
A CLEAR CHOICE FOR MANITOBANS

POLICIES OF THE MANITOBA NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY



Great People
Great Future



Manitoba and the NDP

A MESSAGE FROM HOWARD PAWLEY

Great People . . . Great Future

We can build a dynamic future in Manitoba. We can turn around the harsh economic circumstances of the past four years.

We can tap our sources of energy wisely. With Manoil and Manitoba Hydro we can develop programs to guarantee that no Manitobans lose their homes or farms due to high interest rates.

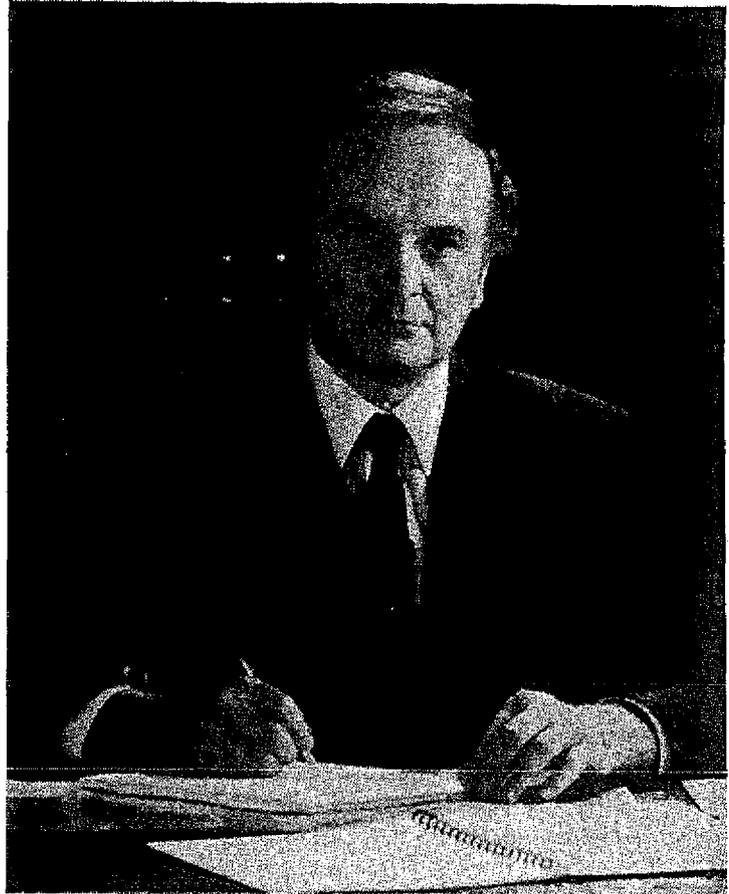
We can provide interest rate relief and an economic climate to ensure that small business stays in business.

We can ensure that Manitoba's farms remain in the hands of Manitoba farmers through the development of an effective Farmlands Protection Act. We can improve the quality of life in small towns and rural communities.

Manitobans are great people. Together we can build a great future. That's a promise we can guarantee.



Howard Pawley
Leader
Manitoba NDP



ECONOMY

CONCRETE ACTION NOT MEGA PROMISES

An NDP Government would take action to get Manitoba's troubled economy moving again. Tough economic action in the areas of energy, resources, housing and agriculture would restore vitality to the provincial economy.

Resource Development

A New Democrat Government would establish Manoil with a \$20 million dollar four-year drilling program. This oil and gas corporation would explore for oil and gas in Manitoba with the help of joint ventures with Saskoil, Petrocanada, Cooperatives and Canadian owned companies.

The Manitoba Mineral Resources Corporation would be revived to work as a joint venture partner with private companies or act alone, to guarantee our mineral resources are developed.

Energy Development

Immediate orderly development of our hydroelectric resources coupled with Manoil would provide the basis for a sound sensible energy strategy for Manitoba. The New Democratic Government would act to develop needed energy resources.

Housing

An NDP government would institute a comprehensive shelter program that would include construction of new housing and rehabilitation of thousands of existing homes. This program would provide an important stimulus to the local construction industry which has been idle for four years. As well the government would take steps to help Manitobans in difficulty with both interest payments and rent.

Emergency Interest Rate Assistance

An NDP government would take action to prevent the loss of:

- homes
- farms
- small business

due to abnormally high interest rates.



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT — NOT RESOURCE GIVEAWAYS

Manitoba's natural resources could provide us with economic security for generations to come. But this can only happen with resource development for Manitobans not resource giveaways.

Lyon's Conservatives have been willing to sell off our resources to multinational corporations to benefit their shareholders. The wealth generated by our resources flows out of the province.

The potential jobs in refining of products and the development of new technology are lost to Manitoba with Tory resource giveaways.

New Democrats believe there is an important role to be played by the government in the development of our resources. We have faith in Manitoba's resources and want to develop resources not give them away to multinational corporations. Public and joint ventures in the mining and oil field will bring both short and long term economic health to our province.

MANOIL

A New Democrat Government would establish Manoil. This oil and gas corporation would explore for oil and gas in Manitoba with the help of joint ventures with Saskoil, Petrocanada, Cooperatives and Canadian owned companies.

The Manitoba NDP believes in resource development not resource giveaways.

Public mining development:

The Manitoba Mineral Resources Corporation would be revived to work as a joint venture partner with private companies or act alone, to guarantee our mineral resources are developed.

Make it in Manitoba:

We must become more than suppliers of raw materials. A New Democratic Party Government would encourage the processing of natural resources where the resources are extracted.

A fair share for Manitobans:

Manitobans are the owners of this province's resources. We should be getting our fair share from mineral development.

Mineral taxes and royalties will ensure Manitobans receive a proper share of benefits.



FARMS AND AGRICULTURE

MANITOBA FARMS FOR MANITOBA FARMERS

Manitoba farm families are being squeezed off the land they have developed, cultivated and sweated over for generations.

Rising costs and punishing interest rates are leaving many farmers with staggering debt loads.

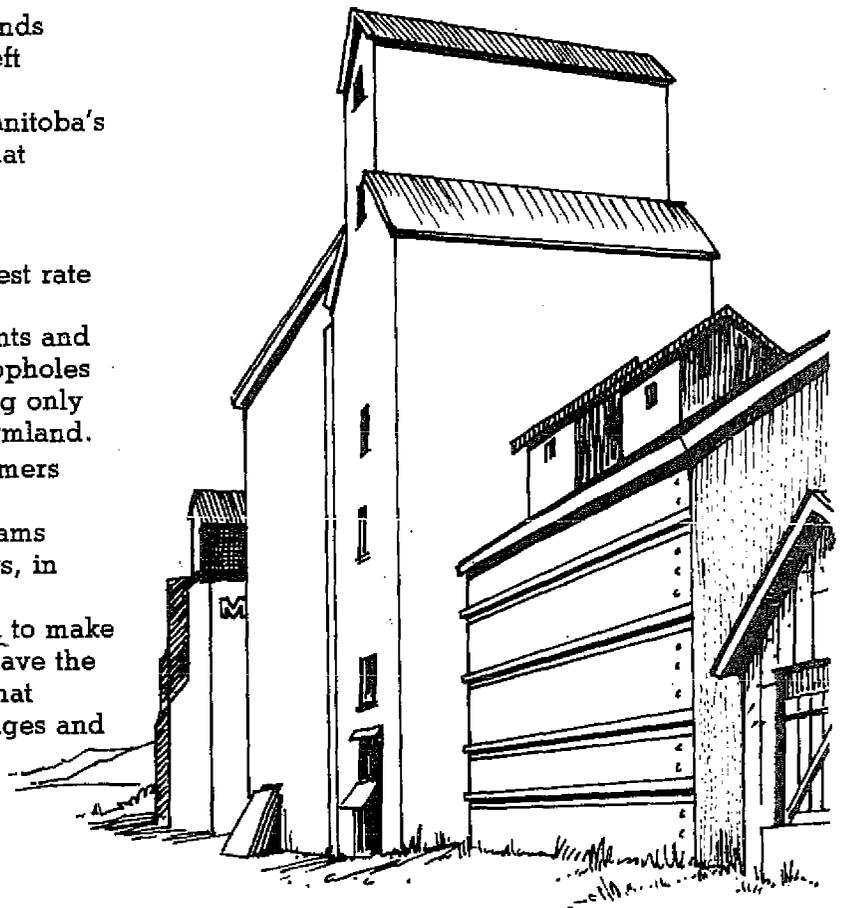
And the increasing sale of land to foreign owners, speculators and non-farming corporations is driving the price of land far beyond the reach of the family farmer.

While the Conservatives sat on their hands almost 40% of Manitoba hog producers left production.

Unless decisive action is taken now, Manitoba's family farms and the rural communities that service them, are going to simply vanish.

Manitoba New Democrats would:

- Take emergency action to provide interest rate assistance to farmers.
- Protect the family farm from non-residents and non-farming corporations by closing loopholes in the Farmlands Protection Act allowing only Manitoba farm residents to purchase farmland.
- Introduce a program to assist young farmers entering agriculture.
- Introduce support and marketing programs necessary to protect Manitoba producers, in consultation with the producers.
- Bring in a package of policies designed to make sure that people in small communities have the kind of access to government services that people in larger centres have. Our villages and towns must be preserved.



HOUSING

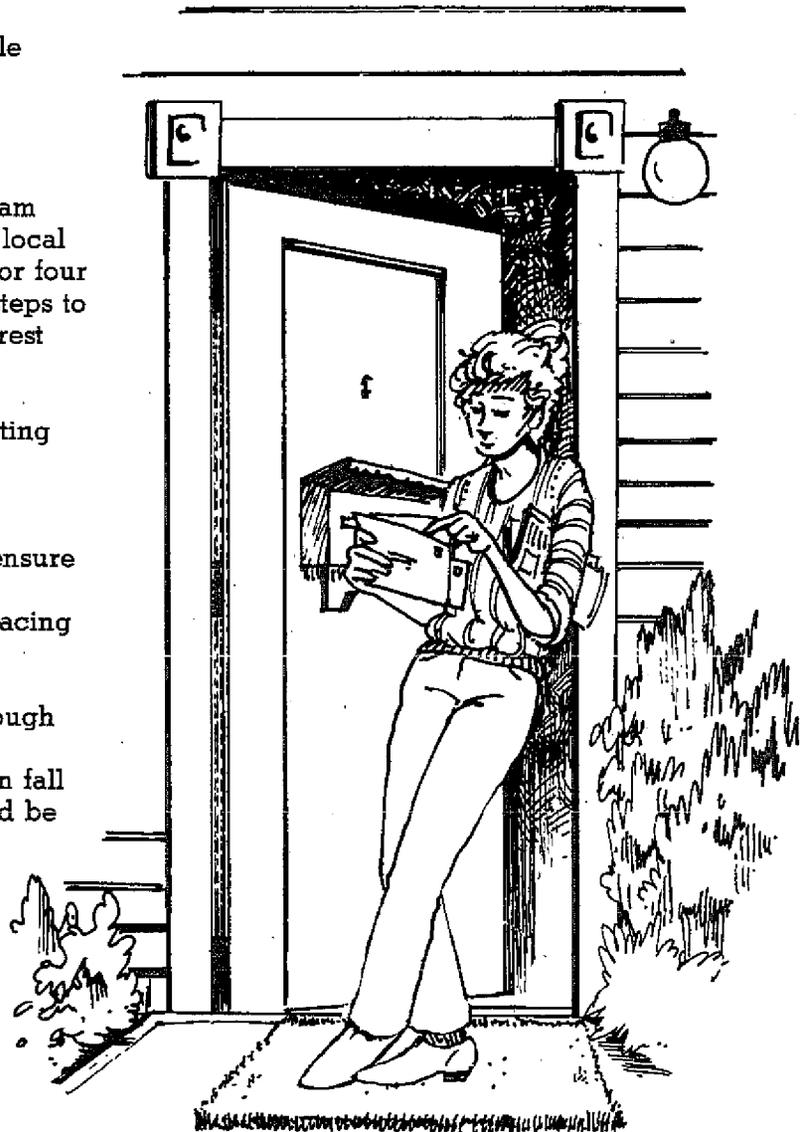
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL MANITOBANS

For too many Manitobans the dream of owning their own home is turning into a nightmare of ever mounting mortgage payments. Thousands have been forced to give up their hopes of home ownership.

The New Democratic Party believes that Manitobans have a right to decent affordable housing.

An NDP government would institute a comprehensive shelter program that would include construction of new housing and rehabilitation of existing homes. This program would provide an important stimulus to the local construction industry which has been idle for four years. As well the government would take steps to help Manitobans in difficulty with both interest payments and rent.

- In Northern and rural areas new housing would be a priority. Rehabilitation of existing housing being stressed in Winnipeg. The critical home repair program would be expanded.
- Rent controls would be re-introduced to ensure affordable rental housing.
- Take steps to relieve the interest burden facing families buying a home or renewing a mortgage.
- Co-op housing would be encouraged through grants and loans from government.
- The burden of education costs which often fall unfairly on low income homeowners would be shifted away from property taxes.



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ENERGY

DEVELOPMENT NOT GIVEAWAYS

New Democrats have faith in Manitoba's abundant energy resources. An NDP Government would build on the success of Manitoba Hydro in developing our hydroelectric resources. An energy strategy for Manitoba's future would include:

Orderly development of hydro power

Orderly development of northern generating stations would commence immediately. Adequate planning and training would be undertaken to ensure maximum benefits for Manitoba from hydro development.

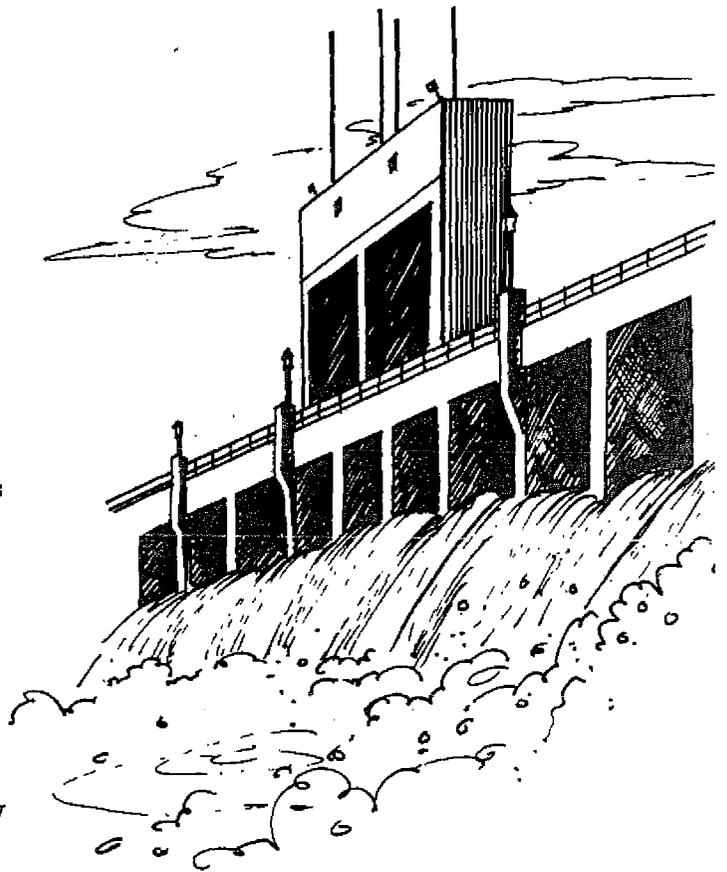
The NDP will not allow Alcan ownership of a hydroelectric plant. Energy development not energy giveaways are the policy with greatest benefit to future generations of Manitobans.

MANOIL

The next New Democratic Party Government is committed to the establishment of a crown corporation, Manoil, to explore for oil and gas in Manitoba. Manoil will be established with 20 million dollars capital for its first four years. Its mandate will be to generate increased oil and gas drilling. Manoil will be active here in the established oil fields but will also take a lead in assessing oil and gas potential in northern Manitoba, perhaps including Hudson bay.

Manoil will also pursue joint ventures with Petrocanada, the Cooperative Energy Project, Saskoil, and other corporations, both public and private. In this way it can help attract further oil and gas development. Jobs will be created, and expansion of the Manitoba petrochemical industry encouraged. Manitoba will be helping Canada become more self-sufficient in energy.

The Manitoba NDP believes in the future of Manitoba. We want to develop our energy resources, not give them away. Manoil will increase Manitobans' stake in Manitoba resources. Our hydro resources will be developed not given away to Alcan or any other multinational corporation.



NDP

WORKING PEOPLE

A SAFE AND HEALTHY JOB

In spite of the gains made by working people, many Manitobans still live under the threat posed by plant shutdowns and industrial disease. In the last three years, major employers such as Swifts, Maple Leaf Mills, and the Winnipeg Tribune have all closed their doors.

Modern technology is flooding our workplace with new chemicals and machines, while age old health hazards such as lead continue to plague Manitoba factories.

The Manitoba NDP believes working people deserve job security in a workplace that poses no threat to their health or safety.

Manitoba New Democrats would provide security from layoffs. Up to 12 months notice or compensation to employees would be required in the event of shutdowns or layoffs involving more than 50 people. Priority would be given to wages and pension benefits if a company closes, with provision for seizure of assets in the event of non-compliance.

Health and Safety Committee

Workplace health and safety committees would be established at all but the smallest workplaces. There is a need to clearly establish the right to refuse hazardous work without any penalty.

Improve the bargaining atmosphere

The Labour Relations Act would be improved to offer first contract arbitration when negotiations cannot be concluded, and to encourage bargaining in good faith.

Fair pay for women

The government would act to guarantee equal pay for work of equal value to help women break out of low paying jobs.

Affirmative action

Starting with the public service, the government would institute affirmative action employment programs for native people, women and the handicapped.



NDP

HEALTH

CARE NOT CUTBACKS

Manitoba New Democrats are proud of the work they have done in making health care available to all Manitobans. Programs such as premium free medicare, pharmacare, and non-profit nursing homes were pioneered by New Democrats.

Our health care system has been allowed to deteriorate over the last four years. The Lyon Government has cutback health care budgets, the grants to hospitals have been regularly below the inflation rate, community clinics have been cut and services in remote areas have not been expanded.

Health care is too important to be short-changed.

Manitoba New Democrats would restore the health care system.

- Preventative medicine would be a priority. Increased spending on preventative care will eventually bring down our health bill by eliminating costly treatment for health problems that can be stopped early.
- Hearing aids, eye-glasses and dentures would be covered under Pharmacare. Senior citizens would receive Pharmacare funding for these costly but vital aids.
- Dental care would be extended to cover all Manitoba children from kindergarten to Grade 12. Care at this age will prevent problems in later life.
- Care before profit. An NDP Government would not allow any more profit-making senior citizen residences to be established. Aid will be provided for community and non-profit groups who are interested in caring for elderly Manitobans.
- The desperately needed personal care homes would be built by an NDP Government.

- Quality health care would be made available throughout the province. Doctors and dentists would be encouraged to set up practice in northern communities. Service would be guaranteed for those communities without resident doctors or dentists.
- Ambulance service in rural Manitoba and air ambulance service in the north would be adequately funded and organized.
- Fight for healthy workplaces. The NDP would increase the number of workplace health and safety committees, working to prevent health problems arising from work.



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WINNIPEG

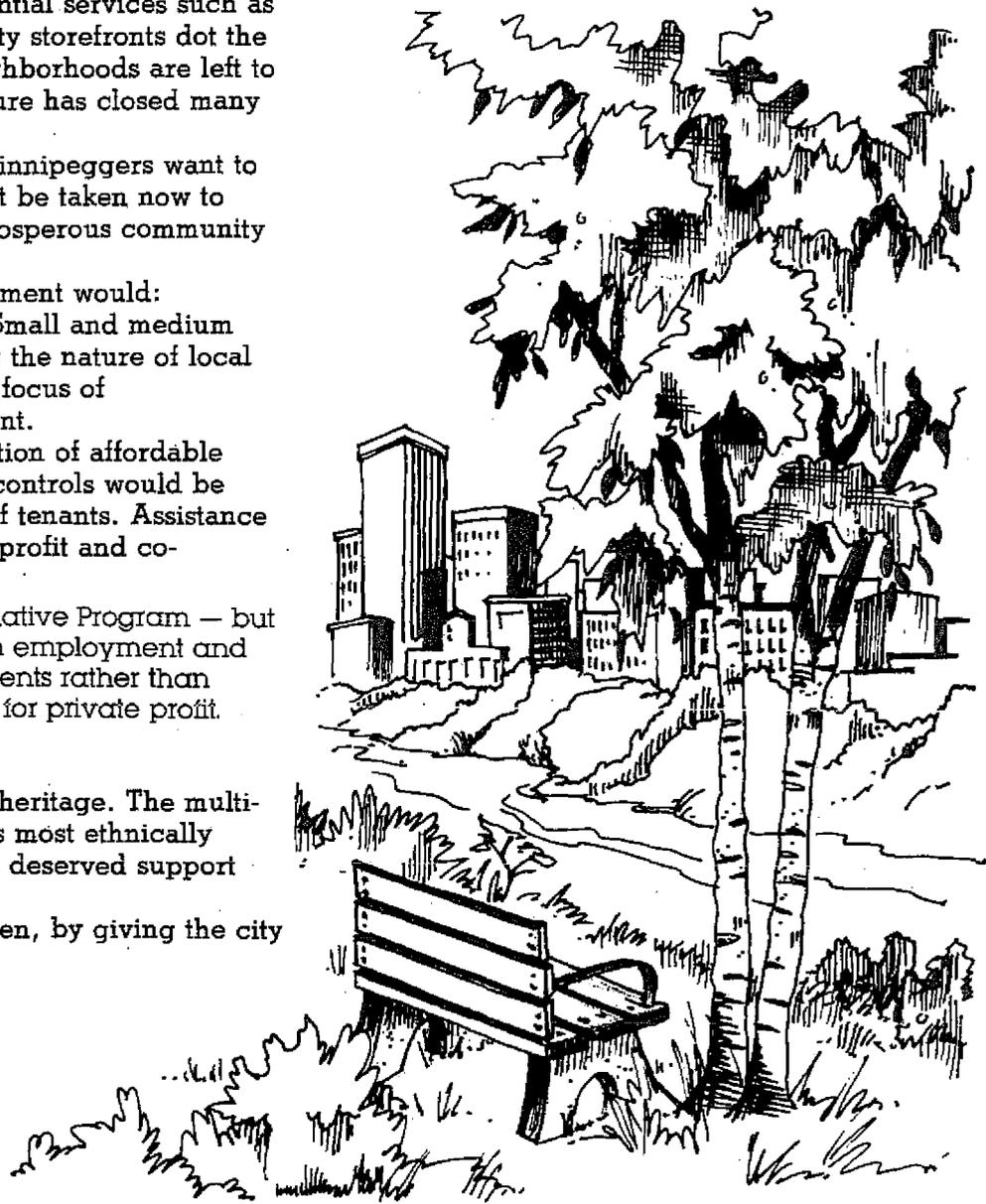
DEVELOPMENT NOT DECAY

Winnipeg, once a vibrant city on the move, is now troubled and shaken. Starved for funding by the Lyon Government, the city is cutting back and raising the price of essential services such as ambulances and buses. Empty storefronts dot the city while once thriving neighborhoods are left to decay. Lyon's economic failure has closed many small business.

New Democrats believe Winnipeggers want to stay in Winnipeg. Steps must be taken now to make Winnipeg a vibrant prosperous community again.

A New Democrat Government would:

- Revitalize the city's core. Small and medium sized enterprises reflecting the nature of local communities would be the focus of neighbourhood development.
- Continue Winnipeg's tradition of affordable housing. Reasonable rent controls would be restored to limit gouging of tenants. Assistance would be provided to non-profit and co-operative housing.
- Support the Core Area Initiative Program — but would insist that it focus on employment and housing for inner city residents rather than large new office buildings for private profit.
- Support the city's cultural heritage. The multi-cultural aspect of Canada's most ethnically diverse city is an asset that deserved support and encouragement.
- Ease the property tax burden, by giving the city a fair share of revenues.



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THE NORTH

A NEW TOMORROW

Manitoba's North is rich in mineral resources, timber, hydro power and people. But many northern people live in communities blighted by unemployment and with little access to education and health services. Decisions on vital issues are often made by governments in the south, or in the head offices of foreign corporations. Manitoba New Democrats believe that the people of the North should benefit from the wealth that surrounds them. Northerners should decide on how their communities develop.

An NDP government would adopt a community development strategy for the North. It would work with Northerners to provide long term economic activity suitable to Northern communities; providing job creation, job training and improved public services. This NDP strategy would include Northern jobs for Northerners. The NDP would encourage the processing of Manitoba resources. This would produce more jobs and opportunities for Northerners.

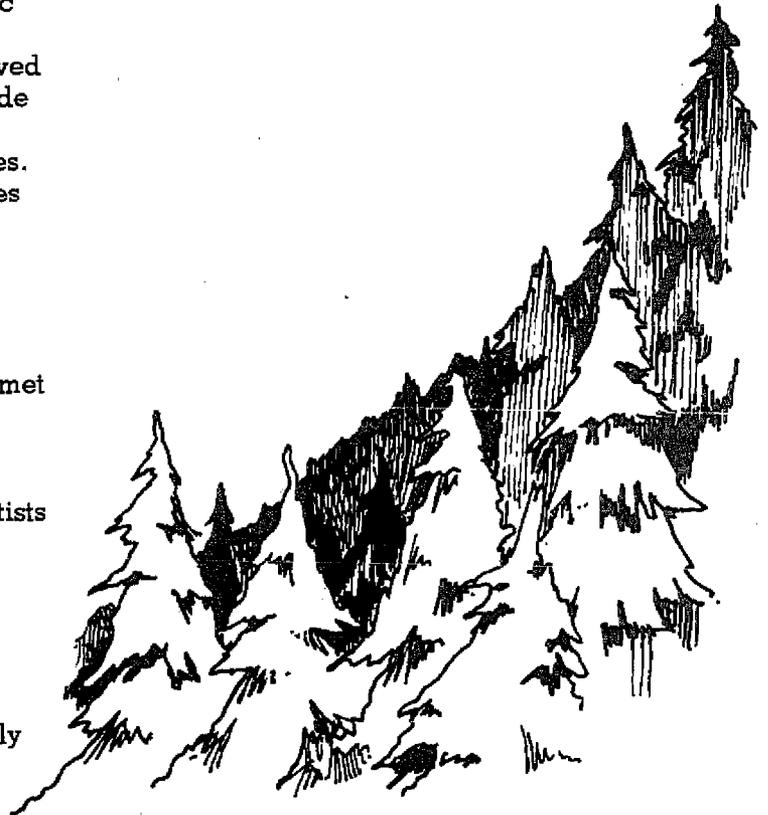
Cheap Regular Power — The NDP would link communities by hydro lines to the Manitoba Power grid.

Quality Education — The capital costs of educational programs and buildings would be met by the provincial government to improve the quality of education available in isolated communities.

Emergency Medical Care — Doctors and dentists would be encouraged to set up practice in Northern and isolated communities. The government would ensure medical and dental services to those remote settlements without resident doctors and dentists.

Fair Prices — To ensure reasonable prices for basic needs, the government would assist locally owned businesses and co-ops in the retailing, processing and transporting of food and materials.

Northlands Canada — Renegotiate the Manitoba Northlands Agreement to the benefit of Northerners, in full consultation with Northerners.



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NATIVE PEOPLE

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The first citizens should not be second class citizens

The promises made to the native people of Manitoba have been broken one after another. Traditional lifestyles have been disrupted by government after government, unemployment or migration have been the two options left to native people.

The development of the North, when it has not destroyed their communities has usually bypassed native people. Continued cuts in employment, health and social programs have devastated native communities throughout Manitoba.

The promises made to the native people of Manitoba must be respected. The traditional economies of fishing, hunting and trapping must be protected. New resource development must bring jobs and development to native communities. A Manitoba NDP government would work with the native people of Manitoba to bring about these results.

Recognition of land claims

The NDP would appoint a commission to investigate and recommend provincial action to settle land claims.

Development jobs for native people

Advance training will be provided for those jobs that will be created by any major developments.

Protect the traditional lifestyles

The environment which provides for the fishing, hunting and trapping crucial to many native people must be protected.

Employment programs for local communities

Joblessness would be tackled through a community strategy that would support local enterprises and make use of special employment programs.



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WOMEN

THE 51% MINORITY

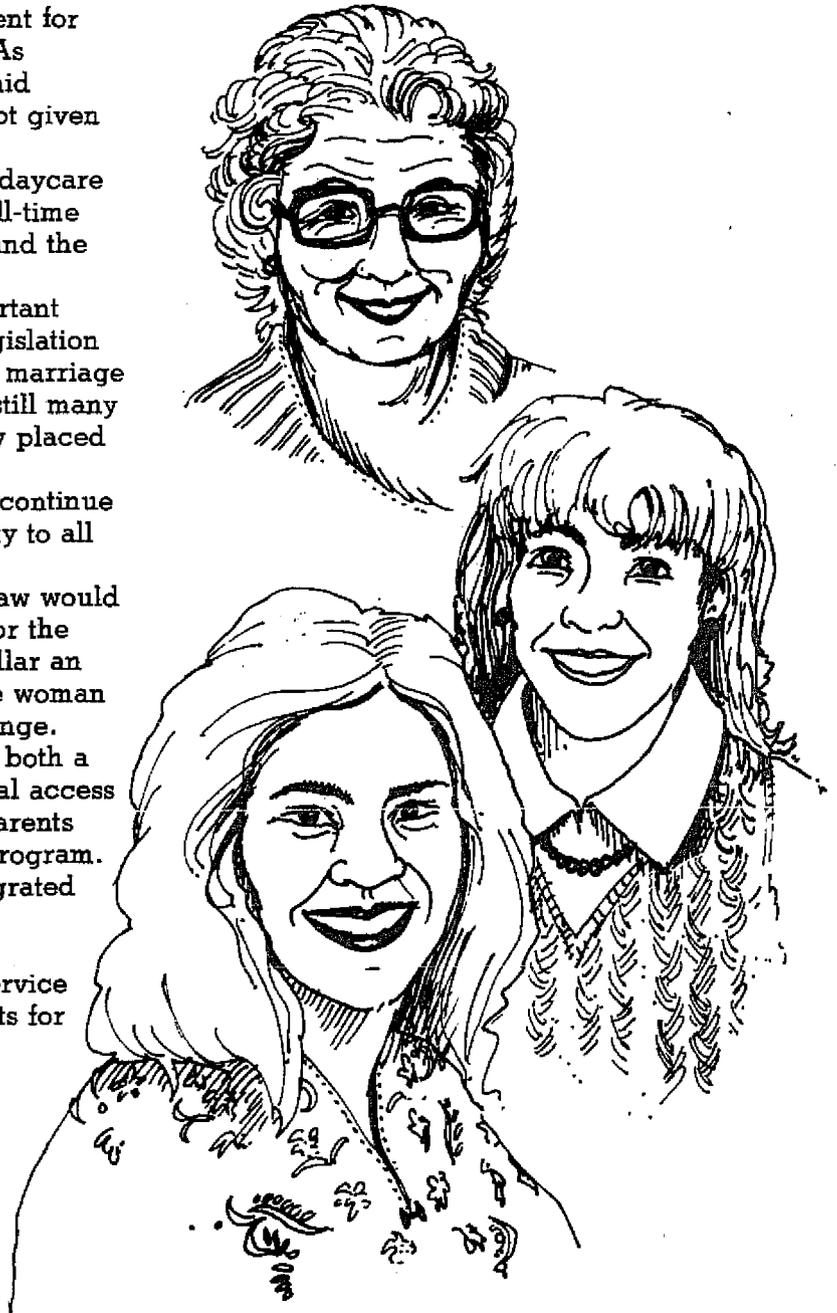
Women have yet to receive fair treatment for their contributions to Canadian society. As unpaid workers in the home and underpaid employees in most jobs, their labour is not given just recognition.

Lack of proper social services such as daycare makes it hard for many women to take full-time jobs. And women are still the last hired and the first fired.

The New Democratic Party broke important ground when it passed its Family Law legislation in 1977, making it clear that in Manitoba marriage was an equal partnership. But there are still many economic hurdles that have been unfairly placed in front of women.

A New Democratic government would continue the work it has begun in bringing equality to all Manitobans.

- An equal pay for work of equal value law would be passed in Manitoba. Women work for the same reasons men do, but for every dollar an average male worker earns, an average woman worker makes only 58¢. That must change.
- Childcare would be made available on both a full and part-time basis. To ensure equal access to daycare, subsidies for low-income parents would be made a part of the daycare program. Where possible daycare would be integrated with lunch and after-school programs.
- Affirmative action programs would be established for women, in the public service and there would be similar requirements for businesses with government contracts.



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QUALITY OF LIFE

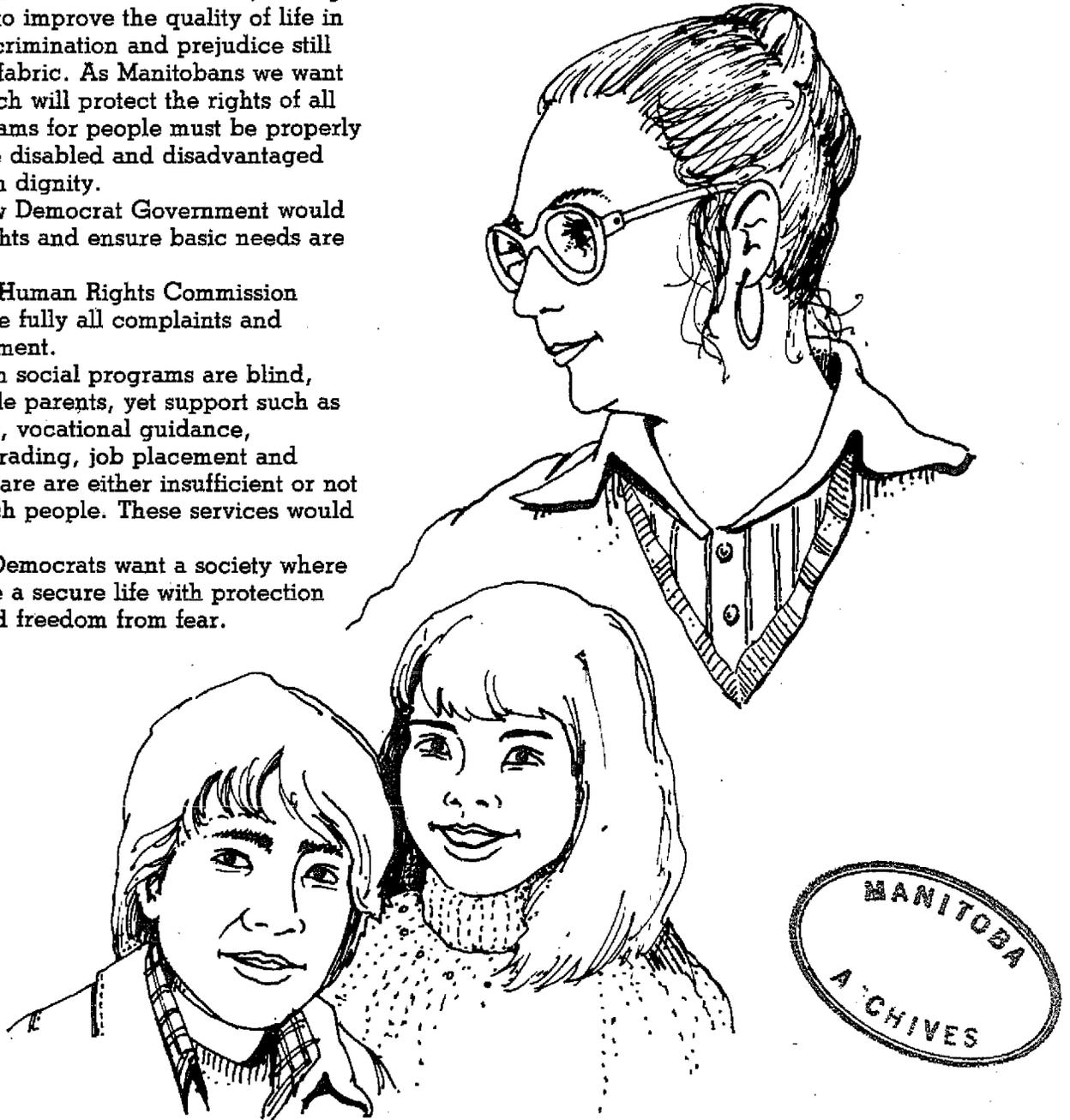
A FAIR CHANCE FOR ALL

There is much that Manitobans can do, through their government to improve the quality of life in this province. Discrimination and prejudice still tarnish our social fabric. As Manitobans we want a government which will protect the rights of all our people. Programs for people must be properly funded to help the disabled and disadvantaged live their lives with dignity.

A Manitoba New Democrat Government would protect human rights and ensure basic needs are met.

- A strengthened Human Rights Commission would investigate fully all complaints and ensure fair treatment.
- Many of those on social programs are blind, disabled or single parents, yet support such as life skill training, vocational guidance, educational upgrading, job placement and affordable day care are either insufficient or not available for such people. These services would be improved.

Manitoba New Democrats want a society where all people can live a secure life with protection for their rights and freedom from fear.



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EDUCATION

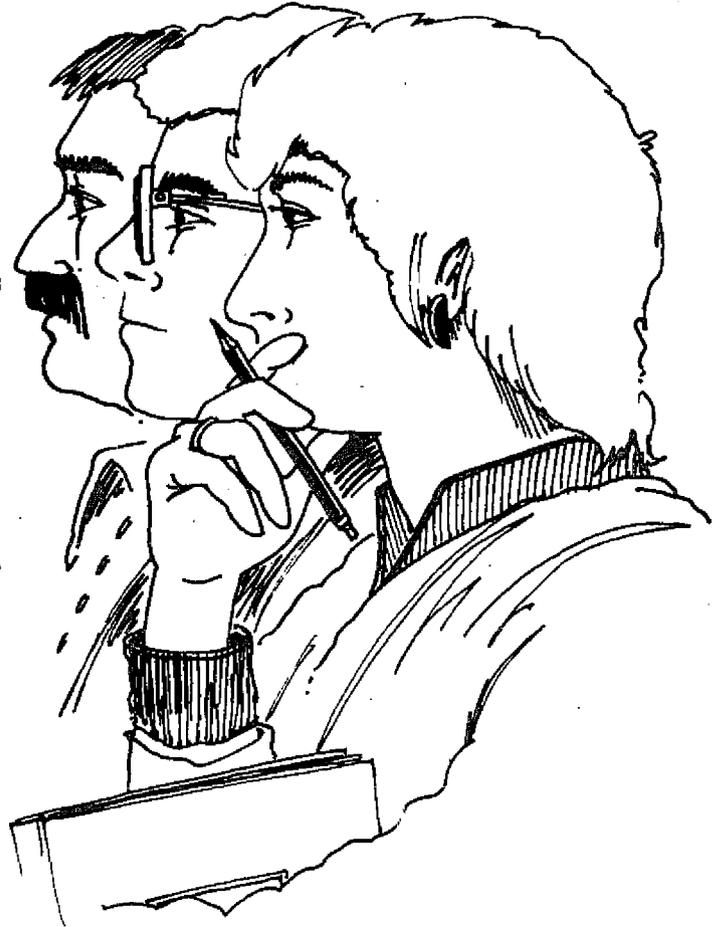
PRIORITY NOT NEGLECT

The Lyon Government has made education a low priority item. Many extension courses in the North have been closed. Universities and college grants have lagged far behind the rate of inflation and special needs have not been met.

A New Democratic Government would take specific action to ensure that education will meet the real needs of Manitobans.

- Launch a one-year review of public school finances to prepare a financing plan which provides fair treatment for the tax-payer and an equal opportunity for the students in every school division.
- Implement screening of pupils entering the school system so that students with special needs can receive an appropriate education in their school division.
- Include definition of French language schools in the Public Schools Act.
- Ensure that the Universities Grants Commission includes members of the university community.
- Once again work toward the goal of eliminating financial barriers like tuition fees.
- Open schools up, not close them down. An NDP Government would ensure school facilities would be made available to the community at night for recreation, evening courses and community programs.

Meeting education needs and developing Manitoba are priorities for the NDP. The loss of our greatest resource, young Manitobans, must stop.



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New Democratic Party of Manitoba
656 Broadway
Winnipeg, Man.
R3C 0X3
786-4857

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