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BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY



Make it yours



Free People, Free Enterprise

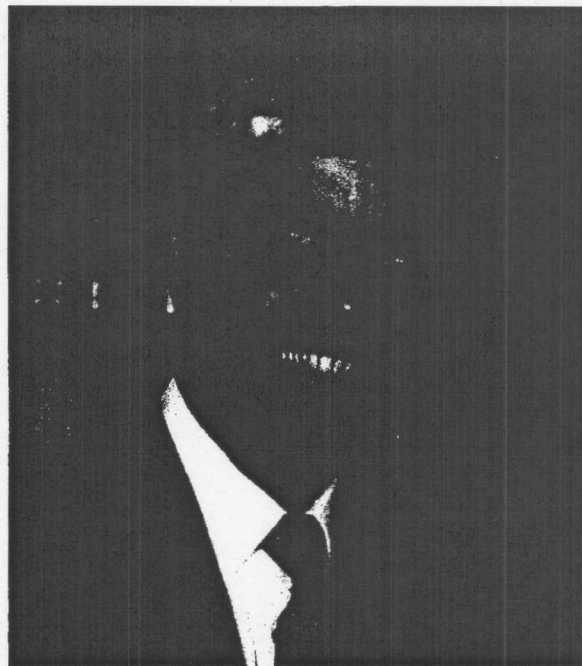
British Columbia - Social Credit People...Partners...Progress!

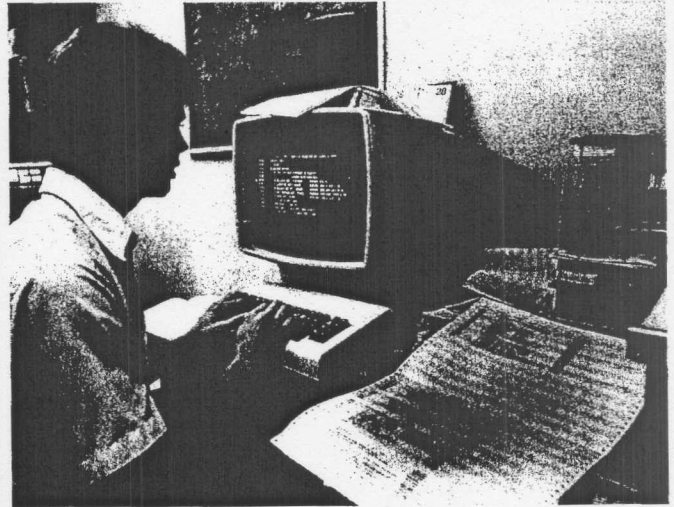
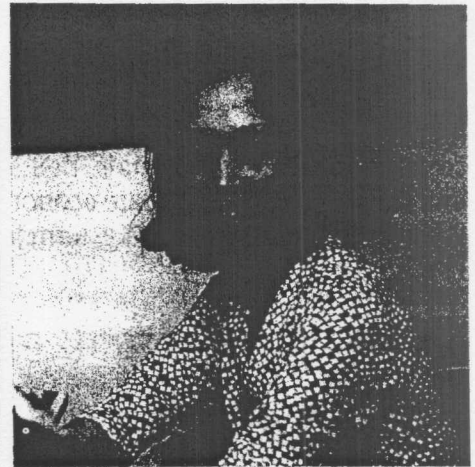
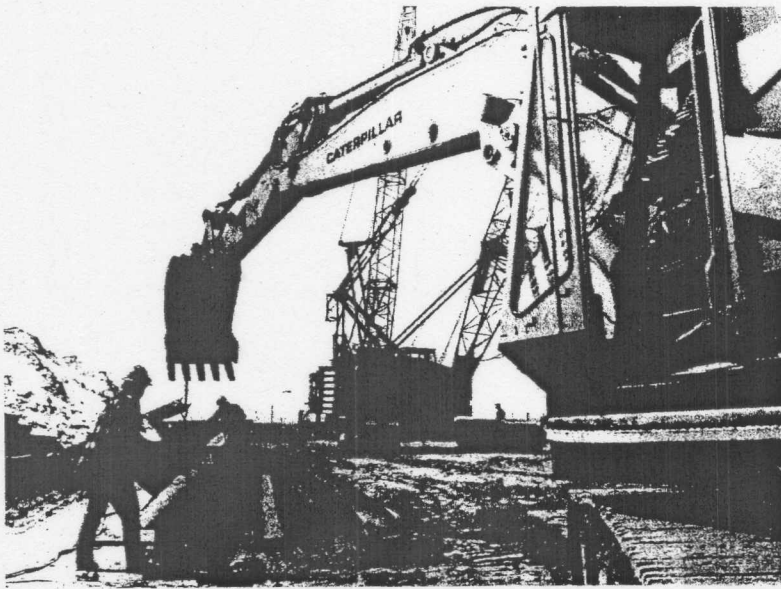
"THIS IS A POLITICAL PARTY FOR
THOSE WITH VISION AND AMBITION...
THOSE DETERMINED TO MAKE A BETTER
WAY OF LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND
THEIR FAMILIES.

Everywhere you look in British Columbia, there is greatness. Past accomplishments; present success; future potential and prosperity. THE SPIRIT OF FREE PEOPLE WORKING THROUGH INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE CREATES NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL. This is the guiding principle of Social Credit — a philosophy under which British Columbians have achieved greatness and success for over 30 years."

Bill Bennett

Premier Bill Bennett





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What We Believe

The Philosophy of Social Credit

- Inside each British Columbian lies tremendous ability — limitless potential. It is the creative ability of individuals, their ingenuity and their talents, that create economic growth and meaningful long-term jobs and businesses.
- Social Credit's commitment to the principle of fair opportunity for all extends fully to the less advantaged, who must be given the help necessary to achieve as high a degree of independence as possible.
- We must protect and enhance our natural environment, while ensuring the efficient and productive use of our natural resources. The Social Credit Government has initiated and maintained programs to further the progress of agriculture, forestry, and fishery throughout the Province, regardless of region or location.
- We must also ensure the highest affordable quality of health care and education. In this regard, Social Credit has always supported universal access to an outstanding health care system. No citizen is denied health care for lack of money. This same commitment applies equally to educational opportunities. No British Columbian is denied access to education.

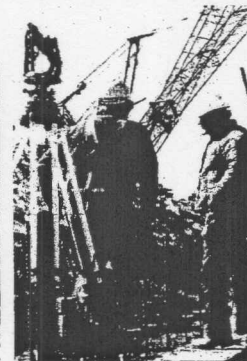
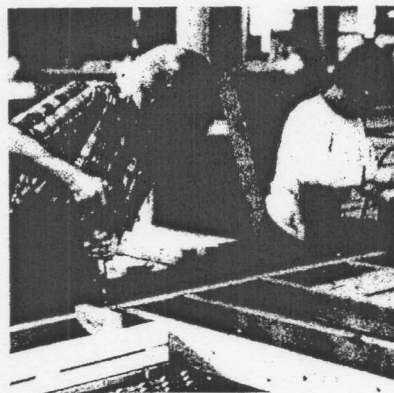


Equal opportunity for all.

- Fairness for all; special privileges for none. The only "special interests" are those of the ordinary citizen. Therefore, Social Credit can support only those programs and initiatives which are of lasting benefit to all citizens.

- The Government must make the best possible use of dollars it receives through taxes. Government spending must never be allowed to grow to the extent that it leaves our children a legacy of debt.

- We believe the Provincial Government has the responsibility to work in partnership with all citizens and levels of Government, to further strengthen the firm ties between British Columbia and the rest of Canada.



The history of B.C. Social Credit

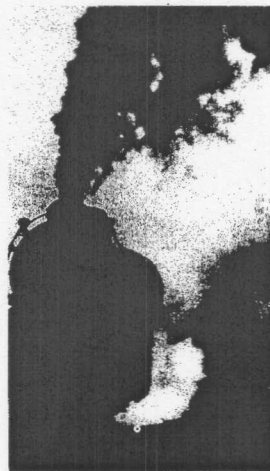
Progress through free enterprise.

W.A.C. Bennett first formed a Social Credit Government in 1952. Based on a belief that technology and economic institutions should be harnessed to serve the individual and the family, Social Credit stressed the importance of vigorous free enterprise and the need to help the less advantaged.

Throughout the 1950's and 1960's, Premier W.A.C. Bennett and the Social Credit Government made dramatic improvements to every aspect of B.C.'s potential. This era saw the opening up of B.C.'s Interior with first-class roads and railways, the establishment of a world-class ferry system and dam construction which brought our citizens plentiful low-cost hydro-electric power.

Following three years of economic mismanagement under a socialist Government, the Social Credit Party was returned to office in 1975. Under the new leadership of Premier Bill Bennett, British Columbia once again moved forward with renewed optimism.

The last decade has witnessed the Social Credit Government helping B.C. reach out into the world. Trade initiatives have secured new markets for our goods in Asia and Europe. Northeast Coal and British Columbia mining expertise have made us the model to copy in other progressive countries. Expo 86 will establish our Province as a strong participant in the economic growth lifting up the entire Pacific Rim.



Achievements

Social Credit policies work for all

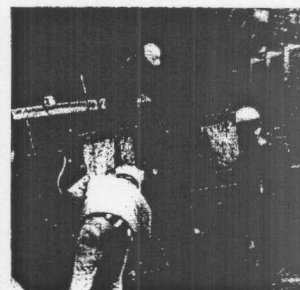
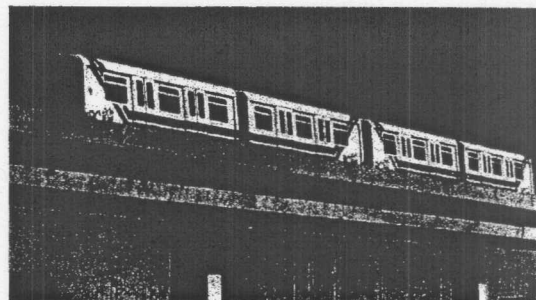
Thirty years of individual initiative and Social Credit philosophy have seen dynamic growth and development throughout our Province. In partnership with private enterprise, our Government has been able to establish both vital social programs and cost-efficient government.

Practical Social Credit policies have established a record of achievement of which all British Columbians can be proud. B.C.'s competitive economic strength is improving rapidly due to reduced taxation and increased investment in high-tech industries. From the Discovery Foundation, to the Science Council of B.C., the Social Credit Government is investing in a better future for all.

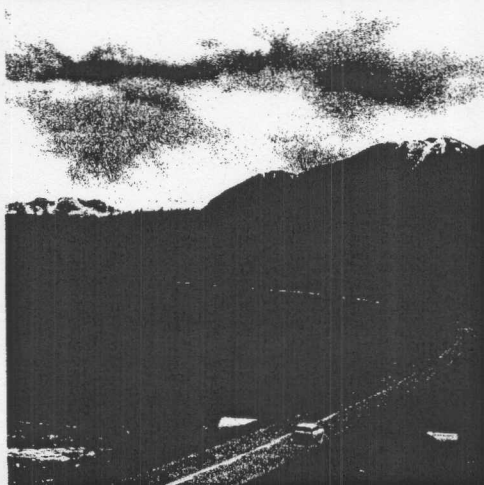
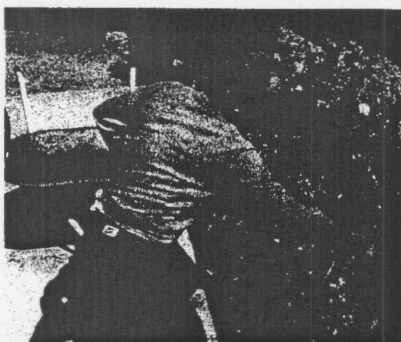
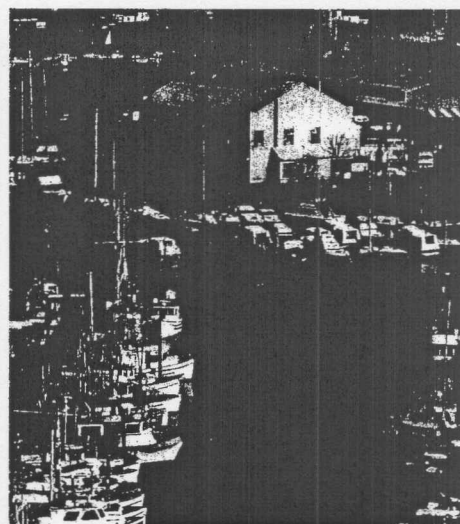
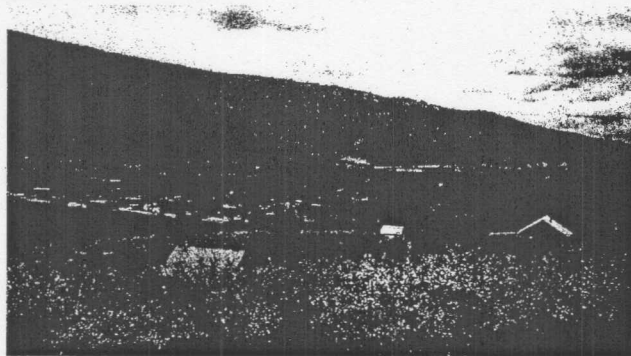
In transportation, we continue to recognize the vital role of highways, railways, and bridges in opening up our Province. Premier Bill Bennett has shown both vision and innovation in forging a commitment to new and existing developments. The Coquihalla Highway, for instance, will provide a fast efficient alternate route to the Interior while creating thousands of jobs.

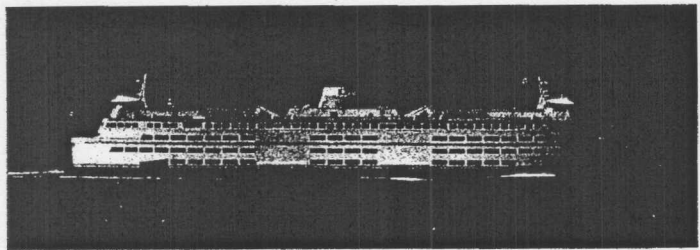
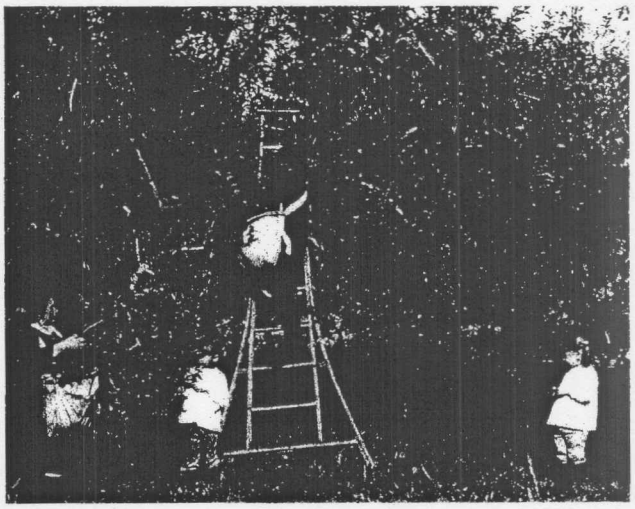
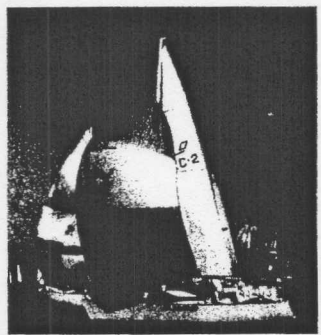
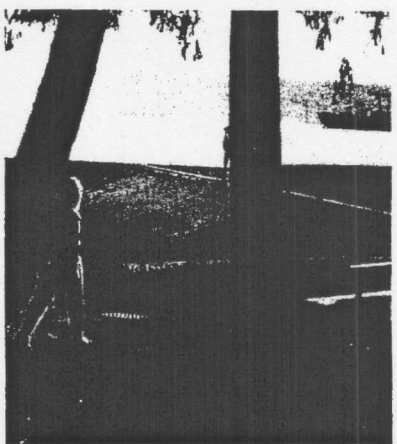
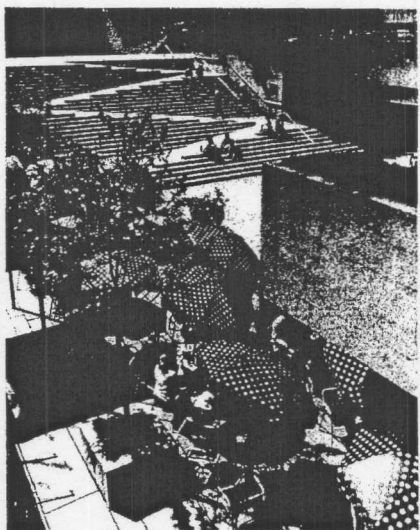
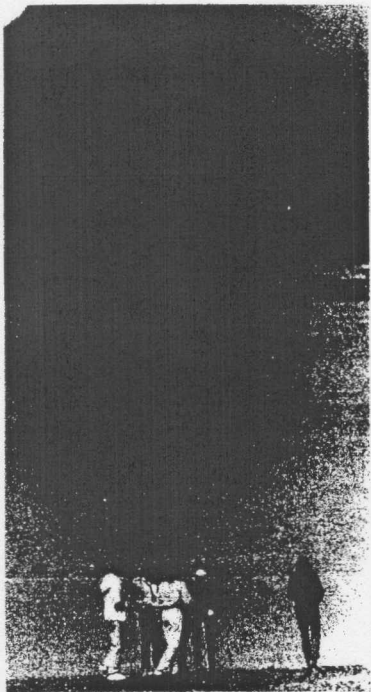
Other outstanding projects such as the Roberts Bank Superport expansion, the Northeast Coal project, Advanced Light Rapid Transit System, Expo 86 and B.C. Place development are all paying dividends by providing jobs for people now and new business and investment for the future.

Social Credit policies will continue to meet the challenges of the future while improving the overall quality of life for all British Columbians.



A land of Promise and Progress...





**British Columbia
Social Credit
Party**

Make it yours

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Developing our future potential.

Social Credit & Education.

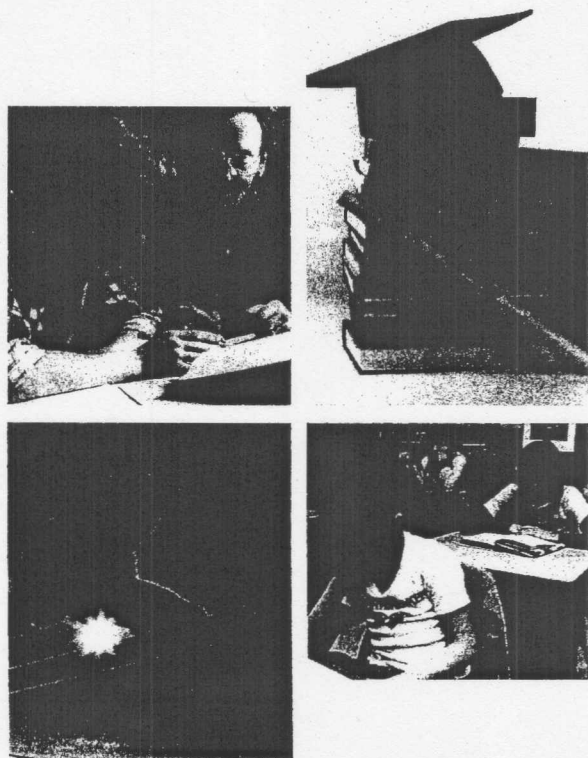
Social Credit's primary commitment in education is to prepare students to meet the challenges of a tough competitive world.

Every year, education is given a top priority in the Government's Provincial budget — second only to health care. Since 1979, the total budget for education has virtually doubled from one billion to two billion dollars. However, money alone doesn't automatically guarantee quality education.

The Government has had to examine the rapidly rising cost of education. Expenses in recent years were growing much faster than the ability of the public to pay. Direct grants from the Provincial Government to all public schools, colleges, and universities increased by 64% between 1979/80 and 1983/84. The bulk of this money went to salaries which account, each year, for over two-thirds of the education budget. At an average of \$36,500 per annum (1984), B.C. teachers' salaries currently rank second only to those of Ontario.

While expenses have been rising, the number of students enrolled has been falling. By 1984/85, approximately 15,000 fewer students attended school than in 1979/80. The cost of educating each one of those students doubled from \$2,200 to nearly \$4,000 between 1979 and 1984. The sum total of these factors meant the Government was faced with a clear responsibility to ensure that all citizens paid fair and equitable property taxes which support the school system, and that the emphasis was shifted from administrative costs to classroom teaching.

The Social Credit Government addressed the problem by restructuring the financing of education. Public concern, with the help of the Provincial Government, guarantees the best possible value for each education dollar.



Our continuing commitment.

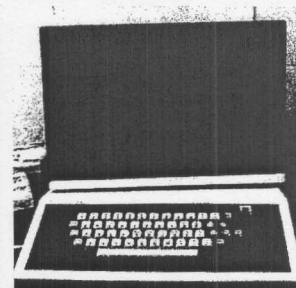
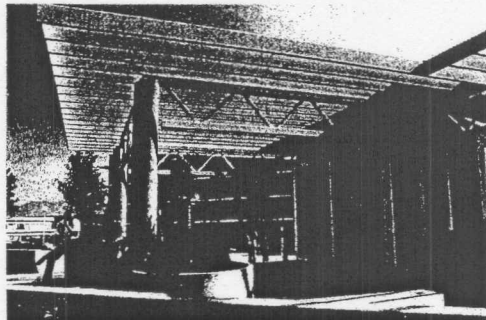
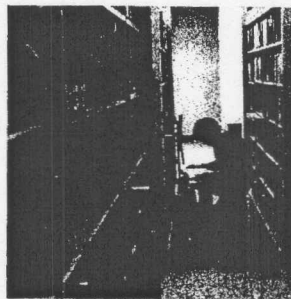
The Government's education programs combine a vision for the future with the PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, in order to IMPROVE EDUCATION STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE in the eighties and beyond.

To help students meet the educational challenges of a rapidly changing world, the Ministry of Education introduced Province-wide examinations for grade 12 students. This program will ensure that all students meet and surpass consistent achievement levels.

In addition, the Training Access Program (TRAC) helps students gain personalized training in marketable vocational skills.

Another example of the Government's commitment to education is the Knowledge Network — an inspired system using television and satellite technology to reach students and other interested persons throughout the Province. In addition, the Government-initiated Open Learning Institute offers a course of studies for those who cannot regularly attend classes.

Young British Columbians will be prepared!



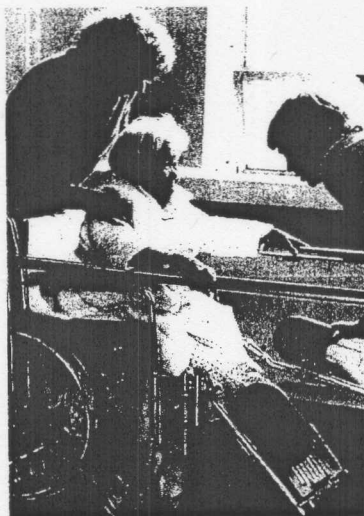
Available, affordable care for all.

Social Credit health care policies.

British Columbians have one of the most comprehensive health care systems in the world. People are our greatest natural resource. YOU DESERVE THE BEST.

Social Credit believes so strongly in the well-being of all citizens that health care is the single largest expenditure made by our Government, accounting for over 32% of the annual budget. This outstanding level of service is attainable only through the strength of the private sector; individual British Columbians whose taxes pay for social assistance programs, education, and health care.

Concurrently, we must recognize the taxpayer's ability to pay. To this end, the Government has taken steps to protect the quality and quantity of Provincial health care.



Our health care record.

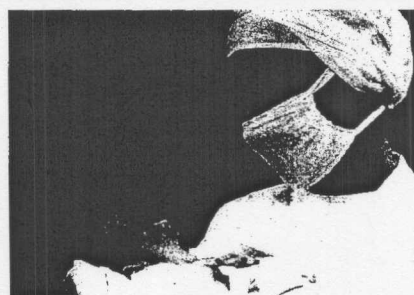
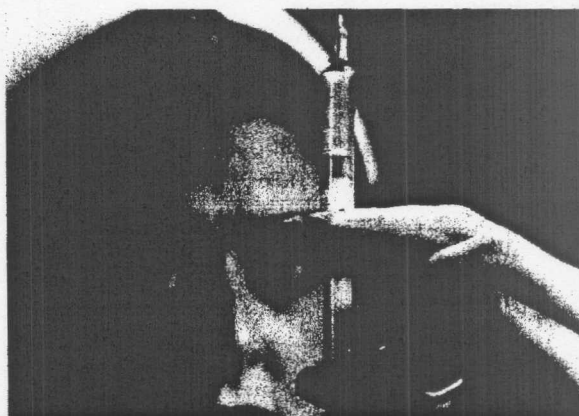
To off-set a decline in Federal Government contributions to health care, the Provincial Government has introduced slight increases in user fees for hospital visits. However, the actual cost to patients has decreased drastically over the past 30 years. Patients now pay a smaller proportion of the actual costs of hospital care than ever before.

While average daily hospital costs have risen from \$14.08 to \$328.52 per day since 1955, the proportion represented by user fees, over the same period, has dropped from 7.1% to 2.6%.

For those patients unable to pay this charge, the payment is made by the Provincial Government so that no British Columbian is ever refused needed health care.

In seeking to further improve the health care system, our Government has made significant contributions in several areas, such as research, preventative programs, new facilities, home care and long-term care programs.

The Social Credit Government stands by its obligations to ensure the continuing economic health of our province. It is our economic strength which permits us to maintain one of the most efficient and generous systems of health care anywhere.



Economic Development

Ensuring continued prosperity

Social Credit believes the continued economic development of our natural resources will advance our prosperity while providing the means to maintain the social services British Columbians deserve.

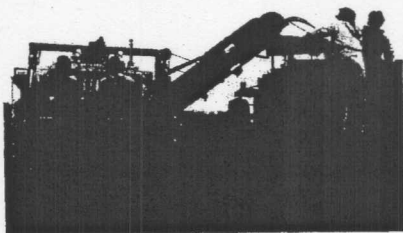
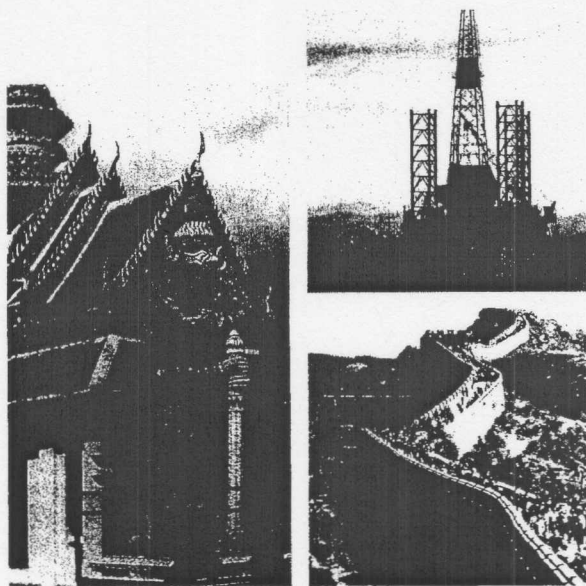
Successive Social Credit Governments over the last 30 years have fostered an economic climate of opportunity that has encouraged investment. This has been accomplished by building first-class transportation and abundant low-cost energy systems; by initiating exciting construction, marketing, resource and urban renewal projects; by allowing the private sector to stimulate the growth and application of new technology; and by encouraging exploration for valuable new resources.

B.C.'s exports have grown from \$486 Million in 1952 to over \$10 Billion in 1984. Social Credit recognizes the importance of actively pursuing foreign markets for B.C. products. The new Ministry of International Trade and Investment, in conjunction with continued joint Government/private sector trade missions, will aggressively pursue potential trading partners throughout the Pacific Rim.

The potential for future trade with China is vast. Premier Bennett's trade mission in 1984 successfully established the groundwork for future trade expansion with the most populous nation on earth.

Other projects which will continue to stimulate the provincial economy are the ALRT (Advanced Light Rapid Transit) System, the Annacis Island Bridge, and the Coquihalla Highway.

Expo 86 in itself will attract over 40 participating countries and 15 Million visits to the site at B.C. Place — the largest urban renewal project in North America. But perhaps the greatest benefit from Expo 86 will be the demonstration that union and non-union labour can jointly benefit from working together in harmony to construct a project vital to B.C.'s future.



Looking Ahead

Building a strong foundation for tomorrow.

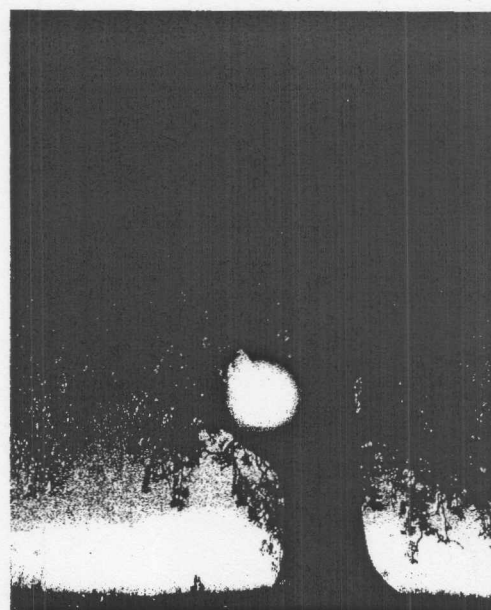
British Columbians, born with a pioneer spirit of determination and a willingness to put new ideas into action, are creating an undeniable legacy of achievement and pride. In a world growing ever more complex and competitive, B.C. is building a healthy and vibrant future.

Our population continues to grow faster than that of any other Province in Canada. By 1990, 3.25 million people are expected to be living and working here. Many of those new workers will be women entering the job market with special skills and talents.

Service, manufacturing, and high-tech industries will lead in the creation of new jobs. Increasingly, new jobs will be created by small to medium-sized businesses.

Our trade horizons are expanding. In the last decade, increasing quantities of B.C. products and commodities flowed to Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Thailand. B.C. has become an important participant in the Pacific Rim economic expansion.

We must emphasize our strengths to ensure our world competitiveness. The high quality of workmanship and high level of technical and scientific skills of British Columbians will allow a successful move into selective new fields of endeavour. Only continued farsighted, aggressive, and determined leadership can bring British Columbia into a future that provides prosperity for the ambitious, and a high standard of living for all.



The B.C. Social Credit Party wants you. Make it yours

**B.C. SOCIAL CREDIT IS A
POLITICAL PARTY FOR
THOSE WITH VISION AND
AMBITION...**

**THOSE DETERMINED TO MAKE
A BETTER WAY OF LIFE
FOR THEMSELVES AND
THEIR FAMILIES.**

**NEW IDEAS; BRIGHT IDEAS...
YOUR IDEAS.**

If you agree with the principles of Social Credit; if you concur that Government can best stimulate growth and prosperity by encouraging each person's initiative; if you feel as Social Credit does, that British Columbians must be given every opportunity to achieve their full potential; then we invite you to **MAKE THE SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY, YOUR PARTY.**

For more information on how you can become a member of the Social Credit Party, call or visit your nearest Social Credit Constituency office.

Or write to:

British Columbia Social Credit Party
110 - 10691 Shellbridge Way
Richmond, B.C. V6X 2W8
Phone: 270-4040



**British Columbia
Social Credit
Party**

Make it yours



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Make it yours

EDUCATION

Social Credit firmly believes that the best investment we can make in individual achievement is in the education of our young people, and all who seek to learn and better their lives. Every year, education is given a top priority in the Provincial Budget, second only to health care. Since 1979, the total budget for education has virtually doubled from \$1 billion to \$2 billion.

Dollars for education are important — but alone, they do not guarantee the quality of education which can truly help British Columbians to meet their aspirations.

Our Social Credit Government is fully committed to the pursuit of excellence in education, and equal access to opportunity. More than ½ million young people attend elementary and secondary schools, and over 100,000 students are enrolled in the Province's 3 universities and 20 community colleges and technical and professional institutes. The widest possible range of subjects must be made available, from high energy physics to marine biology, from film making to automobile repair. Basic skills and knowledge must be well taught to all students.

To ensure that students continue to adapt and thrive in our rapidly changing society and economy, Government, educators, and parents must communicate and cooperate to the fullest, as they seek to implement the creative ideas necessary to meet the educational challenges of a rapidly changing world.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Social Credit Government has taken steps to define and measure standards of academic achievement, throughout the Province. In consultation with educators and parents, the Ministry of Education introduced Province-wide examinations for Grade 12 students. This program will ensure that all students meet and surpass consistent achievement levels. It will identify school districts and subjects in most need of assistance. Students throughout the Province can apply for jobs and admission to post secondary institutions in full confidence of equal treatment in view of their recognized skills.

Our Social Credit Government, supported by parents and concerned educators expressing themselves both publicly and privately, strengthened the core curriculum throughout the Province. Upgraded mathematics and science requirements will help to meet the increasing demand for these skills by high-tech and service industries. Special courses in Consumer Education aid high school students to understand the marketplace, and to succeed in it. The Training Access Program (**TRAC**) helps students to gain personalized training in marketable vocational skills. Chinese and Japanese language courses may soon be offered to help students reap full advantage from the trade opportunities opening up between B.C. and the Pacific Rim nations.

In order to further extend the learning experience, the Government pioneered the Knowledge Network which uses television and satellite technology to reach students, and other interested British Columbians throughout the Province. As well, it started the Open Learning Institute which creates a course of study for students who cannot regularly attend classes. As never before, people in remote areas, or with responsibilities at home or work, can have access to post-secondary education.

The Government's education programs combine a vision for the future with a determination to achieve excellence, in order to further improve educational standards and performance in the eighties and beyond. In previous years, some students had not performed to their potential in post-secondary entrance examinations. Some employers and professors saw room for improvement in the level of basic skills among job seekers and students.

The Government particularly sought to bring a consistent level of achievement to all school districts. It appeared that in some districts there was little relation between the amount of money spent on students and the quality of their education. Students in districts where the most money was spent did not necessarily do as well as students from other districts.

To further enhance studies, the Ministry of Education has begun a thorough review of graduation requirements. In 1984 and 1985, the Minister of Education visited school districts to better understand the special character and needs of each. The "Let's Talk About Schools" initiative brought many interested groups together to discuss possible new directions for a meaningful and far-sighted revision of the School Act.

EDUCATION FINANCES

The Government has had to examine the rapidly rising costs in education. Expenses were growing much faster than the ability of the public to pay. Social Credit believes our children and grandchildren should grow up to live and work unburdened by today's debt.

Direct grants from the Provincial Government to all public schools, colleges, and universities increased by 64% between 1979/80 and 1983/84. For public schools alone, the increase was 70%; for colleges and technical institutes, it was 59%; and for universities, it was 52%. Direct grants rose from \$1 billion to nearly \$1½ billion.

The bulk of this money went to salaries. These account every year for over 2/3 of the education budget. In 5 years, teacher salaries alone rose by 69%. Today, at an average of \$36,500 B.C. teachers' salaries are second only to Ontario.

As costs rose dramatically, the number of students was actually declining. By 1984, approximately 15,000 fewer students attended school than in 1979. At the same time, the number of full time equivalent teachers increased by 163. As a result, the pupil/teacher and average class size ratios declined.

However, with the increase in school budgets, the average cost per year of educating a student increased dramatically. The cost per year virtually doubled from \$2,200 in 1979, to nearly \$4,000 in 1984.

This meant homeowners and businesses paid more property taxes. Homeowners paid 80% more, on average, in property taxes in 1984, than in 1979. The amount of property tax paid to education varied by as much as 200% throughout the Province. Homeowners, in residential areas, paid far more than those in school districts with commercial and industrial properties. The system itself was unnecessarily complex. In addition, average operating costs per pupil varied widely between districts (up to 35% between 2 Lower Mainland Municipalities). Government was faced with a clear responsibility to insure that all citizens paid equitable and fair property taxes, and that emphasis was shifted from administrative costs to classroom teaching.

Our Social Credit Government sought to constructively re-organize education financing. Moderate measures were brought to the Legislature, designed to bring costs, Government assistance, and property taxes into a fair balance across the Province.

School board authority to raise residential property taxes was temporarily suspended. During the adjustment period, the Government will set forth guidelines for further changes in the property tax rate.

The Province took control of non-residential property taxation, in order to distribute the proceeds equitably throughout the Province. With new, more flexible budget guidelines in place, the inequities of academic standards and performance are being effectively addressed.

The Government actively assists the school boards to contain the rising cost of education. This includes providing them with responsible budget limits, access to the most up-to-date information, and assistance with administrative tasks, such as data processing.

Public concern, and the help of the Provincial Government, guarantees the best possible value for our education dollar. Our school system will continue to improve as we better understand how to efficiently and productively make use of our education resources.

Both Province-wide and local efforts are necessary to ensure all British Columbians receive the quality education they need. The Social Credit Government welcomes the contributions of all concerned parents, students, and educators.

For more than 3 decades, our Government has built an outstanding educational system throughout all of British Columbia. It has kept abreast of space age technology, using it to provide unique educational opportunities to British Columbians of all ages and walks of life — from elementary students in Saanich to housewives in Sicamous; from college students in Prince George to vocational students in Burnaby. Through the efforts of all British Columbians, education will continue to provide the promise of individual development and achievement. In coming years, the fulfillment of that promise will create new jobs and industries in our Province, advances in science and technology, distinctive works of art and literature, and that better life we all, as individuals, seek.

British Columbia



Social Credit Party

Make it yours

HEALTH CARE

People are British Columbia's greatest natural resource. Social Credit reflects this belief by encouraging growth through individual initiative, and by ensuring that British Columbians are provided with one of the finest and most comprehensive health care systems in the world.

It is through the free enterprise system that the labour and creative talents of individuals finds the greatest level of productivity, and supplies the tax revenue needed by Government to provide the social services required by all citizens.

This high level of service is created by the wealth producers of the private sector, individual British Columbians whose taxes pay for social assistance programs, education, and health care. The provision of these services, in turn, enables the people of our Province to live, work, and enjoy life to its fullest.

The high priority that Social Credit attaches to the well-being of British Columbians is evidenced by the fact that **Health Care is the single largest expenditure made by our Government, consuming over 32% of the annual budget. The Ministry of Health will spend over \$2.5 billion to deliver health services to residents of our Province in 1985.**

British Columbia boasts more doctors, per capita, than any other province in Canada. Government expenditures, per British Columbian, for health care in 1983 were \$985 — much higher than the national average of \$882.

AVAILABLE & AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

Health Care is Social Credit's Number One Priority. Prior to Social Credit taking office in 1975, the previous Government had allocated 23% of its total budget to health. This year, under Social Credit, the Ministry of Health will account for 32% of Provincial expenditures.

Expenditures by the Ministry of Health have risen by 257%, since 1976 — from \$712 million to over \$2.5 billion. In that same period of time, B.C.'s population has grown by 19%.

Although our Party remains firm in the commitment that British Columbians must continue to enjoy the finest possible health care, we must also recognize the taxpayer's ability to pay. Our Government, therefore, has taken responsible measures to protect our vital health care system.

Much of the increase in health costs can be attributed to cutbacks by the previous Federal Government. In 1977, the Established Programs Financing Formula was enacted to ensure that Ottawa and the Provincial Governments contributed an equal share of each Province's health care costs.

Since that time, the Federal Government has reduced its contribution to B.C.'s health program from 50% to 38%. Payments to British Columbia fell \$92.5 million in 1982/83, \$103.7 million in 1983/84, and \$114.0 million in 1984/85.

Ottawa also introduced the Canada Health Act in 1984 which cut back transfer payments to the Provinces that permit user fees of "extra billing" charges by physicians or hospital user fees. Although our Government outlaws "extra billing", modest health care user fees have been in effect for 30 years. The Federal Government further reduced the E.P.F. cash transfer to B.C. by \$22.8 million in 1984/85.

In part, to offset the decline in Federal payments, and also because of skyrocketing health costs, the Provincial Government introduced slight increases in user fees for hospital visits. However, the actual costs to patients has decreased drastically over the last 30 years.

Patients now pay a smaller proportion of the actual costs of hospital care than ever before.

While average daily hospital costs have risen by 2,230% (\$14.08 to \$328.52 per day) since 1955, the proportion represented by user fees, over the same period, has dropped from 7.1% to 2.6%. For those patients who are unable to pay this charge, the payment is made by the Provincial Government. No patient is refused needed care because of the inability to pay.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As economic developments, rising costs, and decreasing revenue have captured the public's attention, real progress has been made in the health care field. Social Credit is confident that British Columbians will continue to have one of the best health care systems in the world.

DE-INSTITUTIONALIZATION

In 1978, our Government introduced the **Home Care/Long Term Care Program** to allow patients to remain in their own homes, among their own families, for as long as it is desirable and practical. As is the same in senior citizen and social assistance policies, independence is the key to Social Credit philosophy.

The **Home Nursing Care Program** is administered through local health units. In 1984, this program provided service to over 50,000 people. As an example of the growing popularity of the **Homemaker Care Program**, and the desire individuals have to be treated in familiar surroundings, the number of Homemaker clients increased from 3,500 in 1978, to 25,600 in 1984.

RESEARCH

Almost \$20 million from lottery funds has been directed to health care research in the last 6 years. Hundreds of awards have been made to various research projects. These projects are selected to ensure that research, elsewhere, is not being duplicated and that research priorities (such as needs of the elderly) make sense for B.C.

PREVENTATIVE PROGRAMS

Public health nursing, dental care, speech and hearing services, communicable disease control, and public health inspection services are made available throughout the Province. Several Municipalities, in the Lower Mainland and on Vancouver Island, operate their own public health departments with financial, and other assistance, from the Provincial Government.

The Ministry of Health spends over \$18.5 million, annually, to operate and fund alcohol and drug treatment and counselling programs. The Ministry also administers out-patient and de-toxification services in many centres. Where treatment programs cannot be offered directly, the Ministry provides funding to community agencies.

NEW FACILITIES

In 1983/84, 11 major hospital projects were completed, at an estimated cost of \$100 million — the largest of which was Eagle Ridge Hospital in Port Coquitlam. Open heart surgery facilities at Vancouver General, St. Paul's, and Royal Jubilee Hospitals have been expanded as part of a \$2.5 million program.

The Social Credit Party believes that Government has a moral obligation to ensure our continuing economic health, precisely because it is that health which has permitted us to establish one of the most efficient and generous systems of social benefits, anywhere, and which alone can enable us to continue to do so.

British Columbia



Social Credit Party

Make it yours

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

British Columbia, unique in its people, resources, and natural beauty, is meeting the new challenges of a rapidly changing world. British Columbians are blessed with a pioneer spirit of determination and a willingness to put new ideas into action. In business, industry, construction, mining, forestry, fishing, agriculture, tourism, and education, our efforts and skills are creating an undeniable legacy of achievement and pride that will sustain and inspire our children and grandchildren. In a world growing ever more complex and competitive, B.C. is building for a healthy and strong future.

Our Province and its people must be prepared to meet the challenges we already anticipate, and remain flexible in the face of changes that we have not yet imagined. **Our population continues to grow faster than that of any other Province in Canada.** By 1990, according to the British Columbia Research Council, 3¼ million people will live and work in the Province. Perhaps as many as 20,000 new jobs will be needed each year. Many of the new workers will be women entering the job market with special skills and talents.

In just a few short years, the nature of our work has changed significantly, and the manner in which we earn our living will continue to change at an accelerating pace. From 1971 to 1981, the number of workers in manufacturing increased by 23%; in trade by 61%; in mining by 52.5%; in commercial services by 96%; and in non-commercial services by 102%. Service, manufacturing, and high-tech industries will lead in the creation of new kinds of jobs. Increasingly, new jobs will be created by small to medium sized business, by new applications of technology to our traditional industries, and by meeting society's changing needs through recognizing new opportunities in services and technology.

Technology has changed how we work. The advent of high speed computers and new electronic devices now permits rapid data communications and processing. Innovations in mechanical equipment have made possible the efficient development of resources on a large scale, such as coal and gas. New methods of agriculture, mariculture, aquaculture, and silviculture are contributing to the increasingly productive use and renewal of land, sea, river, and forest.

Our trade horizons are expanding. Traditionally, B.C. goods went to other Provinces, the United States, and Western Europe. They have, in the last decade, started to flow increasingly to Pacific Rim economies such as Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Thailand. Many of these countries have experienced 10% real economic growth rates. As a result, they have started to import large amounts of both resources, such as coal from the Northeast and Southeast Coal projects, and manufactured goods, such as electronic equipment and finished wood products.

British Columbia has become an important participant in Pacific Rim economic growth. We must continually assert ourselves to assure the growth of trade. Trade development is not automatic, but depends on the aggressive pursuit of markets by B.C. businesses with active support from our Provincial Government.

A major task for B.C. lies in further diversifying and specializing our economy. The Province will be better able to weather world economic cycles with a more broad based economy, strong in both natural resources and in varied industries. We must emphasize our strengths to insure our world competitiveness. The high quality of workmanship and high level of technical and scientific skills of British Columbians will allow the Province to move successfully into selective new fields of endeavour. For instance, B.C. has produced state of the art advances in hydro-electric power and transportation, and will continue to do so.

To move into new specialized areas requires massive investment. Our Social Credit Government continues to anticipate that need. The Province has undertaken a comprehensive review of the impact of our tax system on the ability of our key economic sectors — including forestry, mining, and tourism — to meet the challenges of world competition, in order to develop meaningful incentives for investors.

In 1984, the Minister of Finance initiated public meetings, throughout the Province, to receive public input on reforming the tax system to encourage job creation. As a result of this study, 4 major elements of an Economic Renewal Program were outlined in the 1985 Budget.

In brief, they are:

1. Taxation measures to reduce the cost burden on business and industry, and to provide incentives for new investment.

2. Industrial development programs to encourage and assist the establishment and expansion of industries in the Province.
3. New programs of investment in our natural resource base, providing jobs now and in the future.
4. Investments in major public projects to provide employment now, and benefits for years to come.

Our Province, under Social Credit, is led by a Government with vision. Improvements, now underway in transportation, will greatly enhance the investment potential of our Province. The Coquihalla, Squamish, Tumbler Ridge, and bridge projects, such as Annacis Island, will aid in faster and more efficient movement of goods and people throughout B.C., as well as provide thousands of construction and spinoff jobs. The A.L.R.T., in Vancouver, will give city dwellers a state of the art high speed access to Vancouver's rapidly redeveloping urban core. The world will come to Vancouver for Expo '86 and witness the ease and speed of business in a productive, pleasant environment, as ongoing developments at B.C. Place fulfill the promise of Canada's largest urban renewal initiative.

B.C.'s economy will grow and diversify in a productive, progressive environment, in close cooperation with the rest of Canada. To coordinate Federal and Provincial efforts, the recently signed Economic and Regional Development Agreement will provide a 10 year framework for joint action to identify and develop the Province's strengths in the following areas.

- Investment and trade, including Special Economic Zones.
- Industrial Development.
- Science and Technology, including the transfer of technology from the laboratory to the factory.
- Transportation, including major seaports.
- Tourism.
- Aquaculture and Mariculture.
- Development of Northwestern B.C. resources.
- Expansion of Vancouver, as a financial centre.
- Special Economic Zones.

B.C. welcomes a new era of Federal-Provincial understanding, with a common priority on creating jobs, and realizing and expanding our economic opportunities.

The future holds special challenges, as well, in the areas of health, education, and social services. As the average population in British Columbia grows older, the health care system will have to adjust with new facilities and programs. With 32 cents of the budget dollar already going to health care, every effort will have to be made to ensure that these hard earned tax dollars are used effectively and efficiently. With careful consideration of both health requirements and the resources available, based on universal access to quality medical attention and services, the health care system will continue to provide the high quality of care which British Columbians expect and deserve.

Education is an essential force in meeting future challenges. To sustain our advances in science, technology, business, the arts, and the humanities, our citizens must have access to the finest education affordable.

Our schools, colleges, and universities will be the cradle for many of our most important new ideas. The Social Credit commitment to original and innovative thinking can be seen in the Provincial Government's 64% increase in grants to schools, colleges, and universities between 1979 and 1984.

As well, it has put technology to work in education, with the Knowledge Network and Open Learning Institute. Social Credit believes that the young mother in Revelstoke taking correspondence courses should not be denied access to higher education because of geography, income, or family commitments.

As the Province continues to grow and society changes in a multitude of ways, we will face unique social problems demanding creative solutions. The task is not just to provide physical assistance to the less advantaged to enable them to achieve as much independence as possible. It is to coordinate community assistance programs whereby both volunteers and professionals can help those in need.

Only the continuing, farsighted, aggressive, and determined leadership of the Social Credit Government can bring British Columbia into a future that will provide prosperity for the ambitious and a high quality of life for all. It is a future that we, in the B.C. Social Credit Party, eagerly and enthusiastically look forward to.

*Make it yours*

HISTORY

Social Credit was originally an economic reform movement which grew up on the prairies during the Great Depression. Based on the economic and political writings of the British scholar, C. H. Douglas, Social Credit set forth beliefs that technology and economic institutions should be harnessed, to serve the individual and the family. It stressed the importance of free enterprise and the need to help the less advantaged. With such strong emphasis on fostering economic growth, Social Credit ideas found fertile ground in Western Canada, which at the same time was struggling to realize its potential in the wake of the Depression.

When the Social Credit Party came to power in 1952, it was a relatively loose association of individuals. They came from every region of the Province, and every level of society. They had few ties to special interest groups, such as big business or big labour. The Party selected Mr. W. A. C. Bennett to be the first Leader of the Party, and its first Premier. This victory at the polls put the Social Credit spirit into practice with dramatic results — surpassing the socialists and replacing the worn out Liberal-Conservative coalition Government.

W. A. C. Bennett, and the Social Credit Government, worked hard throughout the 1950's to open up the Province's Interior for everyone's benefit. First class roads and railways stretched, for the first time, into B.C.'s Southern Interior and Northern regions. Bridges, tunnels, and a world class ferry system connected people and communities with the agricultural riches of the Okanagan and Peace River and great storehouses of minerals, huge forest stands, and deposits of coal, oil and natural gas. Dams spanned the powerful Peace and Columbia Rivers, supplying plentiful low cost hydro-electric power. The provincial, federal, and international cooperation involved in these projects, have set high standards both inside and outside B.C. Heavily criticized at the time, these developments proved to be the backbone of the Province's prosperity in the 60's and 70's.

The Social Credit Government, under W. A. C. Bennett, attracted world attention in the 1960's as it pioneered a commitment to health care.

Beginning with the reduction of hospital insurance premiums in 1953, support for health care increased steadily. Dollar-a-day hospital insurance premiums were introduced, and new clinics were built in rural areas. By 1965, the first ever Provincial medicare scheme aided low income families. When the national medicare program began in 1968, the Social Credit Government actually pushed for its development, and further increased its health care budget to ensure universal access to high quality health services.

In education, the Social Credit Government had to meet the challenge of a complete doubling of the population between 1950 and 1970. School age children and young adults accounted for a disproportionate part of the total increase. The Government responded with the building of elementary and secondary schools in major cities, small towns, and remote rural areas. As well, our post secondary system was greatly expanded.

Education has consistently been a top priority of our Social Credit Government, second only to health care. To meet the needs of a changing society and economy, 2 new universities, the University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University, were established. At the same time, more than 20 community, technical, and professional colleges and institutions, were established in all regions of our Province. The University of British Columbia, itself, underwent unprecedented expansion. Such efforts ensured that the Province would produce a self-sustaining base of scientific research, technical expertise, and practical skills, as well as providing first class education in the humanities.

When W. A. C. Bennett left office in 1972, he had led the Province in a 20 year period of growth, unmatched in Canada. Moreover, through responsible financial leadership, he ensured that British Columbians' enjoyment of the "good life" would not burden future generations with a legacy of oppressive debt and high interest payments. He retired the debt, inherited from the previous Government, in 1959. New programs were funded through internationally competitive bonds, which could be exchanged at parity at any time. When Social Credit left office in 1972, it handed over a \$98.6 million surplus, which unfortunately was quickly dissipated over the next 3 years of socialist mismanagement.

The 1970's proved to be a decade of turmoil at first — then of renewed promise. In Opposition for the first time, between 1972 and 1975, the Social Credit Party underwent many important changes.

A membership drive, spurred on by public concern with the emerging radicalism of the N.D.P. once in power, brought in thousands of new members (including many concerned women, students, small business people and

professionals), politically active for the first time. Even Conservative and Liberal M.L.A.'s and their key supporters joined Social Credit, recognizing it as the only Party able to bring together all positive minded British Columbians, regardless of Federal affiliations. Social Credit declared itself a strictly Provincial Party to ensure that its first priority was clearly understood to be the welfare of the people of British Columbia. Moreover, a new Leader, William Richards ("Bill") Bennett, was elected in an Okanagan South by-election and took the revitalized Party into the 1975 election.

The Social Credit Party, under Bill Bennett, won a convincing victory in the 1975 election. They immediately set about correcting the problems created in the previous 3 years, and charting a new course of growth and development in our Province. The new Government began paying back the \$261 million deficit they had inherited, while at the same time expanding the range and improving the quality of social services available.

In the field of health care, a record number of new hospitals was built, and existing ones were substantially upgraded with the latest in medical technology and highly qualified personnel. Senior citizens were provided with the newest facilities for long term care, and other programs, to meet their special needs.

The commitment to first class health care, which began under W. A. C. Bennett, was realized and enhanced under Bill Bennett. Health care became the Province's number one budget priority and commitment, ensuring that universal access to outstanding health care services became a reality in the lives of British Columbians.

In education, the building growth of first class institutions was revived. New programs reached out to citizens in every corner of the Province. Space age technology was pressed into the service of education to accommodate the growing population and to reach more remote areas. The Knowledge Network and the Open Learning Institute guaranteed that the mother raising children in Revelstoke, for example, could, for the first time, pursue post secondary education without leaving home. New emphasis on vocational and technical education provided young British Columbians with the option to acquire critical economic skills in fields which will be in high demand in the future.

The Social Credit Government led the development of the Province's natural and human resources in new directions. The Northeast Coal project, the Prince Rupert superport at Ridley Island, and the Southeast Coal development in conjunction with the Roberts Bank superport expansion, established British Columbia as an important participant in the expanding Pacific Rim markets, particularly Japan and Korea.

An increased concern for B.C.'s remarkable natural heritage led to the development of some of the world's toughest environmental protection legislation. The creation of many new parks, conservation projects, and enhancement programs guarantee the continued enjoyment of our unsurpassed natural heritage.

The Social Credit Government has placed new stress on encouraging British Columbians, and others, to invest in our Province. A comprehensive review of Provincial tax policy was initiated to focus on incentives which could improve the ability of our key economic sectors to meet the competitive challenges of the 80's. Assistance to local entrepreneurs made new technologies and industries possible. As an example, Moli Energy Inc., through U.B.C.'s scientific research, and through the funding and cooperation of Provincial Government agencies, will produce the world's most advanced re-chargeable battery. This is just one example of B.C.'s strategy to stay apace of complex, shifting world markets, and to develop in-Province opportunities for students who are graduating from our post secondary institutions.

To ensure that B.C. products and services reach new customers and students, and to attract new, innovative investment, our Social Credit Government has launched major marketing initiatives. It is working closely with the new Federal Government: The signing of a comprehensive Federal-Provincial Economic and Regional Development Agreement opens an era of cooperative job creation and industrial diversification in our Province. The Premier's highly successful 1984 trip to China signalled the important role B.C. will play in the rapidly developing Pacific Rim economy.

Expo '86, with its theme of transportation commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the first arrival of a transcontinental train in Vancouver, will focus world attention on our Province, and its investment opportunities. Millions will see both our progress and our potential.

It is that spirit of individual excellence, which forms the basis of Social Credit in British Columbia, which has built the Province we cherish, and which provides our best and most certain hope for a brighter future. A creative society, with room for all to grow, is the legacy of the British Columbia Social Credit Party.

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British Columbia



Social Credit Party

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PHILOSOPHY

"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL, SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR NONE."

This is the heart of the Social Credit philosophy. The British Columbia Social Credit Party upholds the right of every individual, and family, to expand and realize their fullest human and economic potential.

We believe that the only special interests are individual interests. Fairness for all also means concern for the less advantaged. They deserve the help necessary to enable them to reach as much independence as possible.

We cherish equal opportunity as the key to the best possible future for the people of British Columbia.

We respect that British Columbians hold a firm and abiding faith in the pioneer virtues of hard work and personal achievement.

We believe that the freedom to exercise individual talent, creativity, and motivation creates new jobs and businesses. It explores and develops the latest advances in science and technology. As well, it forges important bonds of trade and investment between British Columbia and the world.

We maintain that equal opportunity provides for the fulfillment of all British Columbians' personal ambitions.

We believe that Government must serve the people, not dictate to them.

Government has the responsibility to nurture the base upon which life and business can flourish. Social Credit Governments have built roads, railways, bridges, tunnels, and the best ferry system in the world. We have constructed dams and generating plants, which supply light to homes and power to industries. We have streamlined and updated laws, regulations, and management techniques, to ensure that the legal system keeps pace with the rapid changes in society and business. **Social Credit has recognized and responded to British Columbia's needs, not only for today, but for tomorrow.**

We believe that the Provincial Government has the key responsibility to protect and enhance our unequalled natural environment. Foresight and commitment have insured the efficient and productive use and renewal of natural resources. The Social Credit Government has initiated and maintained programs to enhance agriculture, forestry, and fishery. In this regard, we consider all regions of the Province equally deserving in the exploration, use, and renewal of natural resources. Furthermore, we consider that **all actions taken must contribute to the long term preservation of our Natural Heritage.**

We believe that Government has the responsibility to provide assistance and opportunity to the less advantaged. Anyone may, at some time, require help beyond that which family, friends, church, or community can provide. Assistance should invest in a person's future self-sufficiency. It should not ensnare them in a cycle of dependency and uncertainty which may envelop their children and grand-children. **Wherever possible, assistance should lead to independence, not despair.**

We believe that Government has the responsibility to ensure that every British Columbian receives the highest affordable quality of health care. The Social Credit Government has always supported universal access to an outstanding and affordable health care system. **No citizen is denied health care for lack of money.**

The B.C. Social Credit Party is deeply committed to educational opportunity for all. Our Government has built schools and colleges, expanded the universities, begun technical and professional post secondary institutions, and utilized technology to serve education through the Open Learning Institute and the Knowledge Network. **No interested person is denied access to education because of income, location, or marital status.**

VOLUNTEERS, in both health care and education, have greatly helped their neighbours, community, and Province — further enhancing both public and private programs. **We recognize their value and applaud their contributions.**

We believe that Government has the responsibility to make the best possible use of the millions of dollars generated each year through taxes and resource revenues. Taxes should never increase to the point that they stifle incentive. Spending should never grow to the point that it mortgages our future. **The Social Credit Government has never forgotten that it must account, not only to today's citizens, but to our children in this century and the next.**

We believe that the Provincial Government has the responsibility to communicate and cooperate with all citizens and all levels of Government. The British Columbia Social Credit Party welcomes the contributions of men and women of all ages, occupations, and origins. We will continue to work, in harmony and cooperation, with every level of Government — Federal, Provincial, and Municipal.

We hope, by our efforts, to further strengthen the firm ties between British Columbia and the rest of Canada. Overall, we sustain an unlimited confidence in the individual, the Province, and the Nation, to achieve and expand to their fullest potential.

In the words of our Premier:

"As a Province with enormous potential, a skilled work force, resources and a strategic location on the Pacific Rim, we are ready and willing to make a meaningful contribution to a national program of economic renewal. We want to be partners in progress because we believe by building a strong British Columbia, we help to build a stronger Canada."

British Columbia



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BRITISH COLUMBIA & SOCIAL CREDIT: GROWING TOGETHER

Thirty years of Social Credit in British Columbia have seen dynamic growth and economic development throughout our Province. Our Government has been able to establish vital social programs, such as health care, education, and human resources, as a result of growing revenues and responsible, careful spending.

Investment by Government in both social services for people and economic development projects, such as transportation and energy, reflects confidence in our future, and signals optimism to investors and consumers.

British Columbia continues to attract people from all across Canada and around the world, drawn by the opportunity to apply their own personal resources and initiative. Our Provincial Government must continue to foster this economic climate of opportunity for individual initiative that has brought so many benefits to all British Columbians.

Tens of thousands of people belong to the British Columbia Social Credit Party, individuals brought together by a shared belief in free enterprise and the vast potential of our Province and its people.

The achievements of successive Social Credit Governments are everywhere around us as positive reminders of a Government that is responsive to its citizens and their needs. But, even though much has been accomplished, there is more to be done: job creation, the continued provision of social programs, and the transition from a resource-based economy to one of advanced technology.

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Health Care

B.C. provides one of the finest health care systems in the country. In 1982-83, the Social Credit Government spent \$100 more per person on health care than the national average. In 1984, 32¢ out of every dollar spent by the B.C. Government, went towards health care. Health care has been the B.C. Government's top priority since Social Credit was elected in 1975.

Capital Projects

The largest hospital construction program in the history of the Province began in 1976. It has already built, or upgraded, hundreds of hospitals and health care facilities throughout the Province.

Social Services

The Social Credit Government provides quality social services to the complete spectrum of British Columbians, from infants to seniors. These services include, among others, financial assistance, counselling and support for families and children, and public facility access for the handicapped. Recent initiatives have directed resources to the most needy and have assisted those who can, to become self-supporting. Under the S.A.F.E.R. program, senior citizens with lower incomes are assisted to live in the rental accommodation of their choice. Many seniors who own homes are eligible for tax relief (the maximum homeowners grant of \$620).

Education

The Social Credit commitment to quality education stems from our belief in an individual's potential and the desire to achieve excellence. Social Credit understands that the best investment in individual achievement is in the education of our youth and of all who seek to learn.

Education is second only to health care as our Social Credit Government's top spending priority. Since 1979, the amount of money given to education has virtually doubled (from \$1 billion to \$2 billion), even though the student population has been declining. Our spending, per pupil, on operating costs is third in Canada, while average teachers' salaries today rank second in the country.

Responding to the concern of parents, and studies of student performance, the Government strengthened the Province's core curriculum. Mathematics and science were upgraded to anticipate the increasing demand for these skills by sophisticated high-tech and service industries. Special courses in Consumer Education were introduced to prepare high school students for entry into the marketplace. Chinese and Japanese language courses may soon be offered to help students reap full advantage from the trade opportunities opening up between B.C. and the Pacific Rim nations.

Student Programs

In 1984, the "Jobs for Youth Program" created jobs for 7,261 young people; and the "Student Venture Program" which encouraged young people to exercise their own innovative talents as entrepreneurs, provided jobs for 630 students.

High Technology Development

B.C.'s competitive economic strength is improving significantly because of increased investment in high technology industries. The B.C. Government has made major steps in the developing and promoting of these industries in the Province.

For instance, the non-profit Discovery Foundation provides information and advice to high technology firms, such as Discovery Parks Inc., which builds and manages industrial research parks at B.C. post secondary institutions. The Science Council of B.C. makes grants available to both universities and industries for research and development.

The Discovery Enterprise Program provides \$15 million, annually, in new grants and loans to small, medium, and large high technology firms, which establish new operations in B.C. As well, it extends support for new and innovative products developed by B.C. companies or individuals.

Transportation

The Social Credit Government recognizes the vital role of transportation in opening up our Province as building a solid economic base to attract investment, and ensuring that economic benefits are enjoyed by people living in all parts of our Province. This optimistic, far-sighted approach has been responsible for much of our past prosperity, and our Government will continue to expand and revitalize this key engine of growth.

Highways, railways, bridges, and ferries do more than help to move people, goods, and materials to and from all corners of the Province. They demonstrate the drive and determination of a proud people, energetically striving for a prosperous future.

HIGHWAYS

The Coquihalla

The Hope to Kamloops section will be completed for Expo '86. The project will generate 10,600 direct jobs and 15,900 spinoff jobs. The Coquihalla Highway will bring investment into the Interior, reduce transportation costs, and provide an important stimulus to small business — particularly in the tourist sector. By financing, through a toll system, this massive economic development project can go ahead, now, when jobs are needed most — without undue strain on the Provincial budget.

The Annacis Island Bridge

The bridge will provide an alternate route across the Fraser River for Lower Mainland commuters that will benefit residents of Delta, Richmond, Surrey, and White Rock. The Annacis Island Bridge will generate 1,800 direct jobs and 2,700 spinoff jobs.

Railways

The CP Rogers Tunnel and CN's double-tracking projects are proceeding with Provincial support of Federal rail site reform. 87,500 jobs will be created over the next 10 years. The improved transportation facilities will better handle resources and manufactured goods, and thus increase their export.

B.C. Ferries

British Columbia has one of the finest and largest ferry systems in the world, consisting of 25 vessels on 12 routes that provide increased access to many parts of the Province.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New Business

During the last 3 years (1982, 83, 84) a total of 39,234 new businesses were registered in the Province. They represent renewed hope and confidence in our future.

Northeast Coal

The Northeast Coal project benefits all British Columbians, both now and in the future.

This project has done far more than launch 2 major new mines. It has opened up Northern B.C. for increased development and has provided the Province with a second super port and alternate Pacific transportation system. British Columbia now has a new town, a major new North Pacific Seaport, and upgraded B.C. Rail and C.N. Railway facilities.

The \$2.5 billion venture is Canada's largest combined mining and industrial project. It has also brought about a unique level of cooperation between the private and public sectors. Independent studies have concluded that it will provide a significant positive return to B.C. and Canadian taxpayers. It has also played an important role in establishing strong trading links to the developing Pacific Rim economy.

The Northeast Coal project has created 2,200 permanent jobs, has directly generated 13,000 in construction, and has provided another 18,130 in spinoff (the majority of which are also in construction).

Southeast Coal

3,400 direct jobs have been created in the 5 Southeast Coal operations. These mining operations are expected to generate up to 5,100 spinoff jobs. Both technically, and in terms of labour-management relations, a great deal of innovation is coming out of Southeastern Coal.

Roberts Bank Expansion

This superport, upgraded in 1983 to double its previous capacity, can now accommodate the long term growth of Southern Interior shipments to the Far East.

A.L.R.T.

A.L.R.T. — Advanced Light Rapid Transit — is the world's most modern urban transportation system, developed and built in Canada. Through Phase One and Two, 7,500 direct and 15,000 spinoff jobs have been created.

Expo '86

Expo '86 is a world class exposition praising the advances made in transportation and communication.

A record number of countries and corporations will participate in Expo '86, making it the best supported World Exposition ever held in the Americas.

The investments made in Expo's construction, and the spending generated by Expo's payrolls, will stimulate the sale of goods and supplies throughout the Province. The millions of visitors will provide a substantial stimulus to the hospitality industry and give British Columbia a unique opportunity to market its potential for more new and exciting investment to the world.

Union and non-union firms are working hard, side by side, to build Expo — as they do at other sites around the Province. As a result, all workers and their families in B.C. benefit. Expo has created a total of 53,000 jobs in British Columbia — 18,500 construction jobs in B.C., 13,300 jobs on site at Expo, 21,000 jobs off site.

B.C. Place & Stadium

B.C. Place Stadium (built in record time and on budget) is, today, part of the greatest urban renewal project in Canadian history.

Over the next quarter century, about 41% of B.C. Place land will house new homes, offices, retail space, and hotels. Another 40% will be used for parks, open spaces, seawall walks, and public facilities. Through cooperation with the private sector, these attractive, well considered initiatives will return substantial revenues to B.C. citizens. B.C. Place is a place for people to live, work, and play.

B.C. Place will generate 2,000 jobs a year over 20 years. B.C. Place Stadium has created 120 part-time and 59 full-time jobs, along with 962 part-time jobs for Canteen Canada.

We are confident that the B.C. Social Credit Government will meet its objectives and continue building for the future because British Columbia and Social Credit are growing together.

British Columbia



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

British Columbia is blessed with rich and abundant natural resources that have attracted people, investment, and development throughout its history. The B.C. Social Credit Party believes that the continued economic development of these resources will further advance our Province's prosperity and provide the means necessary to maintain those social services required by all British Columbians.

As Premier Bennett has stated:

"IT IS THE RISING TIDE OF A GROWING ECONOMY THAT WILL LIFT UP EVERYONE IN THE PROVINCE, AND SO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MUST BE OUR NUMBER ONE SOCIAL POLICY."

Successive Social Credit Governments, over the last 30 years, have ensured the continuing prosperity of B.C. by fostering an economic climate of opportunity that has encouraged investment and initiative. The Provincial Government has provided leadership and assistance in the economic development of British Columbia by developing markets in foreign countries; by providing high quality education and job training facilities for our young people; by building first-class transportation and plentiful low cost energy systems; by initiating exciting construction, marketing, resource and urban renewal projects in cooperation with the private sector; by encouraging the growth and application of new technology through public and private research and development; and by encouraging exploration for new sources of valuable resources.

The Social Credit Government believes in working, through research and development, with men and women in the private sector.

We believe that the Province should provide leadership and assistance to creative individual enterprise, rather than stifle it with excessive taxation and bureaucracy.

If we are to create the future employment opportunities required by British Columbians — and the thousands of other Canadians who come to our Province seeking work — we must diversify our economy, apply new technologies to our traditional industries, and seek new markets for the products of our labour. Only Social Credit understands the need to provide small business people and entrepreneurs with a climate of incentives that will encourage investment, job creation, and expanding economic development. Our record over the past 30 years proves it.

EXPORTS & EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

Social Credit has recognized the importance of actively pursuing export trade by launching joint Government/private sector trade missions with existing and potential trading partners. **B.C.'s exports have grown from \$486 million in 1952 to over \$10 billion in 1984.**

As an example of the success of Social Credit initiatives with the Pacific Rim countries, Japan has increased its purchases of B.C. products from \$18 million in 1952 to \$2.2 billion in 1983 — from 3.7% of all B.C. exports to 22.3%. The share of B.C.'s exports destined for China, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Singapore markets has increased by 400% during the same period.

The potential for future trade with China is vast. Premier Bennett's trade mission to Mainland China in 1984 successfully established the groundwork for future trade expansion with the most populous nation on earth.

Reflecting Social Credit's commitment to further develop our Province's export opportunities, we have established the **Cooperative Overseas Market Development Program** which brings Government and the private sector together to expand and develop markets for B.C. forest products.

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Investment signals confidence and sets the foundation for a prosperous future. Successive Social Credit Governments have brought an optimism to the future of our Province by investing in highways, bridges, railways, hydro-electric projects, ferries, seaports, and other projects that are vital to our long-term growth.

Highways and railways not only carry natural resources to domestic and foreign markets, but also transport thousands of British Columbians to their jobs each day. The Advanced Light Rapid Transit (ALRT) system, the Annacis Island Bridge, and the Coquihalla Highway are only the latest of hundreds of Social Credit initiatives that enable people and products to move more efficiently throughout B.C.

The Northeast Coal project is a vivid example of Social Credit's commitment to the future of our Province. The efforts to develop B.C.'s north combined a major private sector project with the construction of an extensive infrastructure of road, rail, and power to open up another vast region of our Province for further investment, employment, and recreational opportunities.

For the Northeast Coal project, the Provincial Government constructed a 94 kilometre paved road from Chetwynd to the new town of Tumbler Ridge, as well as a 127 kilometre hydroelectric transmission line and 128 kilometre extension of the British Columbia Railway. The Canadian National Railway invested \$88 million in double-tracking and upgrading the rail line from Prince George to Prince Rupert, where a \$300 million coal terminal was built at Ridley Island. Shortly after the first shipment of Northeast Coal was loaded for export to Japan, a \$275 million grain terminal was completed at the seaport.

An independent study of the Northeast Coal project, conducted by Price Waterhouse, concluded that Northeast Coal would provide substantial net benefits to both British Columbian and Canadian taxpayers.

Other Provincial initiatives in cooperation with the Federal Government have built and expanded the Roberts Bank Superport. Continued expansion is slated for the future as exports from Southeastern British Columbia continue to grow. Over 50 million tonnes of cargo are loaded annually for foreign destinations in B.C.'s deep sea ports at Vancouver, Campbell River, Victoria, Nanaimo, New Westminster, Port Alberni, Powell River, and Prince Rupert.

Few people realize that the Northeast Coal project resulted in the creation of 3 new Provincial parks, and with them a whole new area of British Columbia's wilderness was opened up for tourism and recreation. Similarly, the upgrading of the Squamish Highway will increase access for tourists to Whistler and the Interior.

In 1985, the Social Credit Government established the B.C. Ferry system, now one of the world's largest — and best. The B.C. Railway, under Social Credit, has become the third largest rail line in Canada and provides a vital economic link for communities from North Vancouver to Fort Nelson.

Our Province's vast potential for hydroelectric power has been steadily realized by Social Credit, providing British Columbia residents and industries with abundant low cost energy, indispensable for economic growth. Under Social Credit, B.C. is rapidly becoming self-sufficient in reliable, non-polluting energy.

Investment in such infrastructure is job creation in both the short and the long term, but more importantly, it is essential to the economic health of our Province.

NATURAL RESOURCES

British Columbia's wealth of natural resources include our massive forests, vast deposits of coal, metallic minerals, petroleum and natural gas, rich agricultural farmland, bountiful fisheries, and our continuing potential for future power development.

The forest industry accounts for 60% of our Province's exports and directly employs almost 80,000 people, with another 200,000 indirectly employed.

In order to sustain this resource, in 1982/83 a record 106 million trees were planted, under the Provincial reforestation program. This figure will rise to at least 125 million in 1987/88 and 160 million by 1988/89.

As a result of Social Credit initiatives in building a solid economic foundation and actively pursuing trade opportunities in overseas markets, coal production has increased from 772,000 tonnes in 1963 to 11.8 million tonnes in 1983. The value of all mineral production in B.C. has increased at an average annual rate of 12.8% over the last 20 years.

A record of 106,683 claims were staked in 1983, indicating the enormous potential of our Province and the optimism of the private sector. The following year, Social Credit introduced measures to streamline the process for developing new mines, reducing the roadblocks to initiative and investment.

Social Credit has also formulated a new natural gas marketing and royalty structure that will attract greater exploration and encourage more competitive and aggressive marketing of this valuable commodity. Petroleum and natural gas production has grown in value from 19% of B.C.'s total mineral output in 1963, to 31% in 1983.

British Columbia has enormous undeveloped natural gas reserves, and our Provincial Government is leading North America in promoting the use of natural gas as a cheap, safe, non-polluting fuel — converting vehicle fleets and ferries to this B.C. product.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TOWARD CONTINUED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Social Credit believes in encouraging the growth of small businesses in British Columbia through taxation, low inflation, and by eliminating red tape and bureaucracy. New investment is not only welcomed, but encouraged.

Most job creation occurs in small and medium sized firms entering or expanding in a growing economy. From 1982 to 1984, there were 39,234 new businesses registered in B.C. Reflecting the growing confidence of the private sector, there were 11,432 new starts in 1982; 13,787 in 1983; and 14,015 in 1984.

To assist innovative endeavours, that might not otherwise reach fruition, the B.C. Development Corporation provides low interest loan capital to businesses for creation, expansion, or improvement of operations through the sale of B.C. Development Bonds.

In an effort to encourage the development and application of advanced technology in B.C., Social Credit has established the Science Council of B.C. and the Discovery Foundation. Discovery parks have been set up at B.C.I.T. and Simon Fraser University to give the industrial sector an opportunity to work with the academic community towards the development of advanced and high technology industries. The Discovery Enterprise Program assists cities and towns, throughout the Province, in attracting this type of investment to their communities.

TOURISM

Recognizing that service industries employ 73% of those working in B.C., many economists predict that tourism, which employs 86,000 people and contributes \$2 billion to the Provincial economy each year, will become B.C.'s number one industry by the turn of the century. Our Government is actively encouraging this sign of economic diversification.

Expo '86 will attract over 40 participating nations and 15 million visitors to the site at B.C. Place, the largest urban renewal project in North America, and will provide an immeasurable boost to our tourism potential. Millions of people, who might not otherwise come to our Province, will see, firsthand, the natural rugged beauty of our scenery and want to return again and again — many others will discover opportunities for trade and investment.

In the words of our Premier:

"Expo will truly be a special occasion, a time for every British Columbian to stand up and proudly affirm that our Province is indeed a special place — a good place in which to live, invest, to do business, and to create jobs."

Perhaps the greatest long-term benefit arising from Expo '86 is the demonstration that union and non-union labour can jointly benefit from working together to construct a project vital to B.C.'s future. One of the first measures taken by Premier Bill Bennett's newly elected Social Credit Government in 1975, was to remove the discriminatory legislation that prevented over half of all British Columbians (those who did not belong to a union) from working on Government projects — projects that were being financed by their own tax dollars! Expo '86 proves the wisdom and essential fairness of this move and, together with the Labour Code changes, gives a greater say to workers and promises a bright future for our Province.

In his television address to British Columbians in March, 1984, Premier Bennett said:

"We must replace confrontation with cooperation, in the knowledge that our economic destiny is shared and that we will succeed, or fail, together."

We, in the Social Credit Party, are confident that British Columbians will work together, and will succeed together, in the economic development of our Province. Our potential is too great, our resources too numerous, and our determination too strong for us to fail. The spirit of cooperation promises continuing economic and social renewal.

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