime electronic data reporting system. We will require all schools to develop school improvement plans that include specific measures for improving school discipline and safety.

An Alberta Alliance Government will expand second chance schools for disruptive and violent youth. Alberta has a chronic dropout problem. With more and more students reporting that they are afraid to go to school, our first priority must be to ensure a safe, secure learning environment.

An Alberta Alliance Government will prepare teachers to handle classroom discipline. Teachers consistently rate classroom management as the weakest area of

Principles & Policies

*(social policies continued)*

preparation for the job of teaching. Today's students offer greater challenges to experienced teachers as well as those just entering the workforce.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work to reduce absenteeism and truancy. High rates of school absenteeism and truancy lead to lower student performance and increased daytime juvenile crime. Students have to be in school to benefit from programs funded by taxpayers.

An Alberta Alliance Government will restore education as an essential service under the Labour Code, to ensure that no child's right to an education is denied during school strikes and lockouts.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that music, arts and physical education curriculums are fully funded in Alberta's public schools.

An Alberta Alliance Government will double the annual number of graduates in computer science, and electrical and computer engineering, within five years.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase investment in technology research and post-secondary skills training.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a new professional organization for educators, patterned after the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons.

An Alberta Alliance Government will implement policies that ensure that the same funding rate per student applies throughout the province, with extra funding for programs which address special needs programs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute mandatory Canadian History courses in all middle and high schools in Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute annual testing of all students on provincially established evaluations on all subjects studied by the individual student. A passing grade would be a simple 50% with results being given in actual percentages and not simple pass/fail terms.

The Alberta Alliance Party supports continuing education for members of the professions in the province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage and promote the development of student entrepreneurial courses in Alberta schools to teach students the



*(social policies continued)*

fundamentals of business as well as the responsibilities and challenges that face those who own and operate their own businesses.

An Alberta Alliance Government will investigate online schooling initiatives for students in remote areas and for Alberta children currently receiving home schooling.

The Alberta Alliance Party will implement Alberta Citizenship courses for grades K-12 to strengthen and support family values, democratic principles and duties of citizenship.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide forgivable student loans to Alberta students attending accredited schools of education provided they teach for ten years in underserved communities in Alberta.

**Families**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the family as the cornerstone of our society. As such we commit to protect and enhance this treasured institution.

An Alberta Alliance Government will oppose all acts of family violence particularly against children. We commit to establish a child's defense agency, which would protect all children against these reprehensible acts. We further commit to implementing educational activities to help the abused and the abuser and provide plentiful access for all Albertans to therapy where required.

The Alberta Alliance Party believes that parental authority and responsibility need to be recognized and protected.

An Alberta Alliance Government will train more social workers to meet the critical skills shortage that presently exists.

An Alberta Alliance Government will focus on early identification of at-risk children, and measures aimed at preventing crisis situations before they arise.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work with foster parents to help them improve care and placements of foster children.

An Alberta Alliance Government will enhance training, resources and authority for front-line social workers to properly protect children at risk and improve services to families.

ALBERTA  
ALLIANCE  
PRINCIPLES  
& POLICIES

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will earmark a significant portion of the revenues generated from gambling for the rehabilitation of gambling addicts and for educational programs aimed at reducing gambling.

An Alberta Alliance Government will collaborate with non-profit societies and commit adequate funding for emergency residences to ensure that all children and victims of violence have a decent bed to sleep in and good food to eat.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure people fleeing violent situations are provided with sufficient time and support, including increased stays in transition houses to re-establish themselves and not face a future life of poverty.

**First Nations**

An Alberta Alliance Government will offer to negotiate a delegated, municipal-style of self-government with any First Nation that wants to move beyond the failed Indian Act.

The authority of the Provincial government shall take precedence over the authority of the municipal style government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will seek clear direction from the Supreme Court of Canada on constitutional questions about aboriginal self-government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will create a permanent First Nations Forum that will provide aboriginal citizens living on and off reserves a direct means to communicate with government about their priorities and ideas to materially improve their quality of life today.

An Alberta Alliance Government will devote special attention and resources to addressing the challenges and needs of aboriginal women and youth, and to helping aboriginal families bridge the "digital divide."

**Health Care**

An Alberta Alliance Government will fully enforce the five basic principles of the Canada Health Act as follows:

Public administration;

Comprehensiveness;

*(social policies continued)*

Universality;

Portability; and

Accessibility.

An Alberta Alliance Government will abolish government appointed regional health boards, in favour of democratically elected local hospital boards and the professional management of health care dollars.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide health care funding by providing for patient treatment. All health care funding would "follow the patient" to their health care provider and approved facility of choice.

An Alberta Alliance Government will allow all Hospitals and other health care facilities to compete.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute preventative health care and the incorporation of a "health and wellness" program in all educational institutions.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate all grants and subsidies to Hospitals and other Health Care facilities in the province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate healthcare premiums.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute coverage for out of province authorized medical treatment that is unavailable in Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide Albertans with a choice for alternative medicine covered by Medicare.

An Alberta Alliance Government will expand funding for home care, supported housing, assisted living, long-term care facilities and palliative care hospices to provide better, less costly and more patient-friendly alternatives to hospital care.

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage health care practitioners to emphasize wellness, self-reliance and conservation through preventative approaches to the practice of medicine.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a decentralized model for health care service delivery, assuring local accountability and community participation.

ALBERTA  
ALLIANCE  
SOCIAL  
POLICIES

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will encourage dialogue among health care consumers and providers about the allocation of health care resources.

An Alberta Alliance Government will promote the elimination of pollutants from the environment as a positive instrument of health care.

An Alberta Alliance Government will expand training and post-secondary programs to graduate more Care Aides, Licensed Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide forgivable student loans to Alberta students attending accredited nursing and medical schools provided they practice for ten years in underserved communities in Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase the number of medical school graduates over the next five years.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish provincial health standards that ensure all citizens in every part of the province are entitled to equitable, reliable, high quality health services.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop performance measures that are annually audited and publicly reported for each health standard, to ensure the entire health system is accountable for fulfilling their duties to provide the prescribed levels of patient care.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a 10-year human resource plan, that properly provides for the training, recruitment and retention of physicians, nurses, specialists and other health care providers in every area of the province, and that addresses critical skills shortages and staffing levels in under-serviced areas.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop an Intermediate and Long-Term Care Facilities Plan, which addresses the needs of our aging population and frees up existing acute care beds.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a Medical Machinery and Equipment Plan that ensures existing medical diagnostic and care equipment is adequately staffed, fully utilized and properly maintained, and that provides for future investments in new equipment and technologies.

ALBERTA  
ALLIANCE  
SOCIAL  
POLICIES

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a comprehensive Technology Plan to assist health care professionals in delivering faster, more effective treatment to patients through new information technology and telemedicine.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish a Rural and Remote Health Initiative to ensure all families get the care they need, where they live, when they need it.

An Alberta Alliance Government will fully fund and implement a mental health initiative.

An Alberta Alliance Government will focus funding on patient care, by reducing waste in the system and eliminating administrative duplication and costs from provincial government mismanagement.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide assistance and opportunities to help nurses develop the specialized skills needed in intensive care units, emergency rooms and operating rooms.

An Alberta Alliance Government will launch a massive recruitment drive to bring non-practicing RNs and LPNs back into our health care system.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase locum support to relieve pressure and reduce workloads, to enhance health care professionals' quality of life.

An Alberta Alliance Government will introduce a Rural and Remote Training Support program that provides financial and travel assistance to health care providers who want to update or upgrade their skills and training.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase the number of residency positions in Alberta's hospitals in the next five years.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate that Alberta Health covers ambulance charges.

An Alberta Alliance Government will give ambulance attendants better access to training and better life-support and communications equipment needed to capitalize on those skills.

An Alberta Alliance Government will pressure the federal government to restore all of the health care funding withdrawn through budget cuts.

Alberta  
Social  
Policies

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will work with non-profit societies to build and operate an additional 5,000 new intermediate and long-term care beds by 2006.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide expanded home care and palliative care services to assist chronically and terminally ill patients with supportive home environments, as an option to institutional care.

An Alberta Alliance Government will build a unified, universal, and cost-effective health services information network that will improve care and reduce long-term costs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase technology funding and digital infrastructure support to facilitate tele-health options that will expedite and improve treatments, and reduce travel requirements for Northern and rural residents.

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop a rural travel assistance program, to reduce rural patients' transportation and lodging costs to receive treatment that is not locally available.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that patients living at home in palliative or long term care are entitled to the same pharmaceutical benefits as they would have if they were in a hospital.

An Alberta Alliance Government will give all citizens better access to their medical records and treatment histories, and enhanced information privacy rights.

An Alberta Alliance Government will support community services volunteers and repeal the current legislation that allowed government to expropriate community health facilities without compensation.

An Alberta Alliance Government will intensify efforts to promote wellness and preventative care through better education, dietary habits and physical activity.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase funding for Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports to promote physical fitness and participation in amateur sport.

An Alberta Alliance Government will enhance preventative drug and alcohol efforts, such as addiction counseling for new mothers and the reduction of fetal alcohol syndrome.

social  
policy

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will work to minimize inter-jurisdictional overlaps that are adding confusion and costs to health care delivery.

An Alberta Alliance Government will undertake a targeted education campaign to reduce incidence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS).

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a new Health Management System that rewards cost effective, cost-saving administration by providing incentives to doctors, nurses and health care professionals.

An Alberta Alliance Government will create a new model for delivery of health care that is holistic in its approach, includes alternative and preventative care, and ensures that responsibilities for diagnosis and treatment are shared across a broad range of certified health care professionals in more democratic, flexible, team-based workplace environments.

An Alberta Alliance Government will expand the funding for and number of multi-disciplinary, 24-hour-a-day community-based health care centres to eventually include all regions of the province to alleviate pressures on emergency room services.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase education funding in post-secondary institutes to upgrade the qualifications of current health care professionals and train more doctors, nurses, ambulance paramedics and alternative health care professionals to meet Alberta's long term needs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will consider full Health-care funding to cover services and products by licensed naturopathic physicians, and restore full funding to chiropractors and physiotherapists.

An Alberta Alliance Government supports the use of self-directed, alternative forms of medical treatment, as a means of returning more responsibility to citizens for the management of their own health needs.

An Alberta Alliance Government will commit to developing provincial standards for acute care services.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish and fund a fully independent Health Ombudsman in Alberta to resolve complaints from residents regarding the health care system in Alberta.



*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will develop and implement a retention and recruitment plan in full consultation with all health care service providers that will more effectively attract all health care professionals to Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will deliver an annual Individual Statement of Benefits' to each resident of Alberta outlining the health care products and services received from the provincial health care system and the cost of those products and services.

An Alberta Alliance Government will secure the rights of persons with a disability to ongoing access to extended medical benefits.

An Alberta Alliance Government will mandate that hospitalization costs of vehicle accidents caused by inebriation will be covered by the individuals vehicle insurance.

The Alberta Alliance government will guarantee minimal wait times.

The Alberta Alliance party will hold a referendum to prioritize spending on health care services.

**Housing**

An Alberta Alliance Government will allocate publicly owned land for affordable housing where appropriate.

An Alberta Alliance Government will implement a flexible, innovative program to increase the supply of affordable housing.

An Alberta Alliance Government will have as a goal the elimination of homelessness in Alberta within our first term of office.

**Immigration**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports an immigration policy based upon equality for all acceptable immigration applicants regardless of race, color, creed, religious background, education or financial capabilities.

An Alberta Alliance Government will seek to administer immigration in Alberta as is done in Quebec.

*(social policies continued)*

### **Justice**

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish an Alberta provincial police force. We feel that Alberta can operate a more efficient and effective police force than Ottawa can.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute greater independence within the office of the Minister of Justice.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute the right of compensation, from convicted persons, to the victims of their crimes.

An Alberta Alliance Government will challenge all federally sponsored firearms control legislation as being unconstitutional. Firearms are property and therefore fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the provincial government.

An Alberta Alliance Government will protect private property rights to prevent government from expropriating assets without fair compensation.

An Alberta Alliance Government will return 75% of all traffic fine revenue to municipalities, to improve community policing and crime prevention.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure auxiliary police officers are properly trained and armed to protect their communities.

An Alberta Alliance Government will eliminate photo radar and red light cameras to put police officers back on the street, enforcing traffic safety.

An Alberta Alliance Government will hold the line on court fees, to ensure that everyone has affordable access to our justice system.

An Alberta Alliance Government will fight child prostitution and youth crime with legislation aimed at providing greater protection to children at risk of exploitation and greater parental responsibility for children who commit property crimes.

An Alberta Alliance Government will vigorously defend Albertans ownership of provincial land and resources.

An Alberta Alliance Government will stand up for the equality of all Canadians and all provinces under the Canadian Constitution.

Alberta  
Social  
Policies

*(social policies continued)*

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure all Albertans have equal access to legal representation and justice.

An Alberta Alliance Government will extend the right of incorporation to all occupations and will work with professional associations to implement this policy.

The Alberta Alliance Party holds as one of its major beliefs that the rights of victims of crime must take precedence over those found guilty of committing crimes.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a wide-scale, independent public review of the entire system of justice in Alberta in order to strengthen the system and enhance public confidence in it.

An Alberta Alliance Government will introduce new initiatives for Maintenance Enforcement to bring about better compliance of maintenance orders and visitation orders.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require young offenders to participate in crime prevention courses to emphasize the impact of crime on victims and also on the future prospects of perpetrators.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require all young offenders to perform some form of community service.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure young offenders are required to take educational courses, focusing on literacy and life skills, and – when required – undergo chemical dependency assistance.

An Alberta Alliance Government will enact privacy legislation, including regulations governing the use of video surveillance equipment on public and private land.

An Alberta Alliance Government will establish an independent investigatory agency for the purpose of reviewing complaints against the police and private security companies and administering disciplinary action.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program where all sentences given in provincial court will be subject to a "truth in sentencing" provision. This provision will eliminate the possibility of parole; all time will be served. While a

social  
policies

*(social policies continued)*

sentence cannot be shortened, provisions would be made to provide for sentence extensions for unacceptable behavior.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby juvenile records would be released at the first adult felony conviction in order that long time offenders can be quickly identified.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby convicted criminals on probation would be tested, on a regular basis, for drug use.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby juvenile offenders could be sentenced to "boot camps" featuring physical labour and education.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program of community policing, which will put more police officers on the street instead of behind desks.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure sufficient funding for municipal policing to allow for effective policing and protection of Alberta people.

An Alberta Alliance Government will inform victims of crime regarding the progress of prosecution.

An Alberta Alliance Government will actively persuade the Federal Government to develop a national sex-offender registry with links to the provinces.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute legally enforceable arbitration between all parties in a legal dispute to settle non-criminal actions.

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute a program whereby all provincial court judges would be elected every four years in conjunction with the provincial elections.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure our police have the tools to pursue internet-related crime, like child pornography.

The Alberta Alliance Party opposes allowing criminals to vote while they are incarcerated.

The Alberta Alliance government will investigate the elimination of uninsured, registered vehicles.

*(social policies continued)*

### **Multiculturalism**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the concept of all citizens being first and foremost Albertans with our combined ethnic backgrounds forming a unique and distinct culture that we know as Alberta. The concept of individual ethnic group maintenance rests solely on those who wish to support their heritage.

### **Post-Secondary Education**

An Alberta Alliance Government will institute an educational scholarship form of financing for all Albertans seeking a post secondary education. Each qualified Alberta student will receive a full scholarship for five years to the post secondary institution of choice within Alberta.

An Alberta Alliance Government will ensure that Albertans will be given priority, over out of province students, for admission to, and funding for, Alberta post secondary institutions.

An Alberta Alliance Government will endeavor to utilize the technologies available to make higher education more accessible to all Albertans.

An Alberta Alliance Government will work with employers, post-secondary institutes and the Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission to increase training and apprenticeships in trades and technical sectors.

An Alberta Alliance Government will strengthen our network of colleges, institutes and on-line learning throughout the province.

An Alberta Alliance Government will increase research and development funding for colleges, universities and institutes and encourage private sector partnerships.

### **Social Issues and Social Responsibility**

The Alberta Alliance Party supports the concept of social responsibility within the framework of a free enterprise economic system. We support compassionate service, voluntarism, individual responsibility and care for those not able to care for themselves.

Alberta  
Social  
Policies

*(social policies continued)*

### **Welfare**

An Alberta Alliance Government will support the right of individuals and families to be helped by society in such times and cases when they are incapable of helping themselves. However, the priority of the welfare system should be to assist the individual in realizing their full potential and re-establishing their self-esteem through active self-management and work experience.

An Alberta Alliance Government will require employable persons receiving social assistance to upgrade their skills for the purposes of obtaining employment.

An Alberta Alliance Government will provide incentives for people to get off welfare and become employed by allowing welfare recipients to keep 100% of the wages they earn, up to the “poverty line” as determined by Statistics Canada.

social