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63 REASONS

TO SUPPORT
THE
REFORM
PARTY OF
CANADA



POLITICAL INTEGRITY



POLITICAL RENEWAL



ECONOMIC RENEWAL

REFORM R

COURTESY OF
REFORM PARTY OF CANADA
NATIONAL OFFICE

THE NEW CANADA SHOULD BE A BALANCED, DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION OF PROVINCES, DISTINGUISHED BY THE CONSERVATION OF ITS MAGNIFICENT ENVIRONMENT, THE VIABILITY OF ITS ECONOMY, THE ACCEPTANCE OF ITS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE RECOGNITION OF THE EQUALITY AND UNIQUENESS OF ALL ITS PROVINCES AND CITIZENS.



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Here are 63 reasons to support the Reform Party of Canada. If you agree with most of them, I hope you will support us.

The principles and policies of the Reform Party are developed, debated, and voted on by party members through a grass-roots process. They reflect the direct input of tens of thousands of Canadians, and the views of millions more.

If you want more information than these 63 reasons provide, our complete principles and policies are published in the "Blue Sheet", and are freely available to the public. We can also provide you with more detailed information on many of the specific policies mentioned in this booklet.

Of course the best way to become thoroughly familiar with the Reform Party is to become a party member (a membership application form is on the back page). As a member, you will receive regular editions of our newspaper -- the Reformer -- and be invited to participate in party organization and policy development at the grass-roots level.

If you think things will never change, the 1993 federal election proved that things are changing. And if you think that you can't make a difference, the election of 52 MPs by a six-year-old Reform Party proved that people can make a difference when they work together.

If you have longed for honesty, efficiency, and democracy in government, help us change the system. Please join us.

- Preston Manning, Reform Party Leader

1. A FEDERATION OF EQUALS

Reformers are fully committed to Confederation and believe that all provinces should make a commitment to Canada as one nation. We believe that Canada would work best as a federation of equal provinces and equal citizens.

2. BETTER REPRESENTATION

Reformers believe that the duty of elected Members to represent their constituents comes before their obligation to any political party. We want less party discipline and freer votes in the House of Commons.

3. REFERENDUMS

Reformers say that Canadians should be able to vote on issues of major national importance in referendums held in conjunction with federal elections.

4. CITIZENS' INITIATIVES

Reformers believe that Canadians should be able to put questions to a national referendum by submitting a "citizens' initiative petition" signed by 3% of Canada's eligible voters.

5. RECALL

Reformers believe that constituents should have the means to remove MPs who lose the confidence or betray the trust of the people, and replace them in a by-election.

6. GOVERNMENT OVERSPENDING

Reformers want to eliminate government deficits and debt which discourage private investment, drive up taxes and interest rates, kill private sector jobs, and erode governments' ability to fund social programs.

7. JOB CREATION

Reformers recognize that real, permanent jobs are created primarily by the private sector, and not by governments through public spending. We believe government can encourage job creation by making spending cuts that lead to a balanced budget, lower taxes, a lower cost of doing business, increased investor confidence, and increased consumer spending.

8. BALANCED BUDGET

Reformers want to eliminate the budget deficit by cutting government spending, not by raising taxes. We support legislation that would compel the government to balance the budget.

9. SPENDING PRIORITIES

Reformers want the government to establish spending priorities, including priorities for social spending, as a necessary first step to eliminating the budget deficit.

10. PRESERVING KEY PROGRAMS

Reformers want to preserve key programs, especially social programs. We believe the greatest threat to these programs is growing interest payments on the national debt, which will soon top \$50 billion a year. To preserve our most valued programs, we must stop the growth of interest payments by stopping the growth of the debt, cut unnecessary spending, and reform programs so that they are both effective and affordable.

11. FOCUSING SOCIAL SPENDING

Reformers believe that social programs must be affordable and reliable over the long haul, which means that they must be focused on those who are more in need, and be reformed to deliver maximum benefits for minimum cost.

12. CUTTING THE SIZE & ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

Reformers want to cut the size of government by reducing duplication and red tape, by eliminating unnecessary intrusions into the lives of individuals and businesses, and by transferring some of its functions to lower levels of government, private enterprise, and individuals.

13. FEDERAL TRANSFERS

Reformers believe that diminishing federal cash transfers to the provinces for health, education, and welfare should be replaced with a transfer of “tax room” - a share of tax revenue that grows as the economy grows. This would provide the provinces with a stable long-term source of funding for social programs.

14. CROWN CORPORATIONS

Reformers believe the ownership and control of Crown Corporations should rest where their function can be performed most cost-effectively. This would generally be in the private sector. We support cutting federal subsidies for Crown Corporations.

15. CUTTING SUBSIDIES

Reformers say that the federal government should not subsidize business or other special interests. We believe a dollar left in the hands of an investor, lender, or taxpayer is more productive than that dollar left in the hands of a bureaucrat or politician.

16. THE GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Once the budget is balanced, Reformers support the phased elimination of the Goods and Services Tax .

17. TAX REFORM

Reformers support the development of a simpler tax system that would include a flat tax rate, fewer loopholes, and larger basic exemptions to protect low and middle income taxpayers.

18. MP PENSIONS, PAY AND PERKS

Reformers oppose the over-generous MP pension plan, and believe it should be brought into line with private sector standards. Until that happens, Reform MPs have committed to “opting out” of the taxpayer-funded MP pension plan. Reformers support a comprehensive review of the pensions, pay and perks of MPs and Senators.

19. ELIMINATING PATRONAGE

Reformers believe that government contracts should be awarded on the basis of fairness, price and quality. Government jobs should also be awarded on the basis of merit, not patronage.

20. FREE MARKET ECONOMY

Reformers believe in the creation of wealth and productive jobs through the operation of a competitive free market economy.

21. FREE TRADE

Reformers support freer trade, and say that we can make free trade work for Canada by removing interprovincial trade barriers, lowering the tax burden, and encouraging education, retraining, and technological development.

22. INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE BARRIERS

Reformers support the removal of all interprovincial barriers to the free flow of goods, services, labour, and investment, and support the establishment of domestic trade dispute settlement mechanisms.

23. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Reformers support government activities that nurture our human resources and economic infrastructure. Human resource development should emphasize the development of job skills.

24. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Reformers believe that the purpose of infrastructure development should be to support long-term economic development, not to create temporary jobs for political reasons. Infrastructure programs should be affordable, be subjected to a rigorous cost-benefit analysis, and wherever possible, be left in the hands of the private sector.

25. AGRICULTURAL SAFETY NETS

Reformers want to consolidate existing agricultural support programs into three major programs designed to protect producers from unfair foreign trade subsidies, natural hazards, and significant income fluctuations.

26. SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

Reformers want to help supply-managed sectors prepare for and adjust to freer trade. During the 1993 election campaign, the Reform Party was the only party to tell producers that tariffication was inevitable.

27. MARKETING REFORMS

Reformers believe that agricultural producer organizations should be controlled by the producers, not government bureaucrats.

28. FISHERIES

Reformers support the establishment of an economically and environmentally sustainable fishery industry, including the establishment of an independent commission to set sustainable quotas. We support securing and enforcing international treaties to conserve offshore fisheries.

29. NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Reformers support the private sector development of Canada's natural resources, without government subsidies.

30. UNIONS

Reformers support the right of workers to organize democratically, to bargain collectively and to strike peacefully.

31. WORKERS' RIGHTS

Unions and professional bodies may ensure standards, but should not block qualified people from working in a trade or profession or from gaining the necessary qualifications. We support the right of individual employees to refuse to allow any portion of their union dues to be paid to any cause which is not related to the function of the union that the employee does not personally support.

32. LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

Reformers believe that labour and management have a common interest in ensuring the success of Canadian enterprises. We support the harmonization of labour-management relations to help make Canada more competitive.

33. DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION MAKING

Reformers support a democratic process of constitutional reform that includes constitutional conventions.

Constitutional changes must be submitted to a referendum.

34. SENATE REFORM

Reformers support the Triple-E Senate concept: Elected by the people, with Equal representation from each province, and Effective powers to protect regional interests and act as a check on the House of Commons.

35. PROPERTY RIGHTS

Reformers support the entrenchment of property rights in the constitution.

36. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Reformers believe that environmental considerations must carry equal weight with economic, social, and technical considerations in the development of a project. We also recognize that the protection of the environment depends on the wealth generated by economic development.

37. COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Reformers support the clarification of federal and provincial jurisdiction over environmental matters, and the development of a joint environmental review process.

38. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Reformers believe that Canadians have a personal and collective responsibility to care and provide for the basic needs of people who are unable to care and provide for themselves.

39. ALTERNATIVES TO THE WELFARE STATE

Reformers encourage the development of personal "safety nets" (like RRSPs) to reduce the dependence of Canadians on over-burdened government programs.

40. THE CANADA/QUEBEC PENSION PLAN

Reformers believe that the Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan must be reformed to meet the challenge of an aging population.

41. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Reformers believe Unemployment Insurance should be self-funded, administered by employers and employees, and designed to provide temporary income in the event of unexpected job loss.

42. HEALTH CARE

Reformers believe that every Canadian should have access to quality health care, regardless of ability to pay. We support giving the provinces more freedom to administer and fund health care programs in accordance with re-defined national standards.

43. STUDENT LOANS

Reformers support the establishment of a fair and flexible student loan system that would tie the repayment of loans to a graduate's income. This would ensure reasonable repayment terms, minimize the cost to taxpayers of defaulted loans, and make more education funding available.

44. CHILD CARE

Reformers believe that child-care programs should subsidize parents based on financial need, not the method of child care chosen.

45. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Reformers support a criminal justice system which places the punishment of crime and the protection of law-abiding citizens and their property ahead of all other objectives.

46. VICTIMS' RIGHTS

Reformers believe that victims must be allowed input in all criminal cases and parole hearings. Victims should also be compensated by the guilty party to the greatest extent possible.

47. YOUNG OFFENDERS

Reformers support stronger sentences for young offenders, trial in adult court for older youths and serious offenders, and public access to the identity of most young criminals.

48. PAROLE REFORM

Reformers say that violent criminals must serve their full sentence, and should not be eligible for day or early parole.

Reformers also want an end to the patronage appointment of Parole Board members.

49. FAMILY VIOLENCE

Reformers believe that family violence attacks the very foundation of our society, and must be dealt with severely by the criminal justice system. Effective programs to prevent family violence and treat victims and abusers are a top priority.

50. GUN CONTROL

Reformers support gun controls that improve public safety and reduce the criminal use of firearms. We believe that the criminal use of firearms must be severely punished, and that the right of law-abiding citizens to own and use firearms must be protected.

51. LANGUAGE POLICY

Reformers support freedom of speech, and oppose comprehensive language legislation in principle.

52. TERRITORIAL BILINGUALISM

Reformers support a policy of "territorial bilingualism", recognizing that French is the main language in Quebec, and English is the main language in most of the rest of Canada. We believe that primary responsibility for language policy should rest with the provinces.

53. FEDERAL BILINGUALISM

Reformers support official bilingualism in Parliament, the Supreme Court, and in federal services where the need is sufficient and service can be provided cost-effectively. Any unnecessary funding of bilingualism should be eliminated.

54. IMMIGRATION

Reformers support an immigration policy that is compatible with Canada's economic needs, and oppose any immigration policy based on race or country of origin. We believe current immigration levels are too high given the state of the economy

55. REFUGEES

Reformers say that genuine refugees should be welcomed, but bogus refugees and people who enter Canada illegally should be quickly deported.

56. MULTICULTURALISM

Reformers uphold the right of citizens and private groups to preserve their cultural heritage using their own resources, but we oppose taxpayer funding of multiculturalism.

57. CULTURE

Reformers believe that Canadian cultural sectors can grow and thrive without needless government protection and regulation.

58. ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

Reformers believe the government, through a democratic process, should assist aboriginal people to take responsibility for the programs affecting them, and encourage economic self-sufficiency.

59. NATIVE SELF-GOVERNMENT

Reformers support the development of native self-government that is democratic, responsible, and subject to Canadian law, including the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

60. DEFENCE

Reformers support the maintenance of well-trained, well-equipped armed forces. We also support a re-examination of the mission and role of the armed forces.

61. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Reformers support foreign policy that is guided by the values and principles of Canadians - political democracy, economic freedom, and human rights.

62. FOREIGN AID

Reformers believe that foreign aid should be directed primarily through non-governmental organizations, and that the level of foreign aid should be reduced.

63. MORAL ISSUES

Reformers believe that moral issues such as abortion, doctor-assisted suicide, and capital punishment should be submitted to the people in a referendum. In the absence of a referendum, the primary responsibility of MPs is to vote their constituents' wishes.

PARTY LEADER PRESTON MANNING

In 8 short years, Preston Manning has led the Reform Party from a convention hall in Winnipeg to the centre of the national stage.

Preston was born in 1942 and raised in Alberta. He and his wife, Sandra, have three daughters and two sons. The family lives in Calgary.

In the private sector, Preston owned and operated a management consulting firm involved in energy sector planning, native and community economic development, federal-provincial relations, and communications planning.

Mr. Manning is also the visionary behind the concept of a renewed federalism for Canadian citizens and governments as outlined in his 1992 bestseller, "The New Canada".

Preston Manning represents Calgary Southwest in the House of Commons.

REFORM PARTY HISTORY

In 1987 the Reform Party of Canada was founded in the West. At that time Reform had about 3,000 members.

In 1989, Deborah Grey, the first Reform MP, was elected in a by-election, and Reformer Stan Waters won the historic Alberta Senate election.

In 1991 Reformers voted to expand east of Manitoba, and grew rapidly in Ontario and the Atlantic provinces.

By 1992 Reform was a major political force, and was the only federalist party to oppose the Charlottetown Accord.

In 1993 Reform fielded 206 candidates in the federal election. 52 Reform MPs were elected - mostly in Western Canada, and Reformers finished second in 80 ridings - mostly in Ontario. Reform received 19% of the popular vote, including 26% of the vote outside of Quebec.

TODAY Reform MPs are providing constructive opposition to the government. They are driving the agenda on fiscal and justice issues; they are fighting against tax increases, patronage and pork-barrel politics; and they are working hard on your behalf to bring balanced budgets and democratic reform to the House of Commons. The Reform Party is growing across Canada - Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, the West and the North - with the goal of forming the NEXT GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.

YES! I WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE REFORM PARTY'S GROWING TEAM!

I want to . . .

- obtain more information about the principles and policies of the Reform Party of Canada.
- become a member of the Reform Party of Canada for :
____ 1 year (\$10) ____ 3 years (\$30) ____ 5 years (\$50)
- make a financial contribution to help the Reform Party build a new Canada:
____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$200 ____ other
- refer a friend. Please write their name and address on a separate piece of paper and mail or fax to address below.

The Reform Party of Canada is a registered political party and your total contributions in any one year will entitle you to the following tax credits:

Contribution	tax credit	actual cost
\$25.00	\$18.75	\$6.25
\$50.00	\$37.50	\$12.50
\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
\$120.00	\$85.00	\$35.00
\$350.00	\$200.00	\$150.00
\$550.00	\$300.00	\$250.00

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YOUR LOCAL CONTACT IS:



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CHIEF AGENT FOR THE REFORM PARTY OF CANADA
CACA009509E**

