

Prairie Manifesto Project

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Province: ☒ Alberta ☐ Saskatchewan ☐ Manitoba

Party: PC Election Year: 1971

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

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

Type of Document:

- ☒ Platform ☐ Constitution
☐ Speech ☐ Brochure / Leaflet
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MB = Manitoba

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N E W D I R E C T I O N S

F O R A L B E R T A

I N T H E S E V E N T I E S

THE PLATFORM OF THE ALBERTA
PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY
AND ITS CANDIDATES -

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL ELECTION

1971

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A PROGRAM FOR A PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IN ALBERTA

THIS PLATFORM - PLACES IN PERSPECTIVE THE CHALLENGES FACING ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES.

IT SPECIFIES NEW DIRECTIONS A PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IN ALBERTA WOULD UNDERTAKE.

THE PLATFORM IS DEVELOPED FROM 12 GUIDEPOSTS - FROM THE FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE PARTY - APPROVED IN OPEN CONVENTION IN NOVEMBER 1967.

IT IS BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- Respect for human dignity - for the aged, the infirm and the less fortunate.
- Protection of individual rights - against ingrown and autocratic bureaucracy.
- Open government - with government responsible to the people, not the other way around.
- A return to local government - the reversal of the current trend to bigness in government and in business - support for Alberta's smaller communities.
- Education to train people not just for jobs, but to improve the quality of their lives.
- Welfare directed at helping people to help themselves.
- A recognition that agriculture is a basic industry of the province and that the general prosperity is significantly dependent upon it.
- A government climate favourable to free enterprise - and with increased opportunities for individual Albertans to control their own economic destiny.
- Refusal to become complacent - a constant striving - a continued concern for a better Alberta.

1971 PLATFORM

PART ONE - THE PEOPLE OF ALBERTA

- A. The Rights of the People
- B. The Farmer
- C. The Senior Citizen
- D. The Young Albertan
- E. The Women of Alberta
- F. The Native People
- G. The Citizens of Smaller Centres
- H. The Citizens of Metropolitan Centres
- I. The Homeowner
- J. The Renter
- K. The Workforce of Alberta
- L. The Unemployed - the Unskilled - the Disabled -
the Less Fortunate
- M. The Opportunity for Enterprise
- N. The Consumer
- O. The Automobile Owner & Driver
- P. The Citizen's Participation in the Democratic
Process
- Q. The Citizen's Rights to Privacy
- R. The Citizen's Protection vs. Big Government
- S. The Preservation of the Citizen's Cultural Heritage

PART TWO - PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT OF ALBERTA FOR ALBERTANS
IN THE SEVENTIES

- A. The Conservation of our Lands and Resources
- B. The Control of Pollution
- C. The Enjoyment of the Outdoors
- D. Water - Perhaps our Most Valuable Asset.

PART THREE - GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

- A. Education
 - 1. Basic Educational System - Grades 1 to 12
 - 2. After High School - Alberta's Universities,
Colleges & Technical Schools
 - 3. Adult Training Programs
- B. Health Services
 - 1. General
 - 2. Mental Health
- C. Equality of Justice and Law Enforcement
- D. Services for Transportation and Communication

PART FOUR - POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

- A. Federal-Provincial Relationships
- B. 1. Economic Growth Policies
 - 2. Participation by Albertans in our Economy
- C. Natural Resource Policies
 - 1. The Petroleum Industry
 - 2. Other Natural Resource Policies
- D. Northern Development Policies
- E. Expansionistic Agricultural Policies
- F. Taxation Policies
- G. Public Expenditure Priorities
- H. Local Government Autonomy
- I. The Role of the Civil Servant

PART FIVE - A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE - A STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT
AND PURPOSE.

PART ONE

THE PEOPLE OF ALBERTA

I. A. THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE

CHALLENGES

Preservation of a society in Alberta where:-

- Every person shall enjoy the right to freedom of conscience, opinion and belief, and freedom of religious association, teaching and worship.
- Every person shall enjoy the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest or detention and every person who is arrested or detained shall enjoy the right forthwith to a judicial interpretation of the legality of his detention and as to the nature of the charges or the certificate of committal upon which he is detained.
- Every person shall enjoy the right of the individual to equality before the law and the protection of the law.
- Every person shall under the law enjoy the right of freedom of expression through all means of communication.
- Every person shall be entitled, as of right to the privacy and confidentiality of any and all records or documents pertaining to such person in the possession or control of the Provincial Government.
- Every person shall enjoy the right to peaceable assembly with others and to form with others association of any character under the law, provided such peaceable assembly be conducted in such manner as not to interfere with the privacy or affairs of others.
- Every person shall enjoy the right to engage in and carry on any occupation, business, or enterprise under the law without discrimination because of race, religious beliefs, colour, sex, age, ancestry or place of origin.
- Every person shall have the right to enjoyment of his property and the right not to be deprived of his property, except by the due process of law.
- Every qualified voter resident in Alberta shall enjoy the right to exercise freely his franchise in all elections.
- Every person resident in Alberta shall enjoy the right to education without discrimination because of race, religious beliefs, colour, sex, ancestry or place of origin.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To enact at the first Session of a Progressive Conservative Government an ALBERTA BILL OF RIGHTS comparable to the Bill presented by Peter Lougheed to the Alberta Legislature (see 1971 Bill 145) providing, among other things:

1. A. THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

1. a) That such a Bill of Rights is the primary legislation of the Province and every other Act is subject to its provisions unless expressly excluded.
 - b) That there be no discrimination by denying a person public accommodation, services or facilities.
 - c) That there be no discrimination against any person regarding occupancy of any self-contained dwelling unit.
 - d) That there be no discrimination against any person in regard to employment or any terms or condition of employment because of his race, religious beliefs, colour, sex, ancestry or place of origin.
2. That whenever a person has his home expropriated by government, he is compensated by the fiscal equivalent of such a home - the home for a home concept (see 1971 Bill 141 - An Act to Amend the Expropriation Procedures Act - Bill Dickie).
 3. To revision of Right-of-Entry Arbitration procedures to ensure a fair deal for the landowner and adequate recognition of the rights of the surface owners. (See The Farmer - Part I.B. New Directions #3)

1.
B. THE FARMER

CHALLENGES

- To achieve a market emphasis in Alberta agriculture.
- To have the Provincial Department of Agriculture recognize it has joint responsibility with the Federal Government for the prosperity of agricultural producers in Alberta; and hence, have the Alberta Government play a national role of leadership in agriculture.
- To give high priority to Provincial Government programs which assist in improving cash income for the average Alberta farmer.
- To establish a land use policy which aims at maintaining the ownership of farm lands by Alberta residents - the preservation of the family farm should be a declared objective of the Alberta Government.
- To strike a fair balance between desirable government programs of help to farmers and the desire of the farmers themselves to control their own industry as free enterprisers without undue government interference.
- To meet the need to offset the cost-price squeeze; a special aspect of cost control is to meet expanding farm credit needs at reasonable rates of interest.

Note: - The current improvement in grain sales should be recognized for what it is - a short-term windfall caused primarily by adverse climatic conditions in certain grain producing countries. Political parties and the farmers themselves should communicate to the general public so that the public at large is not deceived into concluding that the long-term problems of Western Canadian agriculture are in any way solved. Provincial and Federal Governments should take maximum advantage of this short-term break and use the time as a period of initiating long-term programs which will create conditions of greater stability for farm cash income in Alberta.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To assist in improving markets and prices.
 - a) To inform the Federal Government that having regard to Alberta's special position in agriculture - no Federal Government action, programs, or initiatives in this field will receive Alberta Government support unless there has been prior full and joint participation by the Alberta Government in the development of such actions, programs, or initiatives. Operation LIFT is an example. All of you have heard about Bill C-176 - an attempt

I.
B.

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

1. a) by the Federal Government to introduce National Marketing Boards that can include quotas and many other restrictions. There is real danger in this Bill for Alberta producers in that it would restrict our markets and would mean production quotas. This could mean the end of the family farmer in Alberta. We opposed this very vigorously from its inception at the Federal level and prodded the Provincial Government in an attempt to at least get hogs and cattle excluded from the Bill. We believe that a simpler anti-dumping piece of legislation could have been used to handle the 'chicken and egg war'.
- b) The Canadian Wheat Board to have as a full decision-making member, a joint representative of the Alberta Government and Alberta agriculture producers.
- c) The Provincial Department of Agriculture to be reorganized, so that the primary emphasis of the Department is shifted to marketing and sales potential.
- d) The Research Council of Alberta to be directed to re-assess its projects to assure that primary direction is given to developing new uses for consumption of our agricultural products.
- e) The Alberta Government to play an active role in participating in reducing and offsetting the adverse effects of gaps, defects, restrictions, tie-ups, and other inadequate transportation facilities that work against the orderly and efficient distribution of Alberta's agricultural products, including:-
 - . the highway transportation system in Alberta,
 - . shipping terminals in Canada and elsewhere,
 - . C.P.R. and C.N.R. priorities in relation to shipping agricultural products,
 - . the timing of Canadian import purchases from our grain customers, to facilitate availability of ocean vessels.
- f) To provide the Agricultural Products Marketing Council with support from other Provincial Government departments (such as the Department of Industry) as well as liaison with the Federal Government in promotion of new market opportunities.
- g) To support Marketing Boards provided they are truly representative and run by producers and individual farmers; monopoly control will not be acceptable since such market power is in conflict with our free enterprise system.

I.
B.

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

1. h) To enact legislation so that Crown lands are only sold to Canadians (see 1971 Bill 135 Crown Lands Act - Clarence Copithorne)
 - i) To establish regional policies and specific product policies that reflect the diversity of Alberta's agricultural potential - e.g. the Peace River area - its special problems and opportunities in relation to markets and product capacity; - e.g. irrigation areas - their special needs - their particular potential (see also Part IV. E. - Expansionistic Agricultural Policies).
2. To assist in controlling farmers' costs and in improving cash income.
 - a) To eliminate the charging of property tax on farms for social services, such as education - thus permitting municipal governments to improve municipal services for farmers and other local citizens.
 - b) To pursue aggressively the prospects of locating agricultural equipment manufacturing facilities in Alberta to help control the costs of farm equipment - and to pursuing the recommendations of the Barber Report on Farm Machinery price abuses.
 - c) To reform the provisions for crop insurance, such as providing that an individual parcel itself can be insured.
 - d) To create a Development Credit Agency to provide credit to non-commercial, low-income farmers. The evaluation of the success of the special Agency should be those loans and assistance which result in a farmer graduating to commercial credit terms.
 - e) To create, in conjunction with the Federal Government, a new "Federal-Provincial Agriculture Credit Board" under the administration of the Provincial Government (in accordance with the recommendations of the Federal Task Force on Canadian Agriculture in the Seventies) providing:-
 - . That maximum loan limits realistically reflect the credit needs of Alberta farmers.
 - . That the existing security approach to farm credit be altered as it creates a situation that the farmer most urgently requiring credit is likely to be ineligible, and replacing this with a "guarantee against loss" type of lending program.

B.

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

2. f) To develop an insured mortgage credit program like C.M.H.C. to induce commercial lending institutions to participate much more extensively in the farm credit field.
- g) To restrict loans for Alberta farms to Alberta residents.
- h) To stimulate the Treasury Branches and the Canadian Chartered Banks to a much more expanded position in farm credit.
- i) To provide timely forecasting information of market trends to farmers of the various regions and product emphasis in order to assist in more well-informed decisions by farmers as to seeding and planting of their product mix.
- j) To initiate programs of reducing storage costs to farmers (see 1970 Bill 66 - The Alberta Grain Storage Corporation Act - Dr. Hugh Horner).
- k) As part of new marketing approaches - to establish a Forage Bank Program (see 1970 Bill 68 - An Act Respecting Forage Banks - Dr. Hugh Horner).
- l) To assure that the Public Utilities Board properly reflects the consumers' needs and the ability-to-pay factor in establishing power rates at cost for farmers.
- m) To expand the provision for natural gas to Alberta farms at reasonable cost.
- n) To cooperate with the membership of Alberta farm and ranch organizations in working towards the common goal of stability and improved cash incomes for Alberta farms and ranches.

3. Protection of farmer's property rights.

- a) Matters relating to expropriation of and compensation for interests in farm lands; ~~rights of entry; and user and surface reclamation~~ should all be consolidated under one tribunal or board.
- b) Such new tribunal to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture.
- c) Sufficient notice be given to the landowner prior to any purchasing, leasing or expropriating action.

I.
B.

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

3. d) To assure that such new tribunal has jurisdiction over "off right-of-way" damages.
- e) To assure that more severe penalties be imposed in proven cases of trespass.
- f) That companies proposing projects affecting a number of landowners be required to call a public meeting explaining the project and proposed use of land.
- g) That the Land Titles Act be amended to eliminate blisters on titles to properties so that amounts of mortgages on easements will not be reflected on title of landowner.
- h) To assure that the landowner's cost of legal counsel and expert witnesses in expropriation cases or forceful taking of land, be taxed against the company desiring the land.
- i) To assure that all survey crews be required to give notice of intent to enter property.

1. C. THE SENIOR CITIZEN

CHALLENGES

- To assure that our Senior Citizens living on fixed incomes - thus having no means of offsetting rising taxes or costs by increasing their income - are given necessary consideration by applicable on-going programs.
- To provide necessary programs so that our Senior Citizens will have decent living accommodation in their latter years whether it be in their own home, in rented accommodation, or in a lodge or nursing home.
- To effectively utilize the resources and talents possessed by most Senior Citizens - many of whom wish to make a continued contribution to our society.
- To provide additional recreational and cultural facilities for our Senior Citizens.
- To recognize and regard their historic contribution to the growth and development of our Province.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To remove the education portion of municipal property tax payable by Senior Citizens - many of whom have already paid the cost of educating a previous generation.
2. To assuring that rental premiums and charges for accommodation exclusively used by Senior Citizens are maintained at reasonable rental rates that can be fairly met by our Senior Citizens.
3. To embark upon a new fresh program of construction of housing units, lodges and nursing homes for our Senior Citizens, locating them, as much as possible, in the districts the residents come from and in areas with adequate facilities for recreation.
4. To eliminate the requirement of premiums for Medicare by our citizens over the age of 65.
5. To initiate new negotiations with the Federal Government:
 - a) To review the present formula setting out Old Age Pensions and assistance to Senior Citizens.
 - b) To assure high priority be given for any new social programs to those improving the standard of living of our Senior Citizens.
6. To offsetting the injustice of the outgoing Alberta Government's reduction to provincial old age assistance.

I.

C. THE SENIOR CITIZEN

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

7. To actively recruiting retired citizens and utilizing their valuable experience in advisory and working committees on various aspects of Alberta life (see 1971 Bill 129 - The Alberta Senior Citizens Council Act - Dave Russell).
8. To eliminate provincial income tax on pension incomes of Senior Citizens.
9. To establish employment agencies that deal specifically with part-time employment for Senior Citizens.
10. To support the efforts of Pioneer and Old-Timer Associations in maintaining the history and the traditions of the Canadian West, including support and assistance to communities who are compiling a history of their part of Alberta.

I.
D. THE YOUNG ALBERTAN

CHALLENGES

- To involve youth in the political and social process as equal participants in our desire to create a "better Alberta".
- To generate a sense of awareness and understanding amongst our youth so that they will be willing to work within society's basic structures in their desire to effect change.
- To base programs involving youth on the concept of assisting young people to learn to help themselves as well as helping the community in which they live.
- To stimulate our youth - not turn them off !

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To fulfill and expand those worthwhile objectives of the Department involving Youth by a substantial change in attitude and approach whereby the Department shall be utilized as a channel of communication for youth to Government and back. This Department must be representative of youth and must achieve a dialogue of understanding and involvement with youth in order that our youth are actively participating in the creation of government policy involving them.
2. To create new programs encouraging involvement by youth and to avoid direct participation in organizations already structured, existing and fulfilling objectives.
3. To restructuring government-supported recreation programs and grants so that we encourage the shift in emphasis from spectator sports to active participation.
4. To broaden the objectives of government programs in order to deal effectively with the particular problems of rural recreation programs.
5. To aid guidance counsellors in vocational and educational counselling by the development of a system of information retrieval, updated on an on-going basis and readily available to counsellors in education.
6. To more actively promote and assist younger Albertans in obtaining meaningful summer employment while in attendance at Universities, Colleges and Technical Schools.
7. To provide programs of education for both parent and child and to structure such programs on the basis and understanding that drugs must be dealt with in their complete context which includes all forms of drugs such as alcohol, chemical drugs, and tobacco.
8. To use Government influence with the federal authorities to encourage reform of laws which are clearly unjust and discriminatory such as

I.

D. THE YOUNG ALBERTAN

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

8. removal of penalties which involve fines, or in the alternative, imprisonment whereby offenders are jailed due to their inability to pay a fine imposed by the presiding Magistrate or Judge.

I.
E. THE WOMEN OF ALBERTA

CHALLENGES

- To ensure equal protection and rights relating to property and employment.
- To promote more active and direct participation by the women of Alberta in education content, social reform, cultural development, community recreation and law enforcement.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To assure, in an ALBERTA BILL OF RIGHTS that there is provision:-
 - a) for no discrimination towards the women of Alberta in regard to employment, or any term or condition of employment, including equal pay for equal work;
 - b) that a person shall not be disqualified by sex
 - (i) from the exercise of a public function;
 - (ii) from being appointed to or holding a civil or judicial post or office;
 - (iii) from entering or assuming, or carrying on a civil profession or vocation, or;
 - (iv) for admission to an incorporated society.
2. To encourage more women to seek elective office in Alberta, at all levels of government.
3. To increase the number of women representatives on provincially appointed boards and task forces.
4. To assess the need for a "Women's Rights Protection Act" to ensure fairer treatment of the women of Alberta in matters of estate and domestic settlement, based on the community.
5. To substantially expand support for daycare centres which meet provincially established standards and qualifications with the objective of assuring that women with young children wishing to become fully employed, have the option to do so.
6. To assess the various recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women and implement those recommendations within provincial jurisdiction having a consensus of support by the majority of the women of Alberta.

1. F. THE NATIVE PEOPLE

CHALLENGES

- To cooperate with the Indians and Metis of Alberta in reaching their own goals and aspirations - let the Native People of Alberta decide their own new directions and let us help them, as best we can - let's reverse past trends of having bureaucrats decide what is good for the Native People.
- To recognize their historic rights, treaties and traditions.
- To assist in the establishment of those Native People who choose to live in urban centres.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To assist, as requested, in the determination by the Indians and Metis of Alberta, of their own goals and aspirations.
2. To accelerate agreement with the Federal Government as to respective areas of responsibility in accordance with the wishes of the Native People of Alberta.
3. To include in the ALBERTA BILL OF RIGHTS, strong provision to assure that there is no discrimination against the Native People of Alberta. e.g. to repeal Social Credit Bill 66 - 1970 Session - which discriminates against Native Peoples.
4. To recognize, by way of example, in the hiring practises of the Provincial Government, that the Native People of Alberta are making important contributions to Alberta life.
5. To assure that programs of support to Native People are designed to back up their plans and desire for self-help projects and avoid the creation of dependency upon Government assistance.
6. To back up the Native People in their legitimate demands for recognition of Treaty Rights by all levels of government.
7. To continually re-evaluate Provincial Government programs in education, health and other social services to overcome the present discrimination against Native Citizens in these fields - e.g. Provincial Health Units should be extended onto reservations.
8. To offset forecasted delays in creating equality before the law for Native People (see Social Futures 1970-2000 page 23).
9. After consultation - to establish an act to set aside a day to commemorate the historic contributions of the Native People of Alberta to the Province (see 1970 Bill 112 - An Act Respecting the Native People of Alberta - Clarence Copithorne).

I.
F. THE NATIVE PEOPLE

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

10. To offer assistance in self-help programs that would help Native People in business by:
 - a) offering incentive and guaranteed loans,
 - b) assisting them in becoming owners and executives of their own establishments.
11. To expand the extent of educating our population generally with increased understanding of native history, traditions and culture, including required curriculum changes.
12. To provide new opportunities for the Indians and Metis of Alberta who have lost their traditional means of livelihood (e.g. trapping) through ecological disaster (such as the Bennett Dam's effect on the Peace-Athabasca Delta) and industrial exploitation.

4.

G. THE CITIZENS OF SMALLER CENTRES

CHALLENGES

- To recognize the special quality of life that occurs in the smaller centres.
- To develop programs which give the people of smaller centres an opportunity to fulfill their potential.
- To support the communities which are prepared to take the initiative to help themselves.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. A declaration of Provincial Government expenditure policy to assure that as many as possible of Provincial Government institutions, colleges, centres, and operations are decentralized and located over time in the smaller centres of the Province - e.g. a network of small colleges and technical schools located at medium-sized centres throughout Alberta which will aid in retraining younger Albertans in their home areas.
2. The improvement of the capacity of municipal governments to provide streets, utilities and recreation facilities, by virtue of the granting of the field of residential property tax to the jurisdiction of municipal government.
3. The establishment of a province-wide regional inventory of opportunity potential to ascertain the special features and advantages of the various regions and centres in attracting new enterprises.
4. The creation of an Alberta Incentives Plan to encourage the attraction of new industrial and tourist opportunities to locate in the smaller centres of the Province, involving a mix of financing and management counselling, research, public service, and adult training facilities and programs.
5. The establishment of a \$50 million Alberta Opportunity Fund to provide financial assistance for new or expanding enterprises, with terms of reference granting priority to applications from smaller centres where the citizens have worked to promote the opportunity within their own community. (see also IV. B. 1.)
6. To commencement of a grid-road system undertaken by a Highways Commission, separately financed from the General Revenue Fund which will aid in overcoming transportation limitations in the development of smaller centres.
7. A policy of facilitating local government responsibility to run their own show without a "big brother" relationship with the province; thus stimulating more interest and less apathy by citizens in community projects - particularly in the smaller centres.
8. To endorse programs wherein educational facilities are used as year-round community centres.

I.
H. THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLITAN CENTRES

CHALLENGES

- To learn from the lessons of other metropolitan areas and avoid some of the obvious pitfalls of congestion and overcrowding evident within the larger centres of North America.
- To emphasize quality of life, rather than growth for its own sake - "statistics don't feel".
- To endorse the role of culture and the asset of cultural diversity through ethnic groups as positive features in offsetting the disadvantages of congested urban life.
- To recognize that the importance of neighbourhood is a critical factor in overcoming the impersonality of metropolitan living.
- To recognize that the need for involvement and participation becomes even more acute as the congestion of people increases.

NEW DIRECTIONS (see Local Government Autonomy - Part IV. H.)

1. To support those actions by Alberta's metropolitan governments of Edmonton and Calgary - and contributions by the Federal Government - which are directed toward specifically meeting these challenges - and that do not create growth for the mere sake of growth.
2. To support the efforts of ethnic groups in preserving their culture and traditions and hence creating a stimulating diversity in Alberta society.
3. To return to local government, the authority and financial capacity to keep its own house in order without requiring the detailed scrutiny - the red tape - of provincial bureaucracies. To support the concept of enabling legislation for various municipal activities.
4. To endorse programs where educational facilities are used as year-round community centres.
5. To assure that provincial programs within urban centres maintain a sense of neighbourhood - do not destroy neighbourhoods in the guise of progress.
6. To locate Senior Citizens' centres at the core - not at the outside of a metropolitan area, so that the Senior Citizens are part of the vitality of our life and not segregated from it.
7. To expand programs of support to cultural groups, with emphasis on the "matching dollar" approach to Provincial Government grants. (see 1971 Bill 140 - An Alberta Art Council Act - Dave Russell)

l. H. THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLITAN CENTRES

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

8. To initiate programs to improve public respect for our laws and our police department.
9. To give Provincial Government support for the most desirable initiatives by city government in avoiding urban transportation and traffic problems, and urban pollution conditions.
10. To support small centres existing near Calgary and Edmonton, rather than development of satellite - entirely new - bedroom cities.
11. To recognize the extreme demands of rapid growth areas for adequate recreation facilities and overcome existing shortages which help create an undesirable spectator sport society (e.g. the need for covered artificial ice facilities in or near metropolitan centres).

1. THE HOMEOWNER

CHALLENGES

- To accept as a basic goal of Alberta life, the desirability of as many citizens as possible owning and occupying their own home.
- To assure that there are sufficient incentives to a homeowner to improve and maintain his home.
- To make the tax burden more equitable for the homeowner.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. For the Citizen Trying to Obtain His Own Home.

- a) The commitment to doubling of Provincial Government expenditures in housing to reflect a proper priority for this major area of public service (from the current 1.3 percent of a total budget in excess of \$1 billion per year).
- b) To restructure the Alberta Housing Corporation, to fulfill a supplementary function to that of the Federal C.M.H.C. - and to induce the greatest possible participation by private lending institutions in meeting the demands of Albertans for accommodation.
- c) To establishing a policy of Provincial Government direct borrowing for housing as and when required in order to assure constant provision of funds for new housing starts; and hence offsetting the extreme fluctuations of Federal Government policies in this field. Mortgage lending would apply to manufactured and mobile homes.
- d) Development of land assembly programs which have a reasonable prospect of lowering land acquisition costs.
- e) Recognition of housing shortages in smaller centres and the development of supplementary programs in lieu of revision of existing Federal policies which discriminate in this field against the smaller centres.
- f) To reduction in red tape - to simplification and standardization of building procedures and codes.
- g) Encouragement of private enterprise research to reduce the cost of individual units of accommodation, with emphasis on manufactured housing.

2. For the Citizen Now Owning His Own Home.

- a) Reduction of a significant portion of property tax by eliminating the 30 mill contribution to the provincial education foundation fund (note the net reduction would depend upon the extent to which municipal government utilizes the property tax to offset the previous Provincial Government grants).

1.

I. THE HOMEOWNER

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

2. b) A system of property tax credit for homeowners who take the initiative to undertake home improvements so that home improvements are not assessed in such a way as to penalize a homeowner who improves his home, compared to one who does not.

I.
J. THE RENTER

CHALLENGES

- To assure that those citizens - either through choice or due to financial limitations - desiring or requiring rental accommodation - have an opportunity to secure such at a reasonable rate and within decent standards.
- To establish an equitable tax burden as between the renter and the homeowner for services to property.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To require that Provincial Government programs for housing and accommodation provide a proper balance of funds to maintain an adequate supply of rental accommodation in relation to the combined demand for rented and owner-occupied units.
2. To recognize that any Provincial or Municipal Government scheme to offset the burden of property taxes, reflects the fact that rents include the burden of property taxes as part of the rate (Note - the homeowner tax discount scheme does not do this - the Ontario Residential Shelter Allowance does).
3. To constantly provide means of protection to renters so that no unfair advantage can be taken of renters by landlords in a period of short supply of rental accommodation.

I.
K. THE WORKFORCE OF ALBERTA

CHALLENGES

- To maintain continued public acceptance of the Progressive Conservative Guidepost No. 11 that responsible labour organizations are a valuable asset to this Province.
- To strive to always maintain a fair balance of negotiating strength between labour and management organizations in this Province; and hence, absence of serious labour strife.
- To ensure that Workmen's Compensation laws provide employees with more adequate insurance for permanent and partial injuries incurred while working.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To place a high priority on provincial programs of new job creation in order to minimize the risk of unemployment and to provide the working man with an opportunity to steadily improve his take-home pay and his working conditions.
2. To commitment to policies which offset unemployment and accept provincial responsibilities to minimize the impact of many Albertans without jobs (see 1971 Bill 126 - The Temporary Unemployment Measures Act - Lou Hyndman)
3. To update and improve existing apprenticeship programs and out-moded regulations so that there is a substantial improvement in the degree of incentive for employers to upgrade on-job training.
4. To enact legislation so that employees are given reasonable notice of lay-offs or close-down of operations (see 1971 Bill 139 - An Act to Amend The Alberta Labour Act to include termination of Employment Standards - Bill Yurko)
5. To strive to have the voice of labour and the working man much more involved in the decision-making process of Provincial Government.
6. To improve programs of training and re-training so that the working man or woman in Alberta has a fair chance to upgrade his or her skills as the technological age and its pressures increase and renders many unskilled jobs obsolete.
7. To assure that the hiring practises of the Civil Service Commission give preference to Albertans.

I.

K. NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

8. To give employees of the Civil Service and Crown Agencies the right to determination of wage disputes by binding arbitration. (see 1971 Bill 128 - An Act to amend The Public Service Act - and Bill 133 - An Act to amend The Crown Agencies Relations Act - Len Werry)
9. To establish a "Workmen's Compensation Commission", with representatives from labour, industry and the Legislature, to continuously review the need for and feasibility of:
 - a) Increasing pensions previously granted so that they compare more favourably with those being currently granted.
 - b) Tying all pensions to the cost-of-living index.
 - c) Awarding pensions on the basis of degree of lost employability rather than the strict degree of physical disability.
 - d) More flexible and fair appeal procedures.

I.
L. THE UNEMPLOYED - THE UNSKILLED - THE DISABLED - THE LESS FORTUNATE

CHALLENGES

- To make a major effort to completely change the attitudes and approaches within the Department of Social Development - to shift the emphasis from merely welfare to programs and incentives to get those able to work, but not doing so, off the welfare rolls and onto the payrolls.
- On the other hand - to improve the situation of those less-fortunate - who, through no fault of their own - by age, or physical or mental disability or otherwise, are unable, or have considerable difficulty in becoming gainfully employed - and to attempt to bolster their self-respect and improve public understanding in every way possible.

NEW DIRECTIONS

I. With Regard to Those Able to Work and Without Disability.

- a) Initiate a system of evaluation of performance by Social Development Officers which relate to their success in returning to the mainstream of life those temporarily requiring social assistance and consider merit awards for caseworkers to reward such successes.
- b) To institute a system of sliding scales of assistance which create incentives for persons to increase their earnings along the lines proposed in the Public Expenditure and Revenue Study Report tabled in the Legislature in 1966 and upon which no action in this regard has been taken.
- c) To reject the philosophy of a "guaranteed" annual wage - but instead develop, in conjunction with the Federal Government, a system of basic income maintenance, which would help the people who are prepared to help themselves - that would:-
 - (i) bolster the earnings of working citizens at or near the poverty level,
 - (ii) create incentives to upgrade one's skills and capacities.
- d) To establish a long-term program of support for daycare centres so that mothers who are without other means of support have the option of working if they so desire.
- e) To exercise the leverage of provincial governments to have personnel managers of major Alberta employers reverse the current practise of ignoring the experience and capacity of citizens seeking employment after age 45 and to attempt to eliminate any obstacles which tend to create such an undesirable practise.

1. L. THE UNEMPLOYED - THE UNSKILLED - THE DISABLED - THE LESS FORTUNATE

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

1. f) To make efforts, particularly in smaller centres, to involve advisory citizens' groups (including a representative of recipients) in order to assure that social assistance is given to those legitimately requiring such help and assistance.
2. With Regard to Those Less Fortunate - Unable or Having Considerable Difficulty in being Gainfully Employed due to Disabilities.
 - a) To re-examine all possibilities within the Civil Service where persons with disabilities could be employed and to attempt to improve the number so employed.
 - b) To develop a voluntary program in conjunction with major employers in Alberta to increase the number of disabled or retarded persons employed.
 - c) To overhaul the programs for needy and delinquent children - to improve the foster home program - to develop half-way homes.
 - d) To grant greater support and give greater responsibility to voluntary organizations and agencies working in this area, provided there is adequate coordination and an absence of duplication.
 - e) To expand the Preventive Welfare Program with priority expenditure commitments, provided the programs contain evaluation features to determine actual success and not theoretical paper targets.
 - f) To develop a separate new program directed at helping those persons who have moved from a rural environment to the cities, to adjust to a new environment, provided the recipients are interested and are prepared to participate in the program.
 - g) To re-assess existing programs for the physically handicapped - e. g. the blind, the deaf and the mentally retarded - to re-evaluate them in relation to programs undertaken by other provincial governments in order to determine areas of desirable improvement.
(Note - see Part III. B. 3. - Mental Health)

I. M. THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ENTERPRISE

CHALLENGES

- To offset the trend in Alberta whereby our citizens are becoming forced to choose between the alternatives of being an employee of Government, or an employee of a large corporation - to recognize, however, the important role of large corporations in light of international economic realities - but, to assure that there is still a reasonable balance in our free enterprise system - that the opportunity in Alberta for the imaginative - the chance for the industrious to create his or her own enterprise - to control one's own economic destiny - is still a reasonable possibility in Alberta in the seventies.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To offset the concentration of financial decision-making in Eastern Canada by providing alternative sources of needed capital for Alberta enterprises as determined by Albertans - the expansion of the Treasury Branch should be one specific way in this direction.
2. To develop a small business arm of the Provincial Department of Industry, along the lines of the United States "Small Business Administration" - so that there are specific programs to offset the built-in advantages of large corporations and to ensure a better balanced enterprise economy in Alberta between large and smaller enterprises.
3. To require the Research Council of Alberta to re-assess their projects in terms of applied research of advantage specifically to concerns of limited scope and size.
4. ~~To~~ establish provincial tax incentives for Albertans prepared to expand an enterprise and create new job opportunities for younger Albertans.
5. To give full consideration to citizens creating and expanding enterprises which relate to the cultural development of the Province.
6. To assure that the potential for new enterprise in the tourist field is much more fully realized.

I.
N. THE CONSUMER

CHALLENGES

- To recognize that a provincial government has a major role to protect consumers in today's free enterprise economy which has developed some unfavourable monopolistic tendencies.
- To play a leading role in enacting uniform consumer protection legislation in cooperation with all other provinces.

NEW DIRECTIONS

- 1 To establish a bureau responsible to a Minister, which would administer the various acts pertaining to consumer protection.
2. To enforce existing legislation dealing with misleading advertising and packaging.
3. To develop legislation pertaining to maximum interest charges and penalty clauses in finance contract payouts.
4. To legislate adequate consumer goods warranty protection.
5. To develop coordination with other provincial governments:
 - a) to prevent salesmen, whose licenses have been cancelled in one province from becoming licensed in another;
 - b) to accept as evidence, judicial and administrative decisions in one province as if it had been rendered in the home province;
 - c) to automatically trigger a "show cause" procedure in another province when an action in one province by a consumer affairs registrar or director has been commenced against a company, firm or person operating in another province.
6. To legislate those recommendations of the Batten Royal Commission which are required for the protection of Albertans.

1. 0. THE AUTOMOBILE OWNER & DRIVER

CHALLENGES

- To develop a system of automobile insurance with the following objectives:-
 - a) Operation by free enterprise - independent of the Provincial Government - rejection of a Government-operated insurance system.
 - b) A requirement that all licensed automobiles in Alberta have mandatory third-party insurance coverage.
 - c) A premium rate structure that is fair and equitable for all concerned.
- To constantly improve programs which reduce the tragic accident rates in Alberta and make our highways much safer than has been the case in the past.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. The reorganization of government administration so that the same Minister is responsible for the operation of the Superintendent of Insurance and the Highway Traffic Board.
2. The revision of existing procedures for reinstatement of drivers' licenses to remove ministerial discretion and establish a non-political, independent body to ascertain if circumstances warrant any exception to suspension of driving privileges.
3. The creation of the joint legislative-industry-and autodrivers body to ensure, on an ongoing basis, that the objectives of such an automobile insurance system are constantly being attained.
4. The institution of driver education in our high school curricula to improve the driving skills of younger Albertans. All new applicants for drivers' licenses would be required to have passed a driver's training course.
5. The improvement of highway signs and directions in Alberta, which create confusion and uncertainty, particularly at approaches to main highways.
6. To follow through on the recommendations of coroners' inquests that condemn road conditions as the cause of specific accidents and request improvements to be made.

1.

P. THE CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

CHALLENGES

- To narrow the gap between government and the people.
- To make government more responsive to the needs of the people.
- To assure that the M.L.A. is more responsive to the wishes of his constituents.
- To involve the individual citizen in the formation of our laws and programs.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To expand the concept of representative democracy within the parliamentary system through the frequent use of free vote - i.e. a vote where the confidence of the government is not at issue.
2. To increase the use of public hearings by the Legislative Assembly and major items of legislation so that individual citizens - not merely organizations - have an opportunity to appear before the Assembly to directly express their view. (e.g. Police Act 1971)
3. To encourage the use of petitions to the Legislative Assembly.
4. To provide individual M.L.A.'s with sufficient resources to improve the channels of two-way communication with the voters of the various constituencies.
5. To allow television and radio broadcasts of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly to improve public awareness of provincial matters.
6. To institute a regular Fall Session of the Legislative Assembly of specific duration to assure that Cabinet Ministers are publicly answerable for their actions on at least two periods throughout the year.

1.
Q. THE CITIZEN'S RIGHTS TO PRIVACY

CHALLENGES

- To ensure that an individual citizen is entitled to live a private life, free from:
 - a) intrusion upon his seclusion or solitude or into his private affairs;
 - b) public disclosure of private facts;
 - c) publicity which places an individual in a false light in the public eye;
 - d) appropriation for advantage of a person's name or license.

NEW DIRECTIONS

- *
 1. To enact legislation prohibiting the use of electronic surveillance equipment.
 2. To enact legislation prohibiting the disclosure of any personal records of an individual which are maintained by government except upon the written consent of that person. (see 1971 Bill 136 - An Act Respecting the Confidentiality of Public Documents - Len Werry).
 3. To enact legislation which would regulate and control the dissemination of data from government computers. (see 1971 Bill 137 - The Government Computer Privacy Act - Lou Hyndman)
 4. To enact legislation to allow citizens the right to have access to their credit records which are maintained by credit reporting agencies, and to correct any incorrect information contained in their file. (see 1971 Bill 144 - An Act Respecting Consumer Credit Disclosure - Len Werry)
 5. To enact legislation protecting citizens from abuses regarding unsolicited goods and credit cards.

- * Police shall be permitted to use electronic eavesdropping equipment for limited periods of time provided the application for such use has first been approved by a magistrate or a judge of the Supreme Court of Alberta.

I.
R. THE CITIZEN'S PROTECTION VS. BIG GOVERNMENT

CHALLENGES

- To provide the individual citizen with protection against the unjustified actions of the provincial government.
- To give the citizen a fair chance to have his case adequately heard and presented before the Boards and Tribunals of Government.
- To assure the citizen a right of appeal from the decisions of the Provincial Government and avenues to permit his grievances to be presented to elected representatives.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To strengthen the Ombudsman Act so that the Ombudsman is, without question, the servant of the Legislature only, and defender of the rights of the individual. The Legislature shall be the sole judge of the Ombudsman. (see Motion 1971 Session by Bill Dickie) (see 1970 Bill 101 - An Act to amend The Ombudsman Act - Lou Hyndman).
2. Provision to ensure the Ombudsman is able to travel on a circuit basis throughout Alberta, so that no Albertan is denied access and opportunity of placing his case before the Ombudsman. The requirements of written complaint should be relaxed at the discretion of the Ombudsman.
3. A "Public Defender Office" to be established (comparable to the Federal Government's "Pension Advocate") to assure adequate counsel to a citizen in the presentation of his case to the Workmen's Compensation Board, or comparable bodies. (see 1971 Bill 138 - The Workmen's Compensation Advocate Act - Len Werry).
4. An Auditor General to be created to replace the existing Provincial Auditor - with terms of reference permitting review of government expenditure practises - he should be responsible to the Legislature, not the Cabinet. (see 1971 Bill 134 - The Taxpayers' Protection Act - Lou Hyndman).
5. An unequivocal right of appeal to the Courts against the decision of a provincially appointed Board or Tribunal to be enacted. (see 1970 Bill 47 - An Act to Amend The Administrative Procedures Act - Lou Hyndman).

I.

S. THE PRESERVATION OF THE CITIZEN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

CHALLENGE

- To foster and strengthen the cultural diversity of Alberta's society through strongly supporting ethnic and other groups or associations which strive to preserve the multicultural feature of Alberta life.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To commit provincial government resources to support the efforts of ethnic groups and associations working to preserve their culture and their traditions throughout all parts of Alberta.
2. To assuring that the curriculum within Alberta schools gives an increased awareness of the positive nature of our multi-cultural heritage.
3. To officially recognizing specific days during the year which highlight the activities of the various ethnic groups and associations of the Province.

PART TWO

PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT
OF ALBERTA
FOR ALBERTANS
IN THE SEVENTIES

- A. THE CONSERVATION OF OUR LANDS AND RESOURCES
- B. THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION
- C. THE ENJOYMENT OF THE OUTDOORS
- D. WATER - PERHAPS OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET

II. PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT OF ALBERTA FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

"The Progressive Conservatives are committed to a firm policy of preserving and conserving the environment of Alberta for the benefit and for the enjoyment of Albertans, of this and future generations. We recognize there must be a proper balance between the desire to not upset the natural state of our land and water and the job opportunities created by petroleum, timber, coal and other mineral and natural resource developers. However, if we are forced to lean in one direction or another, it would likely be towards conservation, rather than development."

(Address by Peter Lougheed to the Annual Meeting of the Alberta Fish and Game Association, Edmonton - February 28, 1970)

"This crisis which I am sometimes inclined to call the "pollution binge", appears to be following a different pattern than any crisis that has happened in our time. While it was many years a-building, it seems to have exploded almost overnight and its wide spectrum of panic appears to have caused almost an hysteria in most industrial countries of the World."

(Address in Calgary on November 17, 1970 by former Social Credit Minister of Mines & Minerals)

"This is the most comprehensive piece of legislation regarding conservation and pollution introduced into any legislative body in Canada and is a first for Alberta."

(Mr. Bill Yurko, M.L.A. - February 12, 1970 - upon the introduction of Bill 60 - An Act to Control Air and Water Pollution for Alberta - to the Alberta Legislature) (see also 1971 Bill 125 - An Act Respecting the Department of Environmental Control - and 1971 Bill 132 - An Act to Control Air, Water and Soil Pollution for Alberta - both by Bill Yurko).

II.

A. THE CONSERVATION OF OUR LANDS AND RESOURCES

CHALLENGES

- To strike a proper balance between preserving and conserving our environment and controlling development of our natural resources of petroleum, timber, coal and other minerals and resources.
- To improve and encourage communication between business and government on problem items that are of public interest and concern.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To establish a well-understood and accepted land-use management system for Alberta, providing adequate allowance for wilderness areas, for forest reserves, for provincial parks, and other recreational areas, for resource development areas, and for agriculture and other commercial requirements.
2. To establish some portion of the 13,500 square miles of mountainous areas on the eastern slope of the Rockies (outside of the National Parks) as specified wilderness areas where man is only a visitor. To establish certain special areas of particular significance in the balance of the province for wilderness areas. These areas require buffer zones of protection. In determining the specific areas to be designated as wilderness areas, consideration should be given to the improbability (but not the impossibility) of certain kinds of technological resource exploration work without permitting physical exploration to be a condition of such determination. Accessibility should be a further factor - neither easily accessible, nor too remote. The buffer potential of the National Parks should be a further factor in determining these wilderness areas.
3. The reclamation provisions of resource development should be much more stringent. Developers should be permitted to post performance bonds in lieu of cash deposits to meet the combined objectives of allowing smaller operators to participate yet still assure much more adequate public protection for reclamation costs and damages.
4. To zone the various provincial parks in Alberta - some like Cypress Hills should be zoned as absolutely precluding any type of resource development - others - less significant in terms of special environmental features - should permit, after public hearing, limited resource development under the most rigid conditions of reclamation

II.

B. THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION

CHALLENGES

- To create a sensible balanced policy, understood by all, so that polluters are responsible for cleaning up their own mess and the public has effective avenues to express their grievances.
- To implement policies which will control pollution at the source.
- To centralize within Government the responsibility for pollution regulation and control.
- To implement stringent anti-pollution standards in Alberta in such a way as to cause a minimum disruption to the Alberta economy.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. The enactment of 1971 Bill 132 - An Act to Control Air, Water and Soil Pollution - by Bill Yurko - establishing a Pollution Control Commission under the Department of the Environment with responsibilities for:
 - a) Controlling the pollution of air, water and soil.
 - b) Land surface use and reclamation.
 - c) Controlling litter and disposal containers.
 - d) Controlling the use and dissemination of agriculture chemicals, including pesticides and herbicides.
 - e) Establishing procedures where citizens can express their grievances regarding pollution matters.
 - f) Punishing of pollution violators through large fines and recovery of restoration expenses.
2. Establishing within the Department of the Environment, the following:
 - a) Pollution control research funding.
 - b) Ecological studies.
 - c) University pollution research grants.
 - d) Joint anti-pollution research between Government and private enterprise.
 - e) Public educational programs regarding pollution matters.
 - f) A data bank relating to pollution information.
 - g) A pollution legislation review committee.

8. THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

2. g) A council composed jointly of organized labour, government, and business appointees to establish where needed in-plant pollution standards to protect the health and well being of Alberta's industrial working force.
3. To establish an Emergency Pollution Measures Task Force which will handle major pollution catastrophies and restore the natural environment.
4. To assure that Municipal Governments have first - adequate fiscal capacity to meet their responsibilities for sewage and other pollution control measures, and secondly - that they in fact discharge such responsibilities.
5. To develop new programs regarding noise pollution in order to ensure constant pressure to reduce the contamination of our environment as a result of the required industrial development of our province.
6. To strengthen measures and policies to control the use and distribution of chemically-formulated products designed to kill or inhibit insects, pests and weeds - and also to have measures designed to prevent abuse of plant fertilizers which are derived from all organic or inorganic sources.
7. To investigate and adopt new methods of total re-cycle of solid and organic wastes.
8. To arrange for the development of "umbrella" insurance programs to cover the costs and alleviate the hardships caused by:
 - (i) catastrophic pollution occurrences;
 - (ii) other natural or man-made disasters.

II.
C. THE ENJOYMENT OF THE OUTDOORS

CHALLENGE

- To recognize that a substantial proportion of Albertans consider one of the most favourable features of Alberta life is the opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors - and to assure that these citizens have a much better opportunity to do so with improved and more accessible facilities for recreation and outdoor living. (see Social Futures of Alberta 1970-2000, page 109)

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To develop accelerated programs to upgrade the inadequate provincial parks system in Alberta so that families of all income levels have better facilities - more accessible - with less crowding and reasonably adjacent to their homes. Private enterprise would be encouraged to provide appropriate amenities. In order to partially underwrite the cost of such a program, a reasonable fee for entry into recreation areas would be levied, coupled with revenues received from licenses from private enterprise authorized to operate facilities within these areas.

The primary objective of the program would be to open up as many new potential - but, as yet undeveloped recreation areas for use for family camping, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, mountaineering, hiking and similar activities. As Alberta suffers from a dearth of readily accessible natural lakes suitable for recreation purposes - to development of "man made" lakes by private enterprise, in conjunction with appropriate government agencies - would be part of this overall program - similar to those presently underway in other provinces.

- * 2. To require adequate consultation by the Federal Government with the Alberta Government in the development of recreation and tourist facilities in the National Parks located within the Province of Alberta.
- 3. To recognize the changing leisure trends of our citizens and particularly the desire for winter sports facilities, such as skiing, without the extensive overcrowding and expensive facilities now existing in Alberta's National Parks.
- 4. To undertake the development of a hostel program, similar to those presently in existence in European countries - particularly an expansion of such hostels off the main highways.

* (see - Progressive Conservative Submission by Bob Dowling and Clarence Copithorne, dated April 22, 1971)

11.

D. WATER - PERHAPS OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET

CHALLENGE

- To develop a well-considered, long-term policy for the first time in Alberta's history, for the conservation and utilization of our water resources to assure that our environment is preserved; our water resources utilized to benefit the maximum number of citizens of the Province; and also to assist in the development of an industrial economy located in this Province.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To enact legislation to establish a Water Resources Conservation and Development Board, with responsibility to coordinate and assure the long-term implications of every aspect of water resource utilization factors within the Province - the Board responsible to the Department of Environment.
2. To attempt - even at this late date - to protect the rights of Albertans downstream (on the Peace River) from hydro projects of the British Columbia Government or its agencies.
3. To conduct all river basin management studies and contemplated programs independent of, and without influence from some pre-conceived massive diversion program such as the one called PRIME.

Furthermore, that river management programs on the Red Deer, Oldman, and Bow be given high priority.

4. To establish the water use classification of water bodies in Alberta at the earliest opportunity - and subsequently that policies establishing the priority of water use throughout the province be established publicly. Extensive public hearings should be held to establish such priorities.
5. To make known publicly at the earliest opportunity as a matter of policy that there is no surplus water in Alberta.
6. To establish a Task Force to conduct an intensive assessment of the present and future uses, and requirements, of water for irrigation purposes in all regions of Alberta.
7. To take the initiative and provide the leadership in establishing a new Western Canada Water Management Board to be represented by the Federal Government, Yukon, British Columbia and Alberta, and that the Board should be given wide terms of reference to assess the management of all water resources common to all or any two or more members of the Board.
8. To take the initiative in establishing with the Federal Government, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and the Yukon, "The Western Canada Institute of Water Research" dedicated to long-term studies of Western Canada's water resources.

11.

D. WATER - PERHAPS OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

9. To pass legislation whereby the damming of major waterways and the diversion of water from one river basin to another could only be done by a separate Act of the Legislature of Alberta.

PART THREE

GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

III. GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

A. EDUCATION

1. BASIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM - GRADES ONE TO TWELVE

CHALLENGES

- To overcome the present self-defeating attitude of complacency - "that we have such a superior educational system, that there's little room for improvement" - with an entirely new attitude - "that there is much in our education system that is sound and deserves continued endorsement - but, that many other jurisdictions are becoming more progressive - that there is a great deal of room for improvement". (see Social Futures of Alberta 1970-2000 page 89).
- To establish effective methods of evaluating whether or not the public is getting its money's worth for the vast sums spent on education.

NEW DIRECTIONS

(a) THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

- (1) To strive to develop a differential staffing system for teachers to reward teachers who make an extra effort to improve the quality of our education system.
- (2) To use an imaginative plan to offset the current close-minded approaches to bussing children long distances to a centralized school - with a system of mobile teaching specialists to bring the specialist teacher to the child - supported by educational television programs - all with a view to meeting the objective of attempting to obtain conditions for equal education between rural and urban Albertans.
- (3) To establish an approach to assure constant re-evaluation of education progress, teaching methods and course content in relation to a basic education philosophy with emphasis on development of the student as an individual; upon learning how to learn; and upon the decision-making process of the individual.
- (4) To considerably expand the current inadequate facilities and programs for children with special disabilities and special abilities.
- (5) To more vigorously press the Provincial Ministers of Education to accelerate their efforts towards minimizing the difficulties of children of mobile Canadian families moving between the various provinces.

III.

A. 1. BASIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM - GRADES ONE TO TWELVE

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

(a)

- (6) To embark on an intensive program to use text books reflecting an Alberta and Canadian emphasis - including an accurate reflection of the place of the Native People in the development of our Province.
- (7) To create a greater awareness of Canadianism by expanding the exchange of students from Alberta visiting other provinces, particularly Quebec - and the students from the other provinces coming to visit here in Alberta.
- (8) To recognize the dangers of the outmoded schools in the centres of large cities which can result in conditions which produce an inferior level of education.
- (9) To include driver education and training in appreciation of the realities of automobile usage in our contemporary society in comparison with the realistic priorities of other courses, and to hence give priority to this positive measure in reducing traffic accidents in the Province.
- (10) To update curriculum content to reflect contemporary life:-
 - (i) for example, with courses like Ontario's new course for grades eleven and twelve - Space and Man.
 - (ii) To revision of curriculum content so that the actualities of our free enterprise system are communicated to students at the high school level by teachers who have had some personal exposure to the market place.
- (11) To encourage local initiatives and innovations in use of resource personnel, field trips and excursions, and other activities of cooperation between the community at large and the school system and help to offset the present apparent level of boredom with their curriculum. (see Part I.D. - The Young Albertan)
- (12) To implement valid recommendations of the Worth Commission on Educational Planning in stages with the attitude that such a Commission is overdue.

(b) THE COST OF EDUCATION

- (1) To provide for long-term joint planning between boards and the Department of Education to make better long-range use of funds and improve budgeting techniques.
- (2) To implement without delay program budgeting and cost-benefit procedures, together with other principles of systems analysis to ensure that some means of effective evaluation of this largest single item of public expenditure occurs in Alberta.

III.

A. 1. BASIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM - GRADES ONE TO TWELVE

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

(b)

(3) To develop means of controlling and reducing school building construction and operating costs, including:

- (i) Use of greater standardization in school design and use of buildings reflecting the impact of the communications revolution on school design.
- (ii) Analysis of the possibility of leasing school buildings from private industry.
- (iii) To elimination of unnecessary frills and utilization of materials where the appearance factor involves a substantially higher cost.

(4) To support the community-school concept, including:

- (i) Modifications in the school year to provide for more complete and effective use of the plant on a year-round basis. (see also Part I.G. & H. -the use of the school as a community centre.
- (ii) Combining the school with other community needs, such as libraries, swimming pools, rinks, gymnasiums, playgrounds and theatres.
- (iii) Community Boards of Directors to plan and direct activities outside the schedule of regular classes.
- (iv) The physical transferability of classrooms from areas of low utilization to areas of overcrowded enrolment, by relying on the modern techniques of manufactured building.

2. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL - ALBERTA'S UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

CHALLENGES

- To develop, for the first time in Alberta, a comprehensive plan for our post-secondary educational system.
- To avoid the creation of large, impersonal institutions where the students feel remote and lose much of the value of the educational experience.
- To create a higher degree of public awareness and appreciation for the valuable efforts and dedicated contribution by the staff and faculty of our universities, colleges and technical schools - hence, to attempt to offset the backlash by the public which tends to thwart public support and is caused primarily by events outside of Alberta.

III.

A. 2. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL - ALBERTA'S UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To develop effective methods of accountability to the Legislature of the vast public expenditures in this field, to assure that the taxpayers' monies are being properly spent.
2. To assure that as expansion is reasonably required, effort be made to locate colleges and technical schools at smaller centres around the province, subject to the limits of economic feasibility.
3. To consider - for site selection purposes - lower land costs and enthusiastic community involvement in smaller centres as offsetting factors to population density. (Note:-U.S. success in location of colleges at smaller centres.)
4. To include as a valid policy objective in selecting sites, the economic growth of smaller communities, provided it is consistent with educational excellence (for example, smaller technical institutions in outerlying parts of the Province, could provide skilled labour forces required to attract industrial development and increased job opportunities).
5. To facilitate maximum upgrading of academic achievement by allowing easier transferability between institutions.
6. To encourage the development of a distinctive philosophy for each institution, in cooperation with their respective administrations, to assure that the student has a personal feeling towards his pursuit of knowledge.
7. To recognize the present reputations of the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary, but create a proper balance of graduate studies in relation to the priority policy of educational opportunity for Albertans.
8. To recognize the advantages in developing post-secondary institutions in smaller centres, because of the easier accessibility and greater awareness of educational opportunities that such institutions would create in rural Alberta.
9. To have, as a primary objective, educational opportunities without penalty to those of limited economic and income means - this means a complete re-examination of the effectiveness of the present mix of tuition fees, grants and loans.
10. To ensure that the program of technical institutions are in logical tune with future expectations for skill requirements in Alberta.
11. To plan all educational facilities within the jurisdiction of one department - the Department of Education.
12. To place the emphasis on the teaching process and re-assess the value of public supported research activities at our universities.

III.

A. 2. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL - ALBERTA'S UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

13. To provide for adequate channels at all post-secondary institutions through which students can communicate their views and be able to have an influence on decision-making, particularly in areas of course content, teacher evaluation, examinations and academic goals.
14. To alter and expand the approach of the three Agricultural Schools to encompass a much broader educational experience. (see 1971 Bill 143 - An Act to Amend The Colleges Act - Bob Dowling)
15. To evaluate the fuller use of capital facilities throughout the entire year, to ensure the greater use of public capital investment.
16. To support future university fund-raising projects that also include matching grants for operating requirements and, in particular, the endorsement of "chairs" for special purposes.
17. To reorganize the various Commissions and other governing bodies into one comprehensive Post-Secondary Education Commission to ensure improved coordination of facilities and course contents, allowing for the greatest possible degree of local autonomy.
18. To declare that the universities' direction should be primarily towards the pursuit of knowledge and truth.
19. To strive to continually upgrade the significance and importance of the Technical Schools and non-academic institutions.

3. ADULT TRAINING PROGRAMS

CHALLENGE

- To provide the opportunity for an Albertan who wishes to acquire a skill; improve his or her educational level; or upgrade his or her capacity to meet the demands of a technological age with the chance to do so under reasonable conditions of income maintenance, instructional equality and adequate facilities.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To embark upon a detailed forecast of Alberta's skill requirements (along the lines of the Manitoba study) for 1980 to assure that we have the skilled labour force available during the development of the seventies in order to match our other efforts at attracting industry to Alberta and to assure that we do not create tragic cases of training citizens for obsolete skills.

I.
A. 3. ADULT TRAINING PROGRAMS

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

2. To take over from the Federal Government, the dominant responsibility for adult training and re-training, with the cooperation and with the support of the Federal Government.
3. To overcome the existing weaknesses and lack of concern with training opportunities for:-
 - a) those over the age of 30,
 - b) with the unemployed,
 - c) with those living in rural areas,(see page 76 of the Study of Adult Training and Re-training in Alberta by David Schonfield - November 1969).
4. To involve private industry in a much larger role in this area in accordance with the emergence of a demand for a social balance sheet from our corporate citizens.
5. To update and improve the apprenticeship program and its regulations in Alberta, as set forth in the New Direction under Part I. K. - The Work Force.
6. To re-organize the government functions in this area now separately operated by the Departments of Education, Labour and Social Development.

III. GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

B. HEALTH SERVICES

1. GENERAL

CHALLENGES

- To develop effective cost control methods, without reducing quality of service.
- To ensure adequate medical training facilities and personnel, including doctors, nurses, therapists and all related personnel - adequate to meet the present and projected needs of Alberta citizens.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To maintain Health as a separate government department (i.e. not merged with Social Development).
2. Home care, preventative health and effective use of personnel are the keys to better health services with better cost control. In order to make this program work effectively it will require incentives, regionalization and public education.
3. Better and expanded out-patient services to reduce costs and make health care more accessible to all.
4. To re-classify existing auxiliary hospitals and nursing homes to improve utilization and to tie together with municipal delivery systems, including an increase in the participation by non-profit groups in the nursing home field. (see 1970 Bill 65 - An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act - Dr. Hugh Horner)
5. Regional coordination in metropolitan centres to be established.
6. To improve coordination within the department in order to avoid duplication of expensive facilities.
7. To establish staff incentives, including medical personnel to assist in controlling costs.
8. To undertake a renovation program of existing facilities so that maximum utilization can be made and capital cost requirements reduced.
9. To create effective utilization committees with the patients as the key - involving administrators, nurses and physicians.
10. To reduce the need for expensive specialized equipment by means of greater patient mobility. This requires better ambulance availability, physician response, and administrative cooperation.

III.

B. HEALTH SERVICES

1. GENERAL

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

11. To improve efficiency of the health care delivery system; support preventative and rehabilitative services. (see 1970 Bill 69 - An Act to Establish a Hospital Visitors Committee - Len Werry).
12. To develop a better system of health services regionalization, involving the health unit being tied to the same physical area as the regional hospital board.
13. To review the present emphasis by the Universities Commission towards rehabilitative medicine with the objective of offsetting the serious shortage of such personnel in Alberta. (see Blair Report - page 86).
14. To shift the educational responsibilities of nursing in Alberta from the auspices of the Department of Health to that of the Department of Education and to protect the professional status of nurses in Alberta. To recognize and support allied health professionals.
15. To improve ambulance services in the remote parts of Alberta, and particularly in Northern Alberta.

2. MENTAL HEALTH:

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

5. To commit the Office of Premier to fulfilling the task of stimulating public awareness and understanding of the concept that "mental health is really everybody's business" - and that no stigma should attach to mental health.
6. To respond to the practical suggestions of voluntary citizens' groups, working toward reforms and improvements in mental health.
7. To continue operating present mental health institutions - such as Ponoka and Oliver - but, re-organizing their facilities to fit within the recommendations of the Blair Report.
8. To publicly accept the basic philosophy of the Blair Report that the mentally ill should be treated no differently from the physically ill in Alberta

GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

EQUALITY OF JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

(Note: - the Provincial Government has the responsibility for administration of justice within the Province - the Federal Government has responsibility for the enactment of the Criminal Law.)

CHALLENGES

- To move towards the goal of equality of justice so that the state of one's pocket book has no bearing on the outcome of judicial proceedings in Alberta. (see Social Futures of Alberta 1970-2000, page 173)
- To improve respect for our laws and support for our law enforcement representatives.
- To inform the citizen of his rights before the law.

NEW DIRECTIONS

(Note: - see also the proposals contained in Part I. R. - The Citizen's Protection against Big Government - particularly the "Public Defender" approach.)

1. To reduce, in every way possible, the extent to which the "wheels of justice" grind to a halt - or move so slowly as to cause hardship and unfairness to the average citizen. (see Social Futures - 1970-2000, page 173)
2. To institute a Law Reform Commission along the lines of that now in operation in British Columbia, to be charged with the responsibility for suggesting new, contemporary legislation - but also for proposing the repeal of unnecessary and undesirable statutes, laws and regulations. (see 1971 Bill 142 - The Law Reform Commission Act - Bill Dickie) to hence, evaluate the performance of the Progressive Conservative Government, not just on the new laws they enact, but on the obsolete and unnecessary laws they repeal.
3. To implement the recommendations of the McGrath Report on Penal Reform by establishing a scheme of implementation so as to assure that the McGrath Report remains a continuing obligation of the Alberta Government. (see 1970 Bill 100 - An Act to Amend The Gaols and Prisons Act - Lou Hyndman)
4. To restructure Police Commissions of municipal governments so that they are free from political interference - and to develop a program of provincial government support and training facilities to improve the quality of service provided by local law enforcement agencies and officers; but to revise the Police Act to ensure -

II.

C. EQUALITY OF JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

4. a) that the government is not given the power to set up a Provincial Police Force at any time; the decision should be made only after full public discussion and specific Act of the Legislature.
 - b) that the Alberta Police Commission's present powers of control and ultimate authority be replaced by advisory powers so that local authorities can develop the police force best suited to their needs.
 - c) that local municipalities have the right to choose a majority of the members on local police commissions.
 - d) that the powers of police chiefs to commit citizens to jail for contempt be restricted or removed.
5. To charge the Attorney General with an ongoing program of public relations, particularly within our education system so that the duties and responsibilities and the limitations of our law officers are much better understood by the general public.

III. GOVERNMENT AS A SERVICE TO PEOPLE

D. SERVICES FOR TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

1. HIGHWAYS AND ROADS FOR ALL ALBERTANS.

CHALLENGES

- To create public awareness and acceptance that much more needs to be done to improve the highways and roads of Alberta and bring them up to desirable standards - and that expenditures for this service provide a sound return on investment as it strengthens the capacity of smaller centres to grow and makes it easier for the farmer to get his products to market distributors.
- To effectively assist in the development of urban metropolitan transportation systems.

Situation - the real highway story in Alberta in the last 5 years !

1. In the past five years there has been \$23 million unexpended from funds appropriated by the Department of Highways - \$17 million of it in the past two years. When Social Credit claim that they couldn't or didn't have any money to start the grid-road program, it could be pointed out that they had more money unexpended in the past two years than they are allocating this year to the Grid-Road program.
2. The number of miles of primary highway has only increased by 5.5% even though motor vehicle registrations have gone up 25%, fuel oil tax 81% and license tax 43%.
3. In 1970, there was \$13 million additional revenue from fuel oil taxes and license plates than the total expenditures on highways. This includes the complete expenditure by the Department, including grants to municipalities, towns, etc.
4. A highly interesting figure is the amount of money spent in regard to main highway construction over the past five years. The figure is still at the same level as it was in 1966. When one considers that the value of money has been steadily decreasing - Alberta has been getting a reduced amount of road construction. At the same time as this minimal or nil increase in highway spending occurred over the past five years, the total Alberta budget doubled from \$600 million to \$1,200 million - or an increase of 100%. This surely should shake the myth of the performance by the Social Credit Government in highway construction over the past five years.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To creation of a Provincial Highway's Commission (comparable to similar setups in certain United States jurisdictions) which would be charged with the construction and maintenance of provincial roads.

D. 1. HIGHWAYS AND ROADS FOR ALL ALBERTANS

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

The Commission would have authority to arrange for long-term financing similar to that of the Alberta Resources Railroad. This new approach would overcome the existing haphazard situation created by year-to-year appropriations, fluctuating with the revenue distortions of oil and gas lease sales. Hence, for the first time, well-considered, five-year plans could be approved for highway and road construction.

2. To commence construction of the grid-road system for rural Alberta by the new Highway's Commission, with progress dependent upon the extent to which reasonable, long-term funding could be arranged.
3. To prime consideration to be given to the unsatisfactory north-south road system, particularly in Eastern Alberta.
4. To discontinuing the present practise of ignoring the recommendations of coroners' inquests regarding unsafe roads, and to establish a system of follow-up action to assure the upgrading of road conditions in accordance with the valid recommendations of such coroners' inquests without delay. (e.g. dust and oiling)
5. To discontinue the current scheme of determining need for particular road improvements by virtue of actual traffic counts only, in favour of a new system that more effectively takes into consideration the actual utilization of alternative routes by our citizens due to the inferior conditions of the road in question.
6. To develop a program of offsetting the hazardous dust conditions of many provincial roads, which have caused serious accidents and injury to our citizens. (see also Part I. 0. - The Automobile Owner & Driver)
7. To evaluate the road system of Alberta in conjunction with specific undeveloped tourist potential and have a cost-benefit analysis undertaken to assess return on investment which could accrue to Albertans.
8. To review the Department's existing practises in terms of undertaking its own work, as distinguished from contracting out to the private construction industry - to ascertain if the hidden costs of government operations are properly considered in such decision-making process.
9. To hold a meeting of all M.L.A.'s prior to each Session of the Legislature so that their views and the views of their constituents on local highway needs are publicly communicated to the Highway's Commission and are incorporated, as much as practical, into the long-term plans of the Highway's Commission.

1.
D. 1. HIGHWAYS AND ROADS FOR ALL ALBERTANS

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

10. To ensure some financial assistance to metropolitan centres attempting to establish transportation systems which improve the quality of urban life.

2. TRANSPORTATION

CHALLENGE

- To maximize Alberta control over the decision making of transportation matters within the Province.

NEW DIRECTIONS

To re-assess federal prerogatives in controlled rail, air, pipeline and other transportation facilities within Alberta in terms of jurisdiction and Alberta interests and priorities.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

CHALLENGE

- To reduce the inequities now existing which place Albertans living away from the larger centres at the disadvantage in terms of communication facilities.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To improve the progress of the Alberta Government Telephones in providing modern telephone services to the less populated areas of Alberta.
2. To assure fairness in charging long distance tolls in rural areas by enacting legislation tying together telephone systems with local government jurisdictions. (see 1971 Bill 127 - The Rural Telephones Act - Dr. Hugh Horner)
3. To develop methods so that cable television is a facility available, at reasonable cost, to all Albertans regardless of where they live.

PART FOUR

POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS

IN THE SEVENTIES

- A. FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS
- B. 1. ECONOMIC GROWTH POLICIES
- 2. PARTICIPATION BY ALBERTANS IN OUR ECONOMY
- C. NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES
- 1. THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
- 2. OTHER NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES
- D. NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT POLICIES
- E. EXPANSIONISTIC AGRICULTURAL POLICIES
- F. TAXATION POLICIES
- G. PUBLIC EXPENDITURE PRIORITIES
- H. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTONOMY
- I. THE ROLE OF THE CIVIL SERVANT

POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

A. FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

CHALLENGES

- To alter the present isolationist attitude of the outgoing Alberta Government and bring Albertans into the mainstream of Canadian life - performing a role of national leadership not provincial reactionism.
- In conjunction with such a challenge - to also communicate to Central Canadians, the aspirations of Western Canada and to hence assure equity and fairness in arrangements between both levels of government.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To appoint a Senior Provincial Cabinet Minister - a Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs - charged with responsibility to create initiatives and programs in the field of federal-provincial relations so that Alberta ideas are being considered - Alberta should not merely react to the ideas of other provinces.
2. To expand the Ottawa office of the Alberta Government so that it is an effective 'nerve centre' - maintaining close touch with the Federal Government in terms of the impact of developing federal programs - hence, eliminating the existing surprise and lack of Alberta perspective upon new federal proposals being announced - but also permitting a two-way dialogue in improving understanding by national media and the federal civil service with the Alberta point of view.
3. To press for open public televised federal-provincial conferences at all times, so that Alberta's point of view can be more effectively communicated to all Canadians.
4. To establish an ongoing Legislative Committee with M.L.A.'s from both sides of the House to review proposed amendments to the Constitution of Canada from an Alberta perspective and assure that there is adequate public participation and acceptance of any changes which affect Alberta.
5. To take the position that unless better arguments can be presented - that the existing division of powers within the Constitution is adequate - it requires only that each level of government respect the jurisdiction of the other.
6. To change the existing over-cautious approach and challenge the Federal Government jurisdiction in the Supreme Court of Canada as and when circumstances require - hence, protecting Alberta's interests and recognizing that in a federal state, such a court is established for just such a purpose. e.g. the discriminatory federal tax provision that selected Edmonton and Calgary, together with certain other Canadian cities, for different depreciation treatment than for example - the City of Montreal.

V.

A. FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

7. To press for Alberta Government representation on the Bank of Canada so that the powerful influence of such a body on monetary policy reflects the Alberta point of view.
8. To increase the degree of cooperation and joint action by all four Western Provinces - so that the voice of the West is much more powerfully presented to all of Canada.

V. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

B. 1. ECONOMIC GROWTH POLICIES

CHALLENGES

- To move to a new stage of Alberta economic growth and build a much more diversified economy, less reliant upon the oil and gas industry.
- To shift the current government emphasis from capital investment to job-producing activity to meet the short and long term demands by Albertans for job opportunities.
- To strive to equalize more fairly growth potential throughout the entire Province.
- To more fully utilize provincial government expenditure and tax policies to create job opportunities for Albertans.

(see also: - The Citizens of Smaller Centres - Part I.G.
The Opportunity for Enterprise - Part I.M.
Services for Transportation and Communication - Part III.D.2.
Taxation Policies - Part IV.F.)

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To accept provincial responsibility that unemployment in the Province is a joint responsibility of both provincial and federal governments - to change the current attitude of ignoring the plight of the unemployed in Alberta.
- * 2. To establish a \$50 million - Alberta Opportunity Fund - having the objective of stimulating new and expanding enterprises with the following priorities:
 - a) To applications from the smaller centres.
 - b) To applications where there is an extensive community involvement.
 - c) To applications from existing small businesses to expand.
 - d) To applications limited to \$300,000 per project.
 - e) To applications containing a high degree of job opportunity relative to capital investment (e.g. service industries).
 - f) To application by Alberta citizens.

* (Note:- The capital monies for the Fund to come from a transfer from existing Revenue Accounts.)

V.

B. 1. ECONOMIC GROWTH POLICIES

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

3. To measures to develop Alberta as a stronger Canadian financial centre, including expansion of the Treasury Branches for small business loans and greater encouragement to Alberta-promoted stock proposals.
4. To tax policies (see Part IV.F.) where initiative, enterprise and risk-taking are fairly rewarded, including an Alberta Income Tax Adjustment Act to create specific incentives to stimulate opportunity and growth in Alberta.
5. To creation of an Alberta Incentives Plan to encourage the attraction of new industrial and tourist opportunities to locate in Alberta, and particularly in the smaller centres involving a mix of financing, management counselling, research, public service, and adult training facilities and programs.
6. To establish regional inventories and needs (i.e. a "Data Bank") to take a full advantage of the potentials and strengths of Alberta communities and help local groups to help themselves in realizing their potential.
7. To develop a small business arm of the Provincial Department of Industry along the lines of the United States "Small Business Administration" - so that there are specific programs to offset the built-in advantages of large corporations and to ensure a better balanced enterprise economy in Alberta between larger and smaller enterprises - including specific responsibility to tie together all of these economic policies where the emphasis is small business and job opportunity.
8. To establish a network of Alberta Trade Promotion Offices throughout the world to effectively sell the potential of the Province and to uncover new markets for our products, both agriculture, natural resource and processed.
9. To restructuring government organization so that the full potential of the tourist industry for job opportunity is separately and more adequately developed.
10. To creation of an Economic Council of Alberta to advise a Progressive Conservative Government on long term economic planning and opportunities for growth.
11. To restructuring of federal-provincial economic arrangements to assure a stronger and fairer Alberta position in:
 - a) revenue sharing;
 - b) transportation priorities;
 - c) research programs; and
 - d) economic growth policies.

POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

2. PARTICIPATION BY ALBERTANS IN OUR ECONOMY

CHALLENGES

- To ensure a greater participation by Albertans in the ownership and control of Alberta's industry.
- To ensure that Alberta and Albertans gain full benefit from foreign and domestic investment.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To provide Albertans with investment opportunities such as by insisting all Albertans are given an opportunity to participate in firms holding Crown licenses.
2. To ensure that different tax structures or government regulations do not put Albertans at a competitive disadvantage to non-resident investors in starting new or bidding on existing enterprises.
3. To encourage Albertans to invest in Alberta industry by providing incentives through altered tax structures and government regulations.
4. To ensure that the Alberta Treasury Branches and other financial institutions within Alberta are accessible and provide assistance to Alberta investors.
5. To insist that all industrial concerns within Alberta utilize Alberta service industries and Alberta labour whenever and wherever practicable.
6. To encourage increased research and development within Alberta by the industries operating in Alberta.
7. To encourage the development of Alberta's resources while at the same time insisting Alberta participates in the secondary and tertiary processing and manufacturing made possible by these resources.

. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

C. NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES

1. THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

(Note:- There is always the tendency when presenting an alternative and new government platform, to place such an emphasis upon "New Directions" that the public misunderstands the intention to continue - and not upset those existing government policies which have proved through time to be in the best interests of Albertans, and should not be altered.

Such is our position with regard to the exploration and production side of the petroleum industry - i.e. the finding and the gathering of oil and gas. We give credit to the Manning Administration of the early 1950's for developing a system which provides a fair balance between incentives for large investment by private industry and reasonable return to the owner of the oil and gas properties - the people of Alberta - through royalties - Crown lease sales and other factors of Provincial Government natural resource revenues.

This is not to say that a Progressive Conservative Government will not make changes - but they will be changes in relation to current developments - reforms in relation to new circumstances - we publicly commit ourselves to maintaining the basic system.

Changes may be required in terms of surface rate compensation, pollution control measures, and, of course, at the customary ten-year renewal period for royalty rates in relation to current market conditions. (see also previous Section IV. B. 2. - Participation by Albertans in Our Economy)

We are not unmindful of the story of killing the goose that laid the golden egg.

There are, however, new directions that are clearly required in terms of policy.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To have the Alberta Government play a much more vigorous role than in the past in promoting and preserving markets for Alberta crude, natural gas and other petroleum products - to refuse to accept a position that in this vital Alberta industry the Federal Government can negotiate agreements without consultation and concurrence by the elected representatives of the people of Alberta and the Alberta Government.
2. To open a Washington, D.C. office of the Alberta Department of Mines & Minerals in order to assure that the Alberta Government is much better informed as to United States and World petroleum developments.

IV.

C. 1. THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

3. To continue to maintain the existing good relations between the Alberta Government and the petroleum industry, but to recognize that in light of the apparent shift of the major play to north of the Province's boundary - that the Alberta Government position may not always be the same as the industry position - and that the Alberta Government may be required to take a firm stance to protect itself from the conflicts of interest by the Federal Government in terms of the Federal Government's ownership of northern petroleum rights and its participation in Panarctic - all in relation to its regulatory control over Alberta petroleum product markets through the National Energy Board.
4. To exercise continued pressure for a second plant to develop the Oil Sands near Fort McMurray without disturbing the orderly marketing of conventional crude, including continued pressure for tax incentives to improve the economics of such a plant.
5. To strive to secure a firm policy declaration by the Federal Government that the National Oil Policy is not subject to the whims of Eastern Canadian political interests.
6. To continue to maintain a climate of attraction to foreign investment - recognizing the large capital investment needs for further development of the oil industry - but at the same time to expect a social balance sheet from our corporate citizens reflecting recognition of their social responsibilities to the people of Alberta. (see Part IV. B.2)
7. To develop new ways to increase the relative proportion of the petroleum industry owned by Albertans, and in particular, to exploring tax incentive schemes which will give Albertans a better opportunity to participate in the growth - but also with the risk - of new petroleum investments and developments.
8. To constantly protect the requirements of Albertans and future generations of Albertans for our future needs for oil, gas and other petroleum products - and to assure that world market conditions do not create inflated prices for these products being charged to Alberta consumers.

2. OTHER NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES

CHALLENGES

- To assure a better balance between development of our other natural resources - Alberta participation - and return to Alberta citizens for the ownership of such resources.

V.

C. 2. OTHER NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. The existing ten cents a ton royalty on exported coal be reviewed to examine whether or not Albertans are obtaining a fair return in relation to.
2. To revise the existing system of allotting timber berths so that smaller Alberta entrepreneurs can have an opportunity to more fully participate.
3. To re-assess the present fish marketing industry to determine whether or not Albertans are being given a fair chance to participate, and if not to make the necessary changes - and particularly to give an opportunity in this area to the Native People of Alberta.
4. To undertake an inventory of undeveloped resources to ascertain where new initiatives might be the most productive in expanding our natural resource exports.
5. To create the necessary leverage and pressure to maximize the processing of natural resources within this Province in order to dramatically improve the number of new jobs created for young Albertans as a consequence of the fortunate location of natural resources within this Province.
6. To improve coordination with the Federal Government so that the tariffs, quotas, and custom policies of the Federal Government take into consideration more than in the past, our natural resource policy and our potential here.

POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

(Note: - We must stimulate northern economy through development of primary resources and agriculture with major emphasis on environmental improvement and pollution control.)

CHALLENGE

- About 180,000 persons, or 12% of Alberta's total population reside in that area of the Province located north of the 55th parallel. Over 50% of the labour force in northern Alberta is directly engaged in primary resource development and agriculture. This situation is expected to continue in the long term. Increased emphasis should be placed on development in northern Alberta of natural resources, tourism and agriculture. In addition, proper planning of highway and other transportation systems needed to facilitate these developments should be undertaken.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To stimulate logical development of the agriculture economy in northern Alberta and to assist in preserving the family farm by;
 - a) The development of paved market roads (grid roads) within the settled farming areas to facilitate lower marketing costs for agriculture products.
 - b) The development of agriculture related industry (e.g. rapeseed crushing plants, seed cleaning facilities, feed processing and packing plants) so as to lower the cost of inputs and provide a market outlet for northern Alberta farmers.
 - c) A continuing review of the Homestead Act and related Crown land development policies, taking care that development does not occur too rapidly since this could destroy the present sensitive cost-price balance to the detriment of farmers and ranchers in Alberta.
 - d) An immediate review of present grazing lease policies with emphasis on the continued development of the beef and sheep industry, recognizing the need for long term leases, as well as grazing lease and community pastures costs related to profit in the livestock industry of northern Alberta.

IV. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

E. EXPANSIONISTIC AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

CHALLENGES

- A target of a billion dollar gross farm income in Alberta in the next few years - at the present time, our gross farm income runs between \$700 and \$800 million a year and this kind of a gross does not allow a reasonable net income for all of Alberta's farmers. Both the Federal Government and the Social Credit Provincial Government have decided that the way to approach this is to limit the number of people involved in farming, rather than taking the positive approach. We must expand our markets so that we can expand our production, so that we can assure reasonable incomes from our family farms.
- To expand markets so that there will be room for those who wish to stay on the farm and so they can expect to receive a reasonable income. This is really the challenge of the '70's in agriculture - to make available the opportunity for Alberta farmers to practise their skills in agriculture to the best of their ability. We have those skills and Alberta has the natural resources in land and climate. It should be government's responsibility to give the leadership in agricultural marketing that will allow farmers to earn their livings on the farm.
- To develop marketing policies to improve our domestic sales and to expand our exports. This is the key to future expansion of agriculture in Alberta in all lines and it must be vigorously and boldly developed by government working with the producer.
- To maintain the family farm as the key part of Alberta agriculture.
- To help the farm economy by assisting the rural non-farm economy and community - thus improve services provided to farmers.
- To expand agriculture by processing much of our agricultural products in Alberta. Alberta's critical job shortage points up the challenge of providing employment in rural centres; many young people who may not wish to farm do want to live in their rural community.
- To expand agricultural credit in line with needs to produce expanded output and farm incomes. The credit challenge includes not only farm credit, but also local providers of services and product processing operations.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. A joint approach, with industry, to package and sell our produce more effectively and aggressively. This joint approach would include representation from an expanded Department of Industry with a vigorous Agricultural Marketing Council and provide the basis for secondary industry in rural Alberta based on agricultural production. Many

1.
E. EXPANSIONISTIC AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

1. rural communities in Alberta are cut off from industrial development because of highway inadequacies - highways must be built to weight standards of the 1970's. Other examples are the exploitation of the market for pork in the Far East, which is going to require specialty cuts and specialty processing facilities - ideal opportunities for rural Alberta. Other examples of this joint approach would include rapeseed crushing, forage dehydrating and pelletization, processing lamb and wool, the cleaning and packaging facilities for specialty seed crops.
2. New techniques in transportation. To Alberta agriculture, transportation is one of the keys. Freight rates in Canada have discriminated against Alberta agriculture and we must have a whole new look at the transportation field. Such things as moving vegetable oils by tanker truck, instead of rail car - the pipeline movement of farm produce - and, of course, the streamlining of the full delivery system from the farm to the port, including better and more streamlined port facilities. We need to press strongly the case for Alberta agriculture with the Canadian Transport Commission in regard to freight rates and other transportation limitations. History shows us that if we can develop competitive ways of transportation, that the railways for their own economic well-being will respond positively.
3. The development of new products which can be grown and produced in Alberta, which would replace products in which the demand has slackened. The easy example is rapeseed in exchange for wheat - but there are many others. The question of the growing of sunflowers - the question of the provision of mustard seed and some of the buckwheat crops that markets are developing for in the Far East particularly. We must not overlook the development of new crops which can be marketed in the United States as well.
4. A provincial sales force, working under an Agricultural Marketing Council. We can take a lesson from Japan - they use a team selling approach - with each man well versed in a particular field; this team approach has worked exceedingly well for them in the opening up of markets for their products. We need renewed sales effort in our traditional British and European markets. We should also, under a Provincial Sales Force, participate far greater in food fairs in potential market areas. In North America these potential areas include the Northwestern United States, California, Alaska, British Columbia, and Eastern Canada - the Far East, especially Japan, is Alberta's primary potential export area.
5. Consider long term contracts on particular agricultural products with countries like Japan. This would give us an assured market outlet and give agriculture much needed stability at home. The use of these bilateral contracts is going to be a great tool in trade in the '70's. We should be in the forefront. Some of the states in the United States are already doing this. (i.e. the Colorado and North Dakota Wheat Commissions - they were short of grain last year to meet their commitments.)

V.

D.

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

2. To recognize the tremendous tourist potential of northern Alberta by:
 - a) The rapid development of provincial parks and campsites, and early establishment of Wilderness Areas (e.g. Wild Kakwa), including encouragement of local municipalities to develop neighbouring lakes for recreation purposes.
 - b) By adequate game management policies that reflect the need for northern Alberta residents to increase their income from guiding and outfitting and the need for a continuing wildlife supply.

In addition to obvious benefits to Northern Alberta residents, mineral, tourist and agriculture development in these areas could benefit the remainder of the Province in three ways;

- i) By increasing tax revenues to governments;
- ii) By providing markets for goods and services produced elsewhere in Alberta.
- iii) By providing a recreation area for residents of Alberta's large metropolitan areas.

IV. EXPANSIONISTIC AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

NEW DIRECTIONS (continued)

6. An aggressive Marketing Council with vigorous and bold policies to expand our marketing potential - to expand our variety of marketing products - and to tie in the entire production end to marketing so that we can reach the target of the \$1 billion gross farm income in Alberta in the next few years.
7. An expanded system of long-term agricultural credit to ease farm transfers within the family and help the young farmer expand to an economic size of family farm unit. The Alberta farm credit system must be fully integrated with that of the federal government; commercial lenders should be encouraged to expand their lending to agriculture.
8. Provide researched and forward-looking advice and assistance to new and smaller businesses in Alberta (similar to the Small Business Administration in the U.S.). Many such businesses would be in rural Alberta; more product processing and farm services would be provided locally. Thus agriculture would be expanded and there would be more rural employment opportunities.
9. The Human Resources Research Council (HRRC) should have a specific focus on rural economies and communities of Alberta. Alberta's rural population percentage has been declining more rapidly than that for Canada as a whole. Rural towns can remain strong only by competing effectively for dollars spent.
10. A Progressive Conservative government of Alberta will make itself vigorously heard in Ottawa regarding federal agricultural policies that affect Alberta farmers. Important regional differences within Alberta will be taken into account. In addition, an Alberta government must take vigorous initiatives to protect rights of Albertans (e.g. Bennett Dam - Athabasca Delta fiasco) and interests of Albertans (e.g. Smoky Lake alfalfa processing plant proposal in relation to Saskatchewan).

IV. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

F. TAXATION POLICIES OF A PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT.

(see concluding remarks by Peter Lougheed - Budget Debate - Alberta Legislature - March 12, 1971)

1. The primary Alberta tax sources should be from the "ability-to-pay" taxes of personal income and corporate income. (This of course does not include natural resource revenue.) This approach requires accelerated growth of per capita income, and hence, warrants strong Provincial Government measures to realize upon our secondary industrial and tourist potential.
2. Alberta's tax system should, for convenience and simplicity, be tied into the federal system - but only so long as the federal system is equitable - creates sufficient incentives for savings and investment - and gives adequate reward to small, medium and new business development. Enact an Income Tax Adjustment Act to create specific incentives to stimulate opportunity and growth in Alberta.
3. Alberta requires new tax policies to more effectively encourage new job-producing enterprises. These policies should be structured to better balance the scale between small and large corporations and to recognize that secondary and tertiary industrial growth will more likely stem from local enterprise than from non-resident operations whose assessment of Alberta's geographic market limitations would tend to be over-emphasized.
4. Alberta's tax policies should include special tax features to offset the international price structure of agricultural products and assure Alberta farmers an adequate after tax standard of living.
5. Alberta requires a tax structure that contains an adequate formula for periodic adjustment of natural resource export revenues in relation to demand and supply factors in the world. We must ensure that medium-term trends in natural resource demand reflects adequate return to Albertans for the sale of non-recoverable and depleting natural resources.
6. The provincial-municipal tax structure should be completely restructured.
 - a) The cost of education should be primarily borne from the General Revenues of the Province.
 - b) Residential property tax should become the most exclusive prerogative of the municipalities - with the exception of only the Special School Board Property Tax Levy mentioned below.
 - c) The existing Foundation Plan for education should to all intents and purposes, be discontinued and the vacated 30 mills of education residential property tax to be utilized to both reduce property tax and to offset any reductions in the province's Municipal Assistance Grants.
 - d) Provincial-Municipal Assistance Grants should be based upon need.

IV.

F. TAXATION POLICIES OF A PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT (continued)

- e) Each municipality to then establish its own basis of assessment - and hence, the need for province-wide equalized assessment would become redundant. The issue of assessment exemptions for farm property then becomes a local decision.
 - f) Local elected school boards to raise any additional extras for education by means of a SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY TAX LEVY with full publication of such measure communicated to the electorate at each successive school board election.
7. A general Alberta sales tax is an undesirable tax, except for non-essential items (such as liquor or tobacco) - because it has no "ability-to-pay" foundation. It penalizes the less fortunate - those on fixed incomes in an inflationary period. Albertans cannot use as an excuse for implementation, the fact that we are the only province to not yet initiate a general sales tax, because conversely, Alberta is the only province receiving from natural resources such a substantial per capita revenue.

In summary- the three principles of an Alberta tax policy should be : -

- a) Prime reliance on ability-to-pay taxes.
- b) Incentives to reward job-producing enterprises.
- c) Local responsibility to be equated with necessary resources and specified accountability.

IV. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

G. PUBLIC EXPENDITURE PRIORITIES

1. Guidepost #7 of the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta states that -

"We believe that provincial government should establish a set of legislative priorities in relation to its financial resources and publish these priorities for scrutiny by the community at large."

2. In establishing priorities for public expenditure, the institution of program budgeting is a condition precedent. This contemporary technique rejects the line method of departmental budgets and replaces it with the breakdown of expenditure by end result programs, objectives and sub-objectives.

- a) Thus, the first element of program priority in public expenditures can be established by program budgeting. These priorities should be as follows: -

- i) Expenditures which directly improve the quality of life, or provide a service to our citizens. - e.g. operating expenditures for education - improvement in public health services.
- ii) Expenditures which directly support the standard of living or improved productivity of our citizens. i.e. Senior Citizens' income supplements - operating expenditures for vocational training programs - preventive welfare schemes.
- iii) Expenditures for the physical facilities to better implement the above two priority fields. i.e. a renovation of an outmoded elementary school - modern medical equipment to improve the quality of hospital service - vocational training centres.
- iv) Last in order of priority are expenditures on administration - on provincial civil servants required to administer and implement these programs. i.e. Personnel Administration Office - Licensing of Trade and Business Branch - School Buildings Branch.

- b) The second area of public expenditure priority is the functional emphasis. High priority should be obviously given to :

- i) Education and training
- ii) Health
- iii) Opportunity programs
- iv) Environmental control.

IV.
G. PUBLIC EXPENDITURE PRIORITIES

- a) The third area of public expenditure priorities are those areas where immediate return is not anticipated, but where economic growth potential is developed. This includes Provincial Government expenditures on industrial development programs and on agricultural marketing efforts. Due to the medium and long-term effect of such expenditures, capital borrowings for current expenditures in these areas, appear justified. Supplemental to this public expenditure priority are Provincial Government programs to create a more balanced, province-wide growth; and hence, encourage decentralization of both public and private investments (this includes highway construction).
3. Those areas of public expenditure which are desirable, but where lower priority has to be given, are the areas where delay of expenditure would not too adversely affect either the quality of life or service, or the prospects for future growth; (e.g. - public buildings to house the new provincial administrators; like the proposed new building for the Health Care Insurance Commission) - the publication of Provincial Government activities by magazines such as the "Land for Living" - Provincial Government Civil Service travel, which exceeded \$5 million in the last fiscal year.

(Note:- In determining public expenditure priorities, consideration has to be given to shared cost programs with the Federal Government and to other areas which involve revenue to the Provincial Government.)

4. In analyzing public expenditures strong efforts will be made to reduce wasteful spending and the high per capita cost of government that the out-going government has promoted. A concerted drive to reduce the cost of government would be an inherent part of the public spending program of a Progressive Conservative Government, including:-
- a) The re-structuring of the existing Provincial Auditor into the office of Auditor General to ferret out unnecessary and wasteful expenditures (see 1971 Bill 134 - The Taxpayers' Protection Act - Lou Hyndman).
- b) The establishment of a special force to re-appraise government management efficiency in Alberta (along the lines of the Ontario Government Committee on Government Productivity - C.O.G.P.).

IV. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

H. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTONOMY

CHALLENGE

- To meet Guidedpost #2 of the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta - to return - wherever practical - the decision-making process to local government.

"We believe that the most democratic form of government is that which is closest to the people. We believe that the proper role of Provincial Government is guidance, advice and assistance to local government - not direction, control and restriction of their affairs. This entails adequate financial resources being made available at the municipal level. This view involves acceptance of the diversity of both the interests and the society of this Province and the value of local knowledge in reaching decisions. We do not believe that alleged central efficiency should always be allowed to over-ride the special judgment of one's elected neighbours."

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To provide municipal government with adequate financial capacity without abnormal debt burden in order to meet its obligations - this involves primarily the turning over to municipal government of the area of residential property taxation and having the cost of education primarily borne by the General Revenues of the Province. (This radical change has been noted in various other items of New Direction within this Platform.)
2. To eliminate the need for detailed scrutiny of local government actions by provincial bureaucrats which result in wasted public funds by virtue of such unnecessary duplication and red tape; - the Provincial Government to merely set down broad guidelines and to establish basic standards of performance. Within those standards - local government to operate without requiring provincial civil servants to look over the shoulder of the local government representatives - e.g. The School Buildings Board - the Alberta Hospitals Commission - the Alberta Police Commission.
3. To create a new atmosphere and approach so that when a citizen complains to a Provincial Government official, it is generally accepted by Albertans that the response is that the responsibility rests at the local level - not the provincial level - and the citizen's avenue of redress is at the ballot box at the next municipal election.
4. To re-organize the existing Department of Municipal Affairs so that the very different problems of the metropolitan centres of Edmonton and Calgary (as compared to other municipal governments) are given separate consideration so as to create policies which reflect different attitudes - i.e. the metropolitan centres now consider growth as a mixed blessing - the other centres of Alberta generally consider growth an unequivocal improvement.
5. To amend the Police Act, 1971 to assure effective local participation in local law enforcement policy.

IV. POLICIES FOR ALBERTANS IN THE SEVENTIES

I. THE ROLE OF THE CIVIL SERVANT

CHALLENGES

- To more adequately recognize that the civil service is comprised of individuals who have a tremendous capacity for contributing to the betterment of Alberta if they are allowed the opportunity to function and express themselves as creative individuals in their daily work.
- To provide the environment within the civil service which will ensure that the individual civil servant can achieve the maximum self-fulfillment in his or her work with a minimum of bureaucratic interference and red tape.

COMMITMENT

To ensure that with a change of Government, the traditional independence from politics of the civil service will be fully recognized.

NEW DIRECTIONS

1. To provide adequate bargaining rights for the civil service, similar to those enjoyed by all other workers in Alberta. (see 1971 Bill 128 - An Act to Amend the Public Service Act - Len Werry - and also 1971 Bill 133 - An Act to Amend the Crown Agencies Act - Len Werry)
2. To provide flexibility for advancement to higher positions based on a person's work capacity and merit in addition to the required qualifications.