

# FIVE FOR THE *FUTURE*

**Hugh McFadyen's** Five Key Priorities for the Future

**PC** MANITOBA



# **FIVE** FOR THE **FUTURE**

## **Our Commitment**

- ▶ Reattract young people
- ▶ Restore our front lines
- ▶ Reclaim our safety
- ▶ Rejuvenate our communities
- ▶ Refresh our environment

## **Big Five Hugh Will Do**

- ▶ 1% PST reduction
- ▶ More cells for criminals
- ▶ Bring back the Jets
- ▶ Restore our ERs
- ▶ Rejuvenate our Downtown



## **Message from Hugh McFadyen:**

***"If we can dream it, we can do it."***

**We've got to give young Manitobans something to dream about. That's why I don't look at Manitoba as what we're not. I look at Manitoba as what we can be. In fact, I've always believed that if we can dream it, we can do it.**

**Together, we can have streets that are safe again, a city that is one of Canada's coolest, respect for our health care professionals, communities that are not only clean but vibrant and growing, plus a way of life that keeps getting better no matter what your age or stage in life.**

**Our plan demonstrates that we will offer Manitobans hope for the future and a reason to believe that, together, we can do better.**

**Hugh McFadyen, Leader  
Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba**



## **Table of Contents**

### **Message from Hugh McFadyen**

### **Reattract young people**

**Tax Relief**  
**Provincial Sales Tax**  
**Education Taxes**  
**Personal Income Taxes**  
**Business Taxes**  
**Winnipeg Jets**  
**Immigration**  
**Post Secondary Education and Training**  
**Strategy for Capital Markets**  
**Government Accountability**

### **Restore our front lines**

**Reduce Winnipeg Health Authority**  
**Bureaucracy**  
**Women's Health**  
**Cancer Excellence for the Next Generation**  
**Emergency Rooms**  
**Mental Health**

### **Reclaim our safety**

**Public Safety**  
**Courts**  
**Policing**  
**Prosecutions**  
**Corrections**  
**Addictions**  
**Youth Crime**  
**Auto Theft**  
**Gangs**

### **Rejuvenate our communities**

**Winnipeg**  
**Brandon**  
**Rural Manitoba**  
**Cattle Industry**  
**Northern Manitoba**  
**Education K-12**  
**Child Care**  
**Aboriginal Peoples**  
**Arts and Culture**

### **Refresh our environment**

**Manitoba Hydro**  
**Conservation Districts, Drainage and**  
**Water Management**  
**Green House Gases and Clean Energy**  
**Biofuels Industry**  
**Protected areas**

### **Progressive Conservative Candidates**



## Reattract young people

### Tax Relief

A strong growing economy is a fundamental prerequisite to the things we value as a society – quality of life, opportunity, health and social justice. According to the Chambers of Commerce, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business and the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, one of the most pressing problems facing Manitoba's economy is high taxes. Manitoba lacks the competitive tax environment necessary to compete with our other provinces when it comes to attracting businesses and individuals.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

#### Provincial Sales Tax

- Reduce the PST by one point to 6 percent saving the average family of four \$250 a year, at a cost of \$190 million annually

#### Education Property Taxes

- Legislate a freeze of all education taxes, including commercial properties
- Reduce school taxes for home and cottage owners by 50% over six years, saving Manitobans \$105 million
- Reduce school taxes on property by 50% for seniors effective 2009, saving seniors \$17 million
- Eliminate school taxes on farmland by 2009, saving producers \$16 million
- Strip taxing powers from school boards

#### Personal Income Taxes

- Increase the basic personal income tax exemption in \$200 increments for a total of \$600 by January 1, 2011, saving Manitobans \$36 million, and taking 12,000 low income Manitobans off the provincial tax rolls
- Reduce the middle income tax rate from 12.75% in annual increments to 10.5% by 2011, thereby eliminating the middle tax bracket by 2011
- Index tax brackets and some tax credits to eliminate 'bracket creep' starting in 2010, saving Manitobans \$18 million annually

#### Business Taxes

- Reduce the payroll tax by increasing the exemption threshold from \$1.25 million to \$2 million by 2011
- Eliminate small business income tax by 2010
- Eliminate the corporation capital tax (CCT) by 2010
- Reduce the general corporate income tax rate to 12% in 2009
- Cut red tape by 25% in four years





## Reattract young people

### Winnipeg Jets

Manitobans deserves a government with vision that is committed to creating a cool, youth-friendly capital city. The loss of the Winnipeg Jets left an emotional hole in Manitoba that's crying to be filled.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Form a partnership with community leaders dedicated to trying to bring back the Winnipeg Jets through initiatives that could include:
- Government issued Winner Bonds to allow Manitobans to invest in the future of the Jets, modeled after the highly successful Hydro Bonds
- A "White-Out to Win" lottery modeled after an Alberta lottery which generated \$4 million annually
- An NHL Players' Tax modeled after the Player's Tax which raised \$13 million in support of Alberta's NHL franchises

### Immigration

Manitoba has been built by waves of immigrants who have chosen our great province to put down roots. We need to continue this tradition by breaking down the barriers they face when it comes to employment opportunities.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Increase immigration by 10,000 in ten years
- Refocus the provincial immigration branch on providing newcomers with information and assistance to:
  - Gain employment in Manitoba within their chosen professions
  - Assess and gain recognition for current education and skills levels
  - Develop an internship program to provide newcomers with Manitoba work experience
  - Create within the Ombudsman's Office a specific function to oversee the recognition process



## Reattract young people

### Post Secondary Education and Training

Keeping our young people at home begins with providing students with the access to the best education possible.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Make Manitoba's post-secondary institutions stronger and better able to compete
- Ensure fairness for students, providing guaranteed access for qualified, low-income students
- Within 30 days of taking office appoint a task force to examine the significant challenges facing our post-secondary institutions including:
  - Examining best practices at other Canadian universities and colleges
  - Undertaking consultations with key stakeholders including business and former, current and future staff and students
  - Making recommendations regarding funding models for undergraduate faculties and colleges
  - Examining governance and bargaining models
- Double the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative provincial funding to \$10 million per year
- Allow professional and graduate faculties, like engineering, to increase fees, but only following a student referendum in support of a fee increase
- Provide employed tradespersons with an annual income tax deduction of up to \$500 to help cover the cost of new tools necessary to their trade
- Work to increase the number of Red Seal Trades Manitoba is able to deliver
- Ensure clear, concise data is publicly available, including rates of completion, where dollars are spent and what the goals are for the year
- Provide greater flexibility as to when courses are offered
- Ensure greater communication between employers and Apprenticeship program planners to ensure up-to-date information industry trends and information about shortages

## Reattract young people

### Rebuilding Our Capital Markets

Manitobans and shareholders need to know what really led to the downfall of the Crocus Investment Fund. Only a public inquiry will force every person involved in the Crocus Scandal to testify under oath and only then will Manitobans hear the truth of what really led to the demise of the Crocus Investment Fund.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Accept responsibility for Crocus and move on with an inquiry and settlement
- Strengthen Manitoba's securities law enforcement to position our province as a national leader
- Strengthen Labour Sponsored Investment Funds
- Provide a two year injection of adrenaline to capital markets with dedicated funds to provide seed capital for entrepreneurial start-up programs
- Work with the federal government to establish a national Centre of Excellence in the field of medical research
- Connect Manitoba's science and technology research sector with entrepreneurs

### Government Accountability

Manitoba needs a government that is open and accountable and that will answer to Manitobans with integrity, accepting responsibility for the actions it takes. It's time to reexamine our democratic processes and return real accountability to our institutions of government.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Implement set election dates every four years
- Require the Auditor General to review all government advertising before it is undertaken to ensure it is non-partisan
- Introduce effective whistleblower legislation to help ensure that potential whistleblowers come forward
- Review Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to make the system more transparent and easy for the public to use
- Establish a Privacy Commissioner
- Require legislative committees, including the Public Accounts Committee, to adhere to a detailed, clear, concise, and unambiguous statement of mandate and powers
- Allow Progressive Conservative MLAs to vote their conscience on all issues except the Speech from the Throne, the Budget and matters that form part of the party's platform
- Require that all Cabinet Ministers are elected members of the legislature
- Require all Cabinet Ministers to post their government funded expenses annually







## Restore our front lines

### **Reduce Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Bureaucracy**

Measuring the size of the WRHA has become increasingly difficult in recent years, since the regional health authority stopped publicly reporting the cost of its corporate bureaucracy. Manitobans deserve to see their health dollars spent on direct patient care and not on fancy offices and a bloated bureaucracy.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Freeze WRHA corporate bureaucratic growth
- Conduct a comprehensive audit of the WRHA books
- Give Manitobans and health care professionals their say through public consultations
- Ensure the WRHA is transparent and accountable to Manitobans
- More clearly define roles and responsibilities of government, the WRHA and health care facilities
- Hold bureaucratic spending to 3% of the WRHA budget

### **Women's Health**

Manitoba women deserve access to the highest standard of care in prevention, early intervention, and treatment. Targeted investments in areas like immunization, diagnosis, and maternity care will directly benefit Manitoba women and help set the stage for future generations of healthy mothers and daughters.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a Community Birthing Centre in south Winnipeg, at a cost of \$3.25 million
- Establish a Midwifery Education program in Manitoba, at a cost of \$2 million
- Establish a provincial Perinatal Health Program, at a cost of \$750,000





## Restore our front lines

### Emergency Rooms

Manitoba Emergency Rooms are in crisis. Manitobans need to know that when they need an ER, they can count on it to be open and able to care for them in a timely manner. It is time for action. Nearly, ten years of neglect have meant that service has deteriorated to the point that hospitals like the Grace Hospital may be forced to close this summer.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Create a \$5 million Family Physician Fund to increase hours for family practices and walk-in clinics
- Double the bonuses paid by the Specialist Recruitment Fund, which will help address the ER doctor shortage
- Double the number of nurse practitioners in Manitoba from 30 to 60
- Ensure foreign-trained health care professional credentials are recognized in a timely manner
- Improve ER management and frontline worker satisfaction through the WRHA review
- Establish Acute Admission Units in Winnipeg hospitals beginning with the Grace and Victoria Hospitals
- Expand the use of "treat not transfer" protocols for patients who can safely be treated at the scene by highly qualified paramedics
- Grant self regulation to the profession of paramedicine in Manitoba
- Expand scopes of practice for paramedics
- Address ambulance offload delays
- Implement an ER wait time monitoring program





## Restore our front lines

### Cancer Excellence for the Next Generation

According to Statistics Canada cancer may soon surpass heart disease as the main cause of death in Canada. It's a disease that touches us all. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to make investments now in prevention, early detection, treatment, and research to lessen the impacts of this devastating disease on the next generation.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a Caring for Cancer 2020 Task Force aimed at making substantial improvements to cancer outcomes by the year 2020
- With a focus on prevention, early detection, treatment, patient/family supports, and research, the Task Force will produce a report in the first ten months of a Progressive Conservative mandate
- Enhance colorectal screening initiatives
- Invest \$10 million in additional funding for CancerCare Manitoba for cancer drugs – Avastin in particular
- Provide \$250,000 in support of "A Port in the Storm", a charity planning to provide accommodations for rural Manitobans receiving cancer treatments in Winnipeg
- Provide \$4 million for the Manitoba Health Research Council's research strategy
- Funding for cervical cancer/HPV vaccination program, as already announced
- Enhance prevention strategies, including an obesity action plan

### Mental Health

Senator Michael Kirby's report on mental illness emphasized that meaningful improvements in health care are impossible unless we make meaningful improvements in mental health. One in five Canadians will experience some kind of mental disorder and two thirds of them will not get treatment.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Develop "Making Mental Health a Priority" - a comprehensive provincial mental health plan with strong consumer and family representation
- Invest \$8.5 million more annually for:
  - Housing for people with severe mental illness
  - The addition of more community mental health workers
  - The addition of PACT teams to Brandon and Winnipeg
  - Establish an independent Mental Health Patient Advocate Office





## Reclaim our safety

### Public Safety

The safety of our children, our homes, our valuables and our community is a priority for law-abiding Manitobans. Victims deserve a strong voice in our justice system, while the Department of Justice needs to concentrate on prosecutions to ensure criminals are held accountable for their actions.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a Department of Public Safety responsible for:
- Policing
- Public safety programs
- Public security measures
- Victims' services
- Correctional services
- Rehabilitative opportunities for offenders
- Hold public hearings into the Public Trustee Act as a way to improve and modernize the Act

### The Courts

Growing court backlogs have resulted in a loss of confidence in the justice system. As trials become more and more delayed, cases are thrown out and shocking sentences are handed down, resulting in victims feeling re-victimized. A lack of judicial resources has prevented courts from being able to effectively deal with the court backlog problem.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Require provincial court judges to undergo an interview process, conducted publicly by a legislative committee, to test their qualifications, and learn their views on the law and on the role of judges before they're hired
- Give police and victims' organizations a voice in the process of nominating provincial court judges
- Hire six new judges and two case managers
- Increase the courts budget by 25% over two years, at a cost of \$11.4 million
- Allow television cameras in courts





## Reclaim our safety

### Policing

The men and women of law enforcement are the heroes of our justice system. When others are rushing away from emergency and danger, they are rushing in to help those in need. Despite their heroic work, police officers struggle in Manitoba to find the time and resources to do the job right. While the demands on Manitoba police continued to increase, the resources have not kept up.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Add 150 Winnipeg police over four years, at a cost of \$12.9 million
- Hire 50 new support staff and criminal analysts to get all police onto the streets, \$2.6 million
- Hire 10 new officers for Brandon to fight the growing gang problem, at a cost of \$860,000
- Add 30 new officers to the RCMP to help battle growing caseloads, at a cost of \$3 million
- Create a special Crime Corridor Unit consisting of 32 specially trained sheriffs to patrol Manitoba's deadliest highways, at a cost of \$3.2 million
- Create a Police College and Recruitment Centre to train municipal by-law enforcement officers, special constables, sheriffs, and municipal police as well as private security and resource officers
- Use special constables in schools under the direction of a Safe Schools Police Unit
- Provide special constables in schools with training in emergency preparedness and conflict resolution
- Conduct a review of the Provincial Police Act to incorporate minimum training standards for police and special constables
- introduce legislation to allow bodily fluid testing where a good Samaritan, victim of crime or emergency service worker has come into contact with another person's bodily substance they believe may be infected with a communicable disease such as HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B and C





## Reclaim our safety

### Prosecutions

Crown Prosecutors are on the front line of our court system. They work as a team of professionals to help ensure justice is delivered in the courtroom. While Manitoba Justice is fortunate to have highly qualified Crown Prosecutors, it is having difficulty keeping them. They are grossly overworked and inadequately supported.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Hire 25 new prosecutors, at a cost of \$3.125 million
- Introduce a Director of Prosecutions model
- Hire 20 new support staff to help prosecutors manage their heavy caseloads, at a cost of \$1.26 million
- Target the most serious criminals in Manitoba by issuing the following clear directives to prosecutors:
  - No plea bargaining or withdrawal from cases involving crimes with guns
  - Seek mandatory minimum sentences for repeat auto thieves
  - No conditional sentences for sexual offences involving minors
  - Ensure the public has full information on sentences offenders receive by:
    - Publishing sentences to allow Manitobans to see the difference between what the prosecutors recommended and the actual sentences
    - Ensuring all directives from the Attorney General be issued in writing and published in the Manitoba Gazette
  - Issuing an annual report on bail and probation violations as well as the wait times to get a case to court

### Corrections

Manitoba's provincial jails have been over capacity for several years. Headingley Correctional Centre, Brandon Correctional Centre and the Remand Centre have all experienced crowding well beyond capacity. Overcrowding causes a number of problems. Most important is the danger posed to the men and women who work in these institutions.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Build a new, 300 cell provincial jail for men, requiring a capital expenditure of \$70 million and an annual operating costs of \$15.6 million
- Establish 'therapeutic communities' in the new facility to provide inmates with drug treatment separate from the general population, at a cost of \$3 million





## Reclaim our safety

### Addiction and Youth Crime

The use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco can rob our young people of their potential and their future. Studies show that 80% of crime is committed as a result of an addiction. The cycle of drug addiction and crime to feed the addiction is one that can only be broken by employing creative solutions.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Consult with communities and addictions treatment service providers to re-open/create 100 new residential treatment beds focusing on underserved regions including Brandon and northern Manitoba, at a cost of \$2 million
- Establish a Youth Intervention Centre to provide troubled youth with structured, supervised programs aimed at teaching them how to take responsibility for their own actions; how to help them control anger; and teaching other social and employability skills, requiring \$500,000 in annual operating costs and \$1 million in capital expenditures
- Establish a 'Fresh Future' fund committing 2% of Manitoba Liquor Control Commission net revenue to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, at a cost of \$4.8 million annually

### Auto Theft

Auto theft is a problem throughout Manitoba, leaving our province dubbed the 'Auto Theft Capital of Canada.' Currently, drivers who have \$300 and \$500 deductibles are forced to pay their entire deductible if someone tries to steal their vehicle, even if they have an approved immobilizer.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Ensure Manitoba drivers who protect their vehicles with approved immobilizers will be deductible-free if an auto thief either steals or unsuccessfully attempts to steal their vehicle, at maximum cost of \$2 million
- End accident benefits for auto thieves
- Create a robust bait car program, resulting in \$300,000 start up costs, and \$300,000 in annual operating costs
- Conduct an electronic monitoring bracelet test program





## Reclaim our safety

### Gangs

In a decade, membership in street gangs has doubled to an estimated 1,500. Shootings and stabbings continue to dominate headlines, while our court system struggles to put known gang members behind bars for their crimes. Manitobans should not be held financially responsible for the crimes of gang members and drug dealers.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Deny previously convicted gang members and drug dealers Legal Aid
- Strengthen Legal Aid's Audit Unit to allow it to 'trace and chase' gang assets to ensure they don't draw on taxpayer funded resources
- Provide 25 new officers to the city's Organized Crime Unit to focus on outlaw motorcycle gangs
- Hire 25 probation and bail officials to conduct round-the-clock checks, at a cost of \$1.5 million
- Require hospitals to report all gun and stab wounds to police
- Label gang activity a public nuisance to give police more power
- Allow community impact statements to be used in gang and gun related cases
- Hire two dedicated judges to deal quickly with gang and gun related offences







## Rejuvenate our communities

### Winnipeg

A strong Winnipeg helps to build a strong Manitoba, driving economic and social growth in both rural and urban areas in a mutually beneficial partnership that works to the advantage of every Manitoban. Over the past seven years, this mutually beneficial relationship between urban growth and rural success has broken down. Manitobans deserve a government that recognizes how important the success of the City of Winnipeg is to the Province of Manitoba.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Provide all municipalities an unconditional half per cent of PST ensuring a steady stream of revenue
- Support safer, more accessible cycling by committing \$3 million over the next five years towards the City of Winnipeg's plan to create a network of bike paths
- Eliminate the PST from bikes saving Manitobans \$2.4 million annually
- Support the creation of a covered four-plex soccer facility in South Winnipeg
- Support a new Winnipeg Blue Bomber Stadium
- Reinststate the funding agreement between the Province of Manitoba and the Manitoba Jockey Club (MJC), guaranteeing 75% of net VLT revenues
- Embark on a long-term plan to create an urban village in south Point Douglas, working with the private sector to rejuvenate the area
- Commit to working with the City to develop a rapid transit system for Winnipeg

### Brandon

The growth and progress Brandon has seen in recent years is largely due to vision and hard work. Manitoba's second largest city has long been capable of making decisions without interference from the provincial government. It deserves greater independence and the ability to decide what's best for the City and its residents.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Revitalize Brandon's downtown core
- Complete outstanding infrastructure projects in Brandon
- Explore licensing of specialty wine stores in Brandon
- Enter into consultations to give the City of Brandon greater control over its own affairs including enhancing Brandon's Charter to improve its the ability to:
- Make land use decisions
- Provide assistance for economic development through tax exemptions
- Establish business improvement zones
- Grant a full range of licenses – everything from business to recreational facilities





## Rejuvenate our communities

### Rural Manitoba

Manitoba's roots in agriculture and rural community have shaped how this province interacts with the rest of Canada and the world. Our values and quality of life are grounded in this rich history. Today, our rural communities and agriculture industry are facing difficult challenges. Economic pressures prevent municipalities from keeping pace with their infrastructure and social needs. The provincial government can provide greater assistance and leadership.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish an Agricultural Centre of Excellence focused on food and agricultural research, at a cost of \$20 million
- Commit to investment in road infrastructure to bring our neglected highways, roads and bridges up to acceptable standards
- Revise the lending and insurance formulas under the Young Farmer Program in a new Beginning Farmers Program
- Add a rural component to immigration policy
- Create a Value-Added Secretariat to promote Manitoba's emerging bio-economy
- Co-operate with the federal government to streamline the regulatory review for functional foods
- Explore options for further advancing rural and remote access to broadband Internet
- Consult with the federal government on solutions to short line railway abandonment
- Affirm a 40% funding pledge under the federal government's proposed revisions to the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) Program
- Work with the community to determine how best to fill Portage la Prairie's need for a new regional acute care hospital

### Cattle Industry

- Eliminate the \$2.00 cattle tax
- Abolish the Cattle Enhancement Council
- Embark on consultations with the cattle industry to re-establish its relationship with government
- Provide cattle producers with a 24-month interest relief period on outstanding BSE recovery loans





## Rejuvenate our communities

### Northern Manitoba

Northern Manitoba is an expansive region, and effective northern development must recognize the rich diversity of Manitoba's North, and the geographic and economic vulnerability of our northern communities. The North requires a new approach that is above all consultative and considerate of its unique challenges and opportunities.

A Progressive Conservative Government will:

- Maintain and manage existing infrastructure and social service delivery agencies effectively
- Seek out opportunities to develop new infrastructure and social service delivery agencies in the North
- Accelerate consultations with east side communities towards decisions on land use within their traditional territory, including the development of an east side transmission line and all-weather road
- Look at best-practice examples of Aboriginal economic integration, and apply these lessons to other industries
- Pursue the development of both the Keeyask and Conawapa Generating Stations
- Move forward immediately on Bipole III to ensure the reliability of Manitoba's transmission system
- Ensure that hiring preference is given to northerners during the construction of any new Hydro projects
- Ensure that Aboriginal people are given an opportunity to reap benefits during the construction phase of new Hydro projects, and that they receive ongoing benefits from the developments
- Protect our mining and forestry industries by creating a climate that is attractive to business, and encourages further investment





## Rejuvenate our communities

### Education K-12

The goal of the public education system is to bring out the very best in our children, recognizing that they come from all walks of life and do not all have the same talents and abilities. A quality education should provide the foundation our children need to compete in a global world. Manitoba students should leave our school system confident that the education they have completed has equipped them for whatever opportunities they choose to pursue in the future.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a College of Professional Teachers
- Implement standards tests at three stages in the K-12 progression in Mathematics and Language Arts
- Establish a new province-wide report card system with clear, measurable criteria
- Strengthen Schools of Choice for parents
- Combine the Department of Healthy Living into the Department of Education
- Establish a \$10 million Schools of Excellence Fund that will give principals more authority to shape their school's culture, staffing, organizational and instructional strategies.

Eligibility criteria will include:

- Student performance
- Progressive strategies for children with special needs
- Attendance rates
- Academic innovations
- Special community service
- Active Parent Advisory Councils and qualifications
- Qualifications and experience of the principal

### Child Care

Manitoba is fortunate to have some of the highest quality, most affordable child care in Canada. A Progressive Conservative government is committed to ensuring early childhood education remains a top priority, by maintaining and building on current investments while developing new strategies to address some of the challenges that have faced the child care system.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Maintain and enhance Manitoba's current child care program
- Implement a guaranteed increase in unit funding to child care centres of 2% annually for each of the next five years
- Invest \$3 million over two years for new spaces as a first step to increasing the availability of child care for Manitoba families
- Invest \$3 million in capital funding for the expansion and creation of child care facilities throughout Manitoba



## **Rejuvenate our communities**

### **Aboriginal People**

The First Nations and Aboriginal community makes up almost 15 percent of our provincial population, yet very little is being done to engage Aboriginal people to work in partnership with Manitobans, building a stronger Manitoba. Aboriginal people in Manitoba currently face tremendous challenges, such as barriers related to labour force participation and social inequality. Steps must be taken to address the challenges facing Aboriginal people because they will play a key role in the future success of our province.

A Progressive Conservative Government will:

- Create the Premier's First Nations and Aboriginal Issues Council to examine the social and economic health of First Nations and Aboriginal people in Manitoba, and directly focus on tackling the challenges they face with urban, rural and northern First Nations and Aboriginal people to all three levels of governments, post-secondary institutions and business leaders
- Respect the goals of the Kelowna Accord, and work towards achieving gains for Aboriginal people in the areas of: relationships, education, health, housing and economic opportunities
- Recognize the important role that Métis people play in our province, and work to advance the economic position of Métis people
- Respect the traditional rights of Métis people as described by the Supreme Court of Canada while ensuring the sustainability of our natural resources
- Work with the Manitoba Métis Federation to review and address findings from their new study on understanding the health challenges facing Métis people
- Make it a priority to accelerate the Treaty Land Entitlement Process so that First Nations people can gain access to the land that they are entitled to, and the economic opportunities that can be derived from this land
- Accelerate consultations with east side communities towards decisions on land use within their traditional territory, including the development of an east side transmission line and all-weather road
- Work with Aboriginal people to develop creative methods of applying information technology, such as increased distance education, and E-business opportunities
- Increase access to healthy foods by continuing to fund and support community gardens
- Develop a workable urban strategy in partnership with Aboriginal people, leaders, organizations and governments, the federal government and the City of Winnipeg



## Rejuvenate our communities

### Arts and Culture

Manitoba is a rich and diverse province, providing Manitobans with the opportunity to take in world class arts, entertainment and cultural performances. From Folklorama to Festival du Voyageur to Film Exchange and the many, many more that could not all possibly be listed here, Manitobans care deeply for our province's wide array of cultural activities and the thriving community that produces these events.

A Progressive Conservative Government will:

- Increase Manitoba Film and Sound's Equity fund from \$1.5 million to \$2 million during our mandate
- Maintain the Manitoba Film and Video Production Tax Credit





## Refresh our environment

### Manitoba Hydro

As the world moves to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, Manitoba is ideally positioned to capitalize on our abundant energy resources. Hydro power represents many things to Manitobans. It powers homes, stimulates the economy and creates hundreds of jobs every year. It also provides Manitoba with a clean energy alternative as the world moves towards becoming a low-carbon society. That's why clean energy policies will be cornerstones of a Progressive Conservative vision for the future.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Introduce "The Legacy Act", a Bill that amends the Manitoba Hydro Act to require unanimous consent of all Members of the Manitoba Legislature on any bill related to change in ownership of Manitoba Hydro
- Support the development of a transmission line on the east side of Lake Winnipeg
- Make Manitoba Hydro Canada's leading clean energy company
- Establish sustainable pricing policies that achieve environmental and economic objectives
- Build generation and transmission capacity to increase exports of hydro-electric energy, generating wealth for Manitobans and contributing to the global effort to move towards a lower carbon society
- Pursue the target of lowering the debt-to-equity ratio of Manitoba Hydro from its current 81:19 to 75:25
- Advance the development of other strategically important clean energy sources such as wind and hydrogen
- End the NDP raids on Hydro
- Protect the environment and save money by running transmission lines along the shortest possible routes
- Work in partnership with affected communities, particularly aboriginal communities, to ensure they receive benefits and appropriate opportunities
- End the NDP policy of encouraging natural gas use instead of clean hydro-electric power
- Change Manitoba Hydro's name to the Manitoba Clean Energy Company



## Refresh our environment

### Green House Gases and Clean Energy

Manitobans have been blessed with an abundance of natural resources, benefiting from the clean air, water, and renewable energy that we enjoy every day. Unfortunately, we are also starting to see evidence that the way we have lived our lives over the past half-century is not sustainable. A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Provide a 3% PST rebate on the purchase or lease of a fuel efficient vehicle, saving Manitobans on average \$1000 per vehicle
  - To apply to all cars that meet a minimum fuel consumption rating of 6.5 litres per 100 kilometers and all minivans, sport utility vehicles and light trucks with a rating of 8.3 litres per 100 kilometers or better
- Establish an emissions testing station for older vehicles, at a cost of \$6 million

### Conservation Districts, Drainage and Water Management

Manitoba is blessed with a rich diversity of natural capital. Our lakes, rivers, farmland, forest, fisheries and diverse landscapes create a foundation for our lifestyle and economy. Farmers today are a very small minority of the total population, but they manage a large proportion of our land base. One of the primary challenges we face is to maintain and improve the quality of our water resources while maintaining our food production base. We need to manage and store water in order to maintain constant flows and maintain drainage, to meet our primary economic needs.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a science council focused on water quality impacts, with experts to help guide the development and implementation of long-term strategies for positive change in the health of Lake Winnipeg
- Enter into a new funding arrangement for major municipal environment projects
- Build on drainage management and wetland retention policy with a focus on municipal sewage as a contributor to the deterioration of Lake Winnipeg
- Work with producers to recognize the economic and social values of wetlands, by developing an incentive program for farmers and landowners that reflects the economic and social values of water management and retention of wetland areas
- Implement watershed-based planning for drainage and water resource management in the province
- Ensure there is no net loss of retention capacity in watersheds when developing drainage projects
- Coordinate the activities of provincial Conservation Districts with the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship
- Ensure that drainage licencing decisions by Conservation Districts are supported by appropriate enforcement from the provincial government





## Refresh our environment

### Biofuels

Biofuels such as ethanol and biodiesel can help reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released into our environment, as they are biodegradable and non-polluting.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- implement a plan to stimulate biofuel production in Manitoba by:
  - Encouraging the development of more cellulosic ethanol production in harmony with grain-based feedstocks
  - Committing to using biofuels for all government fleet vehicles
  - Providing low interest loans to assist in the development of biofuel production facilities
  - Developing an effective marketing strategy for biodiesel and ethanol by-products for the economic benefit of livestock producers
  - Consulting with business leaders to determine a means of providing financial incentives to encourage greater producer investment
  - Maintaining the fuel tax exemptions on biofuel to encourage further development of the sector in Manitoba

### Protected areas

According to Manitoba Wildlands, there are 100 areas of interest in the province awaiting review and protected status. Land and resource developments continue to move forward in regions with incomplete protected areas networks. Manitoba Wildlands has graded the provincial government on protected areas actions annually for the past 15 years, awarding the NDP government a failing grade for the past three years.

A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Complete the network of protected areas in Manitoba's natural regions begun in the 1990s, and reconcile the needs of industry and rural communities with the establishment of new protected areas
- Act on the required consultation for the future of lands under park reserve status, including traditional lands nominated by First Nations



## Progressive Conservative Candidates (alphabetical)

**Candidate    Constituency**

Andjelic, Steven    Seine River  
 Bennett, Roger    Inkster  
 Borotsik, Rick    Brandon West  
 Bourgeois, Chris    Gimli  
 Briese, Stu    Ste. Rose  
 Brousseau, Tara    St. Norbert  
 Burner, Ashley    River Heights  
 Carrington, Allister    Elmwood  
 Cooper, Grant    St. Vital  
 Cox, Cathy    Rossmere  
 Cullen, Cliff    Turtle Mountain  
 Daodu, Kenny    Minto  
 De Groot, Kelly    Assiniboia  
 Dehn, Gordie    Selkirk  
 Derkach, Len    Russell  
 Driedger, Myrna    Charleswood  
 Dyck, Peter George    Pembina  
 Eichler, Ralph    Lakeside  
 Faurischou, David    Portage la Prairie  
 Fernandez, Lou    The Maples  
 Goertzen, Kelvin    Steinbach  
 Graydon, Cliff    Emerson  
 Harper, David    Rupertsland  
 Hawranik, Gerald    Lac du Bonnet  
 Hooper, Tim    St. Johns  
 Kozier, Chris    Kirkfield Park  
 Maguire, Larry    Arthur-Virden  
 Makus, Wilf    Lord Roberts  
 McCaffrey, Shaun    Fort Garry

**Candidate    Constituency**

McFadyen, Hugh    Fort Whyte  
 McGhee, Kristine    St. James  
 McKinney, Lloyd    Dauphin-Roblin  
 McLeod, Bryan    Transcona  
 Mitchelson, Bonnie    River East  
 Muswaggon, George    The Pas  
 Negrych, Rick    Burrows  
 Nelson, Gus    Wolseley  
 Olynyk, Brent    Kildonan  
 Pedersen, Blaine    Carman  
 Phillips, Cory    Thompson  
 Plesiuk, Maxine    Swan River  
 Reimer, Jack    Southdale  
 Rosentreter, Alexa    Point Douglas  
 Rowat, Leanne    Minnedosa  
 Schuler, Ron    Springfield  
 Stefaniuk, Bob    La Verendrye  
 Stefanson, Heather    Tuxedo  
 Taillieu, Mavis    Morris  
 Tarrant, Jennifer    St. Boniface  
 Tomas, Jose    Wellington  
 Turner, Trudy    Riel  
 Waddell, Christine    Fort Rouge  
 Waddell, Ken    Concordia  
 Waddell, Mike    Brandon East  
 Wasylowski, Garry    Interlake  
 West, Linda    Radisson



## Progressive Conservative Candidates (by Constituency)

Constituency	Candidate	Constituency	Candidate
Arthur-Virden	Larry Maguire	Radisson	Linda West
Assiniboia	Kelly de Groot	Riel	Trudy Turner
Brandon East	Mike Waddell	River East	Bonnie Mitchelson
Brandon West	Rick Borotsik	River Heights	Ashley Burner
Burrows	Rick Negrych	Rossmere	Cathy Cox
Carman	Blaine Pedersen	Rupertsland	David Harper
Charleswood	Myrna Driedger	Russell	Len Derkach
Concordia	Ken Waddell	Seine River	Steven Andjelic
Dauphin-Roblin	Lloyd McKinney	Selkirk	Gordie Dehn
Elmwood	Allister Carrington	Southdale	Jack Reimer
Emerson	Cliff Graydon	Springfield	Ron Schuler
Flin Flon	Vacant	St. Boniface	Jennifer Tarrant
Fort Garry	Shaun McCaffrey	St. James	Kristine McGhee
Fort Rouge	Christine Waddell	St. Johns	Tim Hooper
Fort Whyte	Hugh McFadyen	St. Norbert	Tara Brousseau
Gimli	Chris Bourgeois	St. Vital	Grant Cooper
Inkster	Roger Bennett	Ste. Rose	Stu Briese
Interlake	Garry Wasylowski	Steinbach	Kelvin Goertzen
Kildonan	Brent Olynyk	Swan River	Maxine Plesiuk
Kirkfield Park	Chris Kozier	The Maples	Lou Fernandez
La Verendrye	Bob Stefaniuk	The Pas	George Muswaggon
Lac du Bonnet	Gerald Hawranik	Thompson	Cory Phillips
Lakeside	Ralph Eichler	Transcona	Bryan McLeod
Lord Roberts	Wilf Makus	Turtle Mountain	Cliff Cullen
Minnedosa	Leanne Rowat	Tuxedo	Heather Stefanson
Minto	Kenny Daodu	Wellington	José Tomas
Morris	Mavis Taillieu	Wolseley	Gus Nelson
Pembina	Peter George Dyck		
Point Douglas	Alexa Rosentreter		
Portage la Prairie	David Fauschou		

