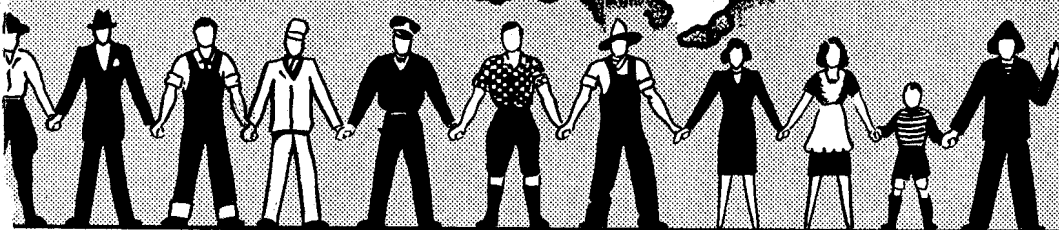


The Progressive
Conservative Party's
**PRACTICAL
PROPOSALS**

for a Better Canada



CANADIANS ALL

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FOREWORD

I*F the march of Communism is to be halted; if our Canadian Way of Life is to be maintained, and our Free Institutions strengthened and expanded, there must be at the helm in our Country a strong, united Government. That Government must regard itself as the Servant, not the Master of the people. That Government must offer to the Canadian people policies which will assure opportunity for all—constructive, practical policies which will provide jobs for workers at decent pay; a square deal for farmers; restored confidence to business men. Such policies must provide as well a bold and adventurous national development programme. They must assure Social Security for all and they must insist that our Nation shall have its rightful place in the maintenance of permanent world peace.*

Progressive Conservative policy is beamed to guarantee Opportunity for all Canadian citizens. When there is opportunity for the maximum development of wealth and work-producing enterprise—then and then only will there be security—security for those able and willing to work, and adequate provision for those who are unable by reason of sickness, age or accident to take care of themselves. The Progressive Conservative Party nails the flag of Opportunity to the mast.

In this pamphlet are set forth some of the positive proposals to achieve the objectives of our Party by giving Canadians a square deal.

Opportunity and Development of Natural Resources

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY will provide full employment at fair wages for every person able and willing to work — the relief system is no substitute for work.

A comprehensive programme of development of our natural resources will expand our primary and secondary industries and assist in the accomplishment of the desired objectives.

The Party is pledged:

- To promote the production and marketing of Maritime and Western Canada coal and the nation's oil and gas resources;
- To establish a permanent programme of Maritime marsh land reclamation;
- To develop the Canadian fishing industry in the Atlantic and Pacific and inland lakes with special attention to the marketing of the annual catch;
- To accelerate development for our mineral resources;
- To establish a free market for gold, or, if the international obligations to which Canada is committed prevent the establishment of a free market for gold, the purchase of gold mined in Canada by the Federal Government at a price comparable to the increased price of other commodities;
- To provide for a more equitable distribution of taxation on gold mines between the Dominion, the Provinces and the municipalities;
- To institute in the Western Provinces a vigorous programme of land reclamation by water conservation, power production and the establishment of comprehensive irrigation systems for the reclamation of dried-out lands;
- To assist in the marketing of our lumber production and to encourage reforestation;
- To establish a National Development Council with Dominion and Provincial representatives and including representatives of labour, agriculture and industry, such Council to be charged with the formulation and carrying out of plans for the accomplishment of full production and employment and the preservation and development of our natural resources.

Social Security

The **PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY** proposes a contributory "FOUR-IN-ONE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME" available to every Canadian irrespective of occupation to provide the following benefits:

- Retirement Pensions at age 65 without means test;
- Accident and Sickness benefits;
- Health Insurance;
- Extended Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Under this programme citizens will by contributions made during their working years be enabled to provide protection against the hazards of sickness, accident and unemployment and be enabled to retire in decency and comfort at age 65.

It is intended that the "FOUR-IN-ONE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMME" will be established in collaboration with and be administered by the Provinces.

Enabling legislation will be enacted with permissive power to the Provinces to adopt the plan, thus avoiding the necessity of constitutional amendment or immediate overall Dominion-Provincial Agreement.

Until the contributory plan becomes fully operative the Dominion will pay at least 75% of a retirement pension of \$40 per month.

Family allowances will be placed on a uniform basis per child regardless of the number of children in the family.

In co-operation with the Provinces a national health programme will be established including promotion of improved nutritional standards and effective preventive health services to assist research and control of cancer, arthritis and other diseases and to provide assistance for the construction of hospitals, health and recreational centres.

Equality For Agriculture

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND ITS LEADER, JOHN BRACKEN, the first farmer to serve as Leader of a federal Canadian political party, stand pledged to assure the maximum of stability of income to Canadian farmers.

This will be accomplished by:

- Making provision in permanent statutory form for floor prices for agricultural products based on parity.
- Enacting a Natural Products Marketing Act enabling farmers to market their own products in their own interest in a democratic and orderly manner.
- Setting up marketing agencies overseas to ensure that Canadian grades and quality standards conform to consumer demands.
- Removing the embargo against the export of Canadian live stock and other agricultural products, in order to expand our natural markets and provide much needed American dollars for our Canadian economy.
- Restoring the Wheat Board Act of 1935 to serve its original purpose. This Act was established by the then Conservative administration as a marketing agency for wheat producers. The Liberal Party has destroyed its function as a producers' organization and has used it for the purpose of depressing wheat prices and indirectly depressing prices of all other farm products. The farmers of Canada have thereby borne the full burden of the government's price ceiling policy.
- Subscribing to national policies which will assist in the rehabilitation of Britain and other democratic countries whose national economies have been destroyed or greatly impaired by war but opposing the present government policy of compelling the farmers of Canada as producers to bear the whole cost of inter-governmental food contracts.
- Setting up a Dominion-wide rehabilitation and soil conservation plan.
- Establishing a Board of Live Stock Commissioners on a basis similar to the Board of Grain Commissioners.
- Giving every possible support to co-operative agencies whether relating to purchase, sale or credit.

- Extending the activities of the Federal Farm Loan Board so that more farmers may take advantage of long term low interest rates in the purchase and development of their farms.

- Extending the facilities for agricultural research to deal with new uses for agricultural products for industrial purposes, and will extend the activities of the various branches of the Department of Agriculture for the thorough study of contagious animal and plant diseases in order to curtail the annual wastage of livestock and plants.

- Enlisting, in the formulation of all agricultural policies, the co-operation of the organized farmers of Canada and of other representative men in the industry, and assuring that agriculture will be represented on all administrative as well as advisory boards dealing with farm matters.



Immigration

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY will initiate a practical and long range immigration policy.

A bold and extensive immigration programme undertaken in co-operation with the Provinces, will enable us to develop a greater Canadian nation, in which our productive resources can be fully utilized and our defence against external aggression be more fully assured. To ensure these objectives:

- On a selective basis, the workers needed for industry and agriculture and for new development will be brought to Canada:
- An intensive educational programme will be devised, whereby immigrants will become familiar with their responsibilities, their rights; our customs, our history and thus prepare themselves for full citizenship in Canada.

Constitutional Liberties

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY stands for the enactment of a Canadian Bill of Rights applicable to all Canadians.

It will provide for:

- Freedom of worship;
- Freedom of speech;
- Freedom of peaceful assembly;
- The preservation of the constitutional liberties of the subject within the competence of the Federal authorities.

We urge the immediate submission to the Supreme Court of Canada of a question to determine the constitutionality of such legislation by Parliament.



Communism Should Be Outlawed

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY believes that Communist activities in Canada should be outlawed.

We recommend:

- The acceleration and intensification of the investigation of organizations and persons suspected of promoting or being engaged in Communist activities;
- Co-operation with organized labour to rid itself of Communists holding office in its organization; and
- A measure to expel Communists from the Civil Service and governmental institutions.

National Security

The Liberal Government has been derelict in its duty in permitting our land, air and sea forces to be dissipated and in failing to take appropriate steps to bring all arms of the military forces to adequate strength.

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY is pledged to provide adequate defence of Canada by:

- The establishment of a Defence Committee under the authority of the Cabinet to co-ordinate the efforts of all branches of Government.
 - (a) Bringing our active and reserve forces up to adequate strength without delay;
 - (b) Establishing a plan for conversion of industry from peace to war, including necessary arrangements for reserves of equipment and trained civilian personnel to provide the initial minimum required on mobilization;
 - (c) Stimulation of production of trained pilots particularly through support of Flying Clubs;
 - (d) The establishment of an adequate plan for Civil Defence Organization.
- Providing for the closest co-operation between the Armed Forces of Canada, the British Commonwealth and the United States with a view to sharing plans and the standardization of equipment and methods.
- Acceleration of scientific research in order that our forces will have the advantage of the most modern weapons and equipment.



Justice For Veterans

During and after two world wars THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY has consistently championed the cause of the men and women who served. In days of peace, we have insisted and will continue to insist that promises made during the war shall be fully carried out.

Specifically the Party is pledged:

- To retain and improve where necessary, existing veterans' legislation;
- To overhaul pensions and allowances legislation and the administration thereof, in order to:
 - (a) Eliminate red tape and simplify procedure;
 - (b) Establish that a service persons' medical category as recorded at the time of enlistment will be accepted as accurate and final, and any subsequent deterioration before discharge shall be regarded as having resulted from service and not from a "pre-enlistment condition";
 - (c) Increase pensions and war veterans' allowances 33⅓% over the level established in 1925;
 - (d) Stabilize the pensions of World War I pensioners, subject only to upward revision where the disability has progressed;
 - (e) Increase the grants and allowances to student veterans at the rate of 5% for each six points increase in the cost of living index;
 - (f) Provide that children of parents who lost their lives on active service shall be entitled to educational and training benefits comparable to those to which their parents would have been entitled;
 - (g) Extend the benefits under veterans' legislation to members of the Merchant Marine, which is generally regarded as the fourth arm of the service.

Housing

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY recognizes that the Dominion has a responsibility for the provision of adequate housing. The present need is estimated at 500,000 units. To provide this will require the concerted effort of the Dominion, the Provinces and the Municipalities. It is a social objective of the first importance.

The cost to the state will be substantial but it will be offset by the social benefits of greater freedom from crime, divorce, juvenile delinquency and other social evils, and also from the savings in provision of police, fire and health services in areas of substandard housing.

The government's feeble efforts have proved hopelessly inadequate to deal with the nation-wide shortage of housing accommodation which has reached the proportions of a national emergency.

The solution of the immediate scarcity of housing must be integrated with a long-range programme of slum clearance to replace sub-standard housing.

Home ownership will be encouraged by extending the present lending provisions of the National Housing Act to credit-worthy families of small means and by lowering the cost of the borrowing.

An intensive research programme to improve house construction and to reduce its cost will be adopted.

The present government has refused to provide subsidies for low rental housing while at the same time it has forced the municipalities to contribute indirect subsidies to Wartime Housing through grants of land and low fixed taxes, and the provision of municipal services at high cost, thus throwing an inequitable and heavy burden upon the owners of property in the municipalities.

The necessity for the provision of housing for low income groups constitutes an obligation upon the Dominion to participate with the Provincial and Municipal Governments in the provision of funds for the establishment of low cost rental housing on approved housing schemes to be administered by the municipalities.

Trade

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY recognizes that existing abnormal barriers to international trade are opposed to the best interest of Canada.

For that reason:

- Canada's general tariff structure will be maintained at a practical level to ensure reasonable rates of pay for Canadian workers and reasonable returns for Canadian industry;
- Practical programmes for the modification of special restrictions, such as quotas, exchange restrictions and embargoes will be initiated and supported.



Free Enterprise

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY reaffirms adherence to the policy of free enterprise.

Subject to such regulations as are necessary in the public interest to prevent and control monopolies and combines which have the effect of restricting competition and freedom of trade, free enterprise is the system best calculated to provide:

- Freedom of Opportunity,
- Maximum Production,
- Freedom of Competition.

Transportation

THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY will overhaul the whole freight rate structure with a view to the removal of the inequalities and discrimination presently existing.

A PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT will:

- Deal with the nationally owned railway system and its private competitors and their employees on the basis of equality. Will oppose amalgamation of the two railway systems, believing that competition provides a more effective service than a great monopoly;
- Continue the development of Trans-Canada Air Lines, but will encourage private airline systems to speed up the development of our country.
- In co-operation with the Provinces, at all times develop and maintain a National Transportation policy which will furnish the cheapest and most efficient service of all kinds to Canadians in every part of Canada.



Trans-Canada Highway

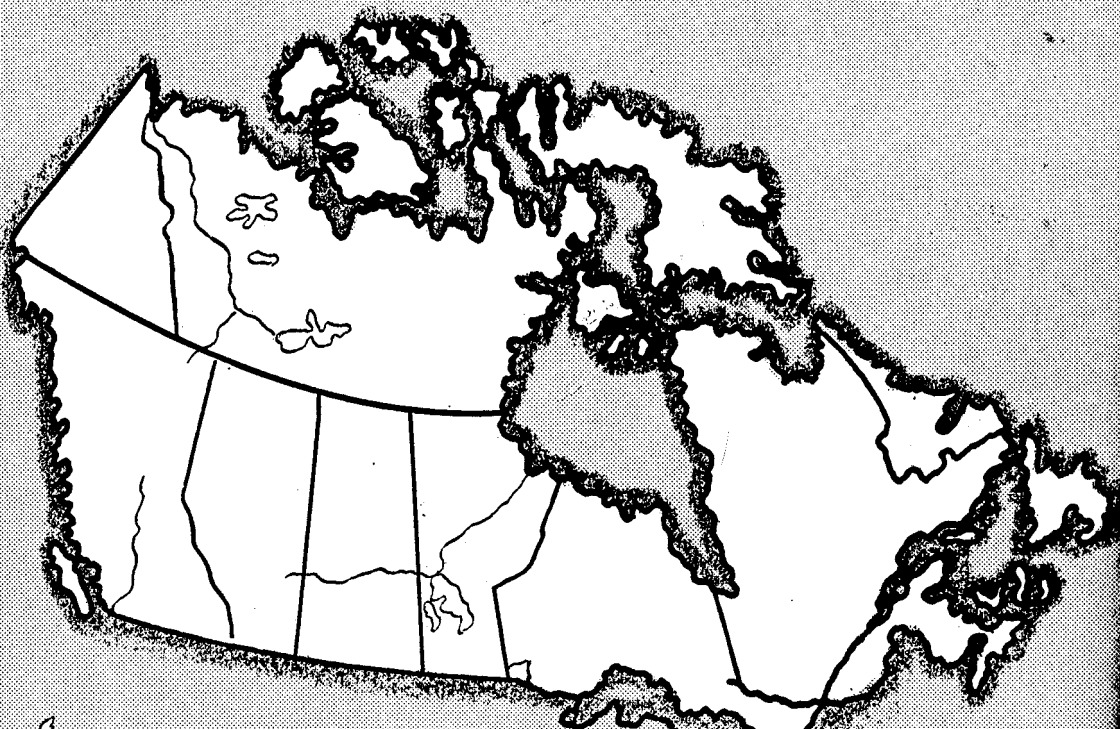
THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY advocates the immediate establishment of a **FEDERAL HIGHWAY COMMISSION** which in co-operation with the Provinces will be responsible for the immediate location and construction of a hard-surfaced **TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY SYSTEM**.

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"CANADA a Greater Nation in Our Time"



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