

Prairie Manifesto Project

Jared Wesley

PhD Candidate

Department of Political Science

705 Social Sciences Building

University of Calgary

2500 University Drive NW

Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

phone: 1.403.220.4184

fax: 1.403.282.4773

email: jjwesley@ucalgary.ca

Province: ☐ Alberta ☐ Saskatchewan ☒ Manitoba

Party: NDP Election Year: 1999

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

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

Type of Document:

☒ Platform

☐ Constitution

☐ Speech

☐ Brochure / Leaflet

☐ Newspaper

☐ Advertisement

☐ Other: press releases

Date Collected: 2007 / 01 / 02
YYYY MM DD

Source: The Party

AB = Alberta
SK = Saskatchewan
MB = Manitoba

UofA = University of Alberta
UofC = University of Calgary
UofR = University of Regina
UofS = University of Saskatchewan
UofM = University of Manitoba
BU = Brandon University

PARC = Provincial Archives
LEG = Legislative Library
SPC = Special Collections
ULIB = University Library

J Wesley

From: Wayne Copeland [wcopeland@todaysndp.mb.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2007 9:23 AM
To: jjwesley@ucalgary.ca
Subject: Emailing: Hydro99, Justice99, Priorities 99 pre election, Skills 99, SmallBusiness 99, Sports 99, Safer 99, EnEducation 99, Agriculture 99, NursesFirst99, EducPlatform99, Health 99, HealthyChild 99



Hydro99.htm



Justice99.htm



Priorities 99 pre
election.htm...



Skills 99.htm



SmallBusiness
99.htm



Sports 99.htm



Safer 99.htm



EnEducation 99.htm



Agriculture 99.htm



NursesFirst99.htm



EducPlatform99.ht
m



Health 99.htm



HealthyChild
99.htm

Jared

Here is 99 material

Let me know if you need anything else

Wayne Copeland

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link
attachments:

Hydro99

Justice99

Priorities 99 pre election

Skills 99

SmallBusiness 99

Sports 99

Safer 99

EnEducation 99

Agriculture 99

NursesFirst99

EducPlatform99

Health 99

HealthyChild 99

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent
sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your
e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

5 good reasons

Towards a brighter future Gary Doer and Today's NDP

As promised in the recent election campaign, Today's NDP is putting forward a set of core commitments that are doable and that we will achieve within the first five years in government.

We are promising only what we know we can deliver.

Manitoba deserves better. And the following five commitments to you and your family will be the first steps towards a better Manitoba.

If you would like to help us build that better Manitoba, call 987-4857 or email us at TodaysNDP@mb.ndp.ca.

You can also check out the "Get Involved" area of this web site to let us know what you'd like to do.

Here are the five core commitments by Today's NDP to today's Manitoba families (click on each one for more detail).

- **End hallway medicine and rescue health care - beginning by opening more hospital beds and hiring more nurses to reduce waiting lists.**
- **Renew hope for young people - starting with excellent public schools and by cutting community college and university tuition fees by 10%.**
- **Keep Manitoba Hydro and build a new partnership between business and labour for new and better jobs.**
- **Make our communities safer by tackling the causes of crime with improved youth programs and by ensuring immediate consequences for gang violence and home invasions.**
- **Keep balanced budget legislation and lower property taxes.**


Manitobans are tired of hearing a long string of promises from political parties that are broken almost immediately after election. *Today's NDP believes Manitobans deserve a fresh start.*

No one expects governments to perform miracles. But there are doable and achievable things a government can do to make a real difference for Manitoba families.

Together we can do better for your family and your future.

***Gary Doer and Today's NDP, because
Manitoba deserves better***

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to Start Page](#)

[Back](#)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

5 Commitments for Manitobans and their Families

"It's time for a government that's in touch with the hopes and dreams of Manitobans. I am making five commitments we will keep rather than making a lot of big promises that everyone knows can't all be kept."

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(August 18, 1999) - Together with the family of Gerry and Debbie Flood of Rossmere, NDP Leader Gary Doer signed a pledge to Manitoba families.

"These commitments are achievable and necessary," Doer said. "We can make a positive difference for Manitoba families, young people and seniors."

Today's NDP Commitments to Manitoba Families

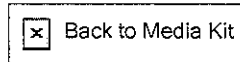
- 1. End hallway medicine and rescue health care - beginning by opening more hospital beds and hiring more nurses to reduce waiting lists.***
- 2. Renew hope for young people - starting with excellent public schools and by making community college and university tuition fees more affordable.***
- 3. Keep Manitoba Hydro and build a new partnership between business and labour for new and better jobs.***
- 4. Make our communities safer by tackling the causes of crime with improved youth programs and by ensuring immediate consequences for gang violence and home invasions.***
- 5. Keep balanced budget legislation and lower property taxes.***

"Manitobans all across the province are tired of excuses about why things can't be done," Doer said. "They're frustrated by the continuing crisis in health care, high crime rates, young Manitobans leaving the province and low levels of college and university training."

"It's time for a government that's in touch with the hopes and dreams of Manitobans," Doer said. "Manitoba's got what it takes. What's missing is a government with the vision and energy to make it

happen - and is committed to the priorities of everyday Manitobans."

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**



Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make a Donation

August 19/1999

Our Priorities are Manitobans': Rescue Health Care, End Hallway Medicine

"If there is one thing people expect from government, it is quality health care for themselves and their families when they need it. Today's announcement is the first step to renew health care - and rescue the system."
- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(August 19, 1999) - Health professionals joined NDP Leader Gary Doer and NDP Health Critic Dave Chomiak today as they announced the first step of a plan to rescue and renew health care in Manitoba. Our commitment is to end hallway medicine within six months.

"The stories we hear from people working on the front lines of health care clearly show the system needs rescuing. By denying the experiences and knowledge of those who know the system best, Gary Filmon's claim that health care is fixed shows how out of touch he really is. People are still waiting in hallways, nurses are still working double shifts, and doctors are still leaving the province out of sheer frustration. Manitobans deserve better," he said. "By working with front line health professionals, we can do better and we will rescue Manitoba health care."

Phase One of a five-step plan to RENEW health care in Manitoba

Today's announcement is the first step of a comprehensive plan to RENEW health care in Manitoba:

Rebuilding the system - The first step, required to undo years of short-sighted decisions by Mr. Filmon's Conservatives. It addresses Manitobans' most immediate concerns such as ending hallway medicine.

**Equity
New Initiatives
Environmental concerns
Wellness**

Taken together, the five components of Today's NDP plan to RENEW health care in Manitoba form a comprehensive vision for Manitobans' highest priority. By addressing immediate, short- and medium-term and long-term concerns in a series of announcements, Today's NDP will show how it can be trusted with Manitoba's health care system.

Today's NDP Plan to Rescue Health Care and End Hallway Medicine: Rebuilding the system

End Hallway Medicine Within Six Months

- immediately re-open 100 hospital beds
- hire full time nurses and other health care professionals to adequately cover the beds.
- earmark direct funding for major waiting lists for diagnostic testing and surgeries.

Nurses First!

- hiring full-time nurses to provide the care Manitobans expect.
- develop a new partnership by respecting the work and the needs of Manitoba nurses.

A Physician Resource Plan

- a solid plan to keep and attract doctors

"People don't expect miracles from government. But they do expect quality health care for themselves and their families when they need it. This plan will achieve that," Doer said.

Priorities for Manitobans - Rescue Health Care and End Hallway Medicine

Ending Hallway Medicine

- immediately re-open 100 hospital beds
- hire full time nurses and other health care

professionals to adequately cover the beds and patients' needs
- earmark direct funding for major waiting lists for diagnostic testing and surgeries

Impact on 1999-2000 Budget: \$13 million for opening beds including an additional \$1 million in direct funding for waiting lists to be funded from the projected Budget surplus.

Nurses First!

- full time nurses to put an end to the dangerous reliance on overtime, and the increased dependence on care givers working part-time hours**
- standards to guarantee adequate staffing**
- enhanced community college, university, and hospital training opportunities to meet current and future demand - and to ensure that there is an appropriate staff mix in health facilities**
- a new partnership with Manitoba nurses with a Ministerial Action Committee on Nursing, better consultation, and fair compensation for nurses and the work that they do**
- bursary programs for training and upgrading**
- recruitment and retention strategies**
- long term opportunities for LPNs in the community and in the acute care sector.**

Impact on 1999-2000 Budget:

\$32.5 million redirected funding from the existing Nursing Budget, plus \$1.25 million in additional spending to provide bursaries and expanded training opportunities to be funded from the projected Budget surplus.

A Physician Resource Plan

- salary arrangements for family doctors where appropriate**
- Rural Residency Program to facilitate medical student placement in rural and northern communities (\$1 million)**
- Rural Practice Establishment Grants (\$360,000)**
- support for practice opportunities in rural and northern areas (\$390,000)**

- **Regional Practice Associations to create groups of on-call physicians to fill in when community physicians need time off**
- **opportunities for foreign-trained Canadian doctors**
- **residency positions for Canadian doctors who have trained and practiced in other countries, and who have passed the Evaluating Exam**
- **contracts for these physicians to practice in underserved areas following their residency**
- **after fulfilling full practice requirements according to existing policies, offer full licenses to these physicians on their return to underserved areas.**

Impact on 1999-2000 Budget:


\$750,000 for supporting medical practice in rural and northern Manitoba.

Impact on 1999-2000 Budget:

\$15 million from projected Budget surplus.

***Contact: On Leader's Tour - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116
(cellular)***

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

August 20/1999

Renewing Hope for Young People: Today's NDP builds Tomorrow's Manitoba

"I was moved by high school students who asked why they should even finish high school when they can't afford to attend university or college. It is time to reconnect with the hopes and dreams of Manitobans. A 10% tuition cut is a downpayment on that pledge."

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(August 20, 1999) - NDP Leader Gary Doer today committed to helping Manitoba's youth obtain an education at home and remain after graduation. At a high school in St. Boniface, Doer committed an NDP government to reducing tuition for university and college students by 10%, providing the relief that students need.

"The facts reveal a very different story from the picture painted by Mr. Filmon. Fees are up by at least 169% and by as much as 200% in some faculties such as nursing. Manitoba has the lowest rate of post-secondary enrollment in Canada and the highest rate of anxiety among employers about finding skilled workers. During the last 11 years, our young people are paying more and leaving faster. We can do better," he said. "An important part of our plan to renew hope for young people is to reduce tuition fees by 10% to make a positive difference for Manitoba's young people."

Today's NDP will make college and university fees more affordable

Phase One:

A 10% cut to community college and university tuition

- reduce tuition fees by 10%, effective in September 2000, with no loss of revenue for universities and colleges. Cost: \$8 million in the next school year.
- immediately examine ways in to assure long-term affordability of education.
- phase two, an expansion of places, will be released

later in the campaign.

The facts about education in Manitoba

Manitoba began deep cuts to education two years before the federal Liberals

- the lowest post-secondary enrollment among 18-24 year olds in Canada.
- full-time arts fees rose by 169% at the University of Manitoba between 1987/88 and 1999/200 (by 200% in nursing and by 214% at Red River College).

"We cannot build an economy for tomorrow in Manitoba by punishing students today," said Doer. "Students simply need relief today. Today, I am committing to provide it."

Background Document

Renewing Hope for Young People: Backgrounder on building Tomorrow's Manitoba

University fees have risen by between 169% and 200%. Community college fees will rise by 290%.

Since 1989, university and college fees have risen astronomically in Manitoba, putting post-secondary education out of reach for many Manitoba families. Tuition increased by an average of 8.5% last year and the government's response was that it would not become involved unless increases reached double digits. Now in the election Mr. Filmon is promising to freeze tuition but only if Ottawa gives him the money.

Between 1987/88 and 1999/2000, full-time fees at the University of Manitoba have increased as follows:

<u>FACULTY</u>	<u>1987/88</u>	<u>1999/2000</u>	<u>Change</u>
ARTS	\$1,140.10	\$3,058.30	+169%
SCIENCE	\$1,303.40	\$3,633.80	+179%
EDUCATION	\$1,147.10	\$3,326.55	+190%
NURSING	\$1,374.30	\$4,110.00	+200%

At Red River Community College, the situation is even worse. In 1987/88, full-time fees were \$450. In 1999/2000, they will be \$1,413, an increase of 214%. Within two years, the college's own business plans show fees of \$1,753 in 2001/02 - an increase of 290%.

Students need relief from massive fee hikes today. Today's NDP is committed to providing it.

Manitoba's enrollment figures are the worst in Canada - Anxiety over finding qualified workers is the highest.

Manitoba is leaving itself unprepared for the new economy with the lowest percentage of 18-24 year olds enrolled in college or university in Canada. Manitoba's rate of enrollment is almost half that of the province with the highest rate.

<u>PROVINCE</u>	<u>Total Post-Secondary Enrollment Rate as a % of 18-24 year olds</u>
Quebec	44.1
Nova Scotia	40.2
Ontario	35.3
New Brunswick	30.2
Alberta	30.1
Newfoundland	29.3
Saskatchewan	26.5
P.E.I.	25.9
British Columbia	23.1
Manitoba	22.8

Manitoba's graduation rates are equally grim, with the lowest number of college graduates per 100,000 people aged 20-29, between 1991/92 and 1995/96:

<u>PROVINCE</u>	<u>Diploma Recipients per 100,000 people aged 20- 29, 1991-1996</u>
Quebec	3,905
P.E.I.	2,809
Ontario	1,876
Alberta	1,843
Newfoundland	1,403

Nova Scotia	1,340
New Brunswick	1,120
British Columbia	1,105
Saskatchewan	1,078
Manitoba	928

High tuition coupled with chronically low enrollment is not a recipe for growth in the next century. Manitoba's young people deserve better.

*Contact: On Leader's Tour - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116
(cellular); David Woodbury, 229-3999*

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

Back to Media Kit

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Policies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

An economic plan for the 21st Century: Skills are a passport to quality jobs

"The sorry record of the Filmon Conservatives spells a low-skill, low-wage economy for Manitoba. We will double college enrollment. Manitoba's economic future depends on a well trained work force."

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(August 27, 1999) - NDP Leader Gary Doer today outlined the second phase of his plan to restore hope for young people, following his pledge to cut tuition by 10%. In his announcement at Red River College, Doer committed to doubling college enrollment in Manitoba over the next four years.

"Duff Roblin recommended this six years ago. Yet we now have the lowest rate of college graduates in Canada this decade." Doer said. "We have an achievable plan that will double college enrollment. This is an economic priority for Manitoba."

Today's NDP plan to double college enrollment

- increase operating grants to Manitoba's colleges over the next four years, starting in September 2000.
- expand the College Innovation Fund from \$4 million to \$8 million, beginning September 2000.
- expand co-op college courses in partnership with the private sector (on completion of their program, students will have acquired valuable work experience).
- implement a more flexible system of transferring credits between colleges and universities.
- expand the role of the Regional Development Boards to identify needed skills in the economy and to communicate this information to colleges.

Cost: we will invest \$6 million per year in additional college funding for the next four years.

The facts about enrollment in Manitoba

- the lowest post-secondary enrollment among 18-24 year olds in Canada.
- a college enrollment rate among 18-21 year olds of 5.6% - the national average is 24.6%.
- the number of diplomas granted is down from 1,669 in 1994 to 1,360 in 1998.

"A low-skill, low-wage economy is not good enough for Manitoba. We can do better," said Doer. "In today's world, diplomas are a passport to real jobs and hope."

Background Document

An economic plan for hope: Today's NDP plan for increasing enrollment

Phase One: Reduce tuition by 10%

On August 20, Today's NDP announced phase one of its commitment to restore hope to young people. Phase one of this commitment was to reduce college and university tuition by 10% to make post-secondary education more affordable to young Manitobans.

It should be noted that Mr. Filmon's promise of a tax credit upon graduation does nothing to reduce the cost of post-secondary education.

Phase Two: Double college enrollment over four years

- Manitoba's college enrollment rate among 18-21 year olds is a mere 5.6%. By comparison, the national average is 24.6%, almost five times higher.
- In a 1998 study, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business called the skills shortage, "the fastest growing issue among our members." Anxiety among employers over finding qualified workers in Manitoba is the highest in Canada.

Province:


Diploma Recipients per

**100,000 people aged 20-29,
1991-1996**

Quebec	3,905
P.E.I.	2,809
Ontario	1,876
Alberta	1,843
Newfoundland	1,403
Nova Scotia	1,340
New Brunswick	1,120
British Columbia	1,105
Saskatchewan	1,078
Manitoba	928

*Contact: On Tour - Donne Flanagan, 291 8116 (cellular); David
Woodbury, 982-8053*

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

Agriculture platform: Together, we can do better

"Rural Manitobans know what they value about their communities. It's the people, clean air, good schools, access to health care and the opportunity to earn a fair return for rewarding, hard work. At the centre must be the viability of family farms."

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(Dauphin, August 28, 1999) - Today's NDP is committed to ensuring rural Manitoba remains a good place for people to live and raise families, Leader Gary Doer said. Doer, who was joined by Agriculture Critic Rosann Wowchuk and Natural Resources Critic Stan Struthers, today unveiled the NDP's platform on agriculture.

Today's NDP plan to strengthen agriculture

The average farm is becoming larger and larger with increased production but this production isn't benefiting the majority of farmers. Today's NDP firmly believes the vitality of the family farm must be central to our agricultural policies.

Project 2000

- almost 70 per cent of Manitoba's farms are expected to change owners within 15 years. This transformation must be managed by farmers or the job will be left to large corporations.**
- an NDP government will establish a program to facilitate the transfer of land between retiring farmers and young farmers. This program will be called Project 2000 and will be managed by farmers with support from the province.**
- Project 2000 will be a land transfer program that that will lessen the up-front interest costs for young farmers and will give the retiring farmer a guaranteed annual income.**
- this transfer, facilitated by the MACC, will save each young farmer thousands of dollars in interest payments.**

Making family farming work

- amend the Farm Land Ownership Act to give farmers**

greater opportunities to buy land. We will restrict the amount of land available to non-residents.

- establish a Farm Safety Coordinator to deal with increased stress and mechanization levels that lead to more accidents.**
- create a Rural Loan Pool Investment Fund to allow rural residents to invest in RRSP-eligible Agricultural GICs to be pooled to improve access to credit and encourage investment in rural communities.**
- develop a Buy Manitoba program to encourage rural Manitobans to purchase supplies locally, in addition to strengthening growth and modernization in the co-op sector.**
- support incubator programs in rural Manitoba.**
- in consultation with producers, amend crop insurance to include coverage for unseeded acreage.**

Taking the lead for farm families

- Today's NDP will take a lead role in pressuring the federal government to establish with the provinces a new long-term farm safety net sensitive to the needs of farming families.**
- we support and will initiate an all-party delegation to meet with the Prime Minister to discuss the challenges facing Manitoba producers.**
- we will pressure the federal government to take responsibility for the damage done to Manitoba's rural roads as a result of the cutting of the Crow Rate. At a minimum, the federal gas tax should be returned to improve our rural roads.**

Single Desk Selling

- Manitoba farmers have consistently demonstrated their support for marketing boards, Today's NDP will aggressively defend the role of the Canadian Wheat Board.**
- the Filmon government demonstrated its lack of commitment to marketing boards by removing single desk selling from the hog industry.**
- we will challenge any move that would weaken the CWB as a result of the implementation of the Estey Report.**
- we will make it illegal to dismantle any marketing board in Manitoba's jurisdiction without the permission of producers.**

Sustainable Agriculture


- target funds to public research that reflects producer needs and explores alternative agriculture to allow producers to study and share ideas about cooperative**

**options and emerging markets for alternative crops.
- establish monitoring of lagoons to protect the
industry from liability claims and to maintain quality of
life in rural Manitoba.**

**"Rural Manitoba is a special place because of
its families. That's why the agricultural
policies of Today's NDP make the family farm
our number one priority," said Doer.**

*Contact: On Tour - Shauna Martin, 291-8123; David Woodbury,
982-8053*

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to the Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

September 3/1999

Today's NDP: Giving Manitoba's children a healthy head start

***"Healthy children are the key to a healthy future
for Manitoba. We will act now to invest in the
future with our five-point "Healthy Child"
commitment."***

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

**(September 3, 1999) - Manitoba children will get a
healthy head start in life under a five-point plan
introduced today by Leader Gary Doer.**

**"We will act now to address child health issues. It's
critical that we move beyond pilot projects so that
children can have a proper start in life as it affects their
future health. Investing in children is an investment in
the social and financial future of Manitoba," Doer said
during a visit to the Village Centre Program at Elwick
Community School in The Maples.**

**Today's NDP "Healthy Child" commitment will be
phased in over three years with a first year cost of \$4
million. When fully implemented the program will cost
\$12 million. Funding for these commitments will come
from re-allocation from programs such as SmartHealth
within the Department of Health.**

**Healthy Child will address malnutrition in early years,
tackle teen pregnancy, create new parent school
partnerships, make physical education a part of the
core curriculum and hire nurses for school health
programs.**

**"By investing in early intervention we are benefiting
children and our communities. Studies show that a one
dollar investment in early years leads to a seven dollar
saving later. By taking immediate action in these five
areas we will begin to reduce the record child poverty
levels in Manitoba. Our commitments are achievable,
and will make a positive difference for the children and
families of this province," Doer said.**

**The Village Centre is a community-based project that is
working to achieve the goals in today's Healthy Child
announcement.**

Today's NDP: helping grow a Healthy Child

- *a healthy start through a targeted nutrition program* for pregnant women and pre-school and school-aged children.
- *action on teen pregnancy* including preventive health programs, preventative education programs in the schools and outreach to teens and teenage mothers through family planning clinics.
- *make physical education part of the core curriculum* - a recent survey by the Manitoba Physical Education Teachers Association revealed the majority of students don't get enough time in physical education. In targeted areas of the province, we will work with school divisions to develop a policy allowing gyms to be open to the community for after hours recreation.
- *make schools an integral component of community-based child health* programs and hire nurses and give them a greater role in preventive and school health programs.
- *invest in parent school partnerships* by creating centres in high need areas that will offer parent education and support, pre-school programs and encourage an early partnership between parents, children and their community schools.

Background

Investing in our children

1. *Province-wide child nutrition*

- The Postl Report found that targeted nutrition programs have a positive impact on a child's development.
- the report recommended that food supplements be made available to pre-natal women to reduce the incidence of low birth-weight babies.

Impact on 2000/2001 Budget: \$1.25 million

2. *Action on teen pregnancy*

- Manitoba has the fourth highest teen pregnancy rate in Canada.
- our plan will provide intensive Family Life Programs, preventative education programs in the schools and

outreach for teens and teenage mothers through Family Planning clinics.

Impact on 2000/2001 Budget: \$125,000

3. *Renewed emphasis on physical education*

- make physical education part of the core curriculum.
- under Mr. Filmon's Conservatives, physical education time in Manitoba declined 20 per cent.
- a recent survey by the Manitoba Physical Education Teachers Association found the majority of Manitoba students do not receive enough gym time.

Impact on the 2000/2001 Budget: no impact

4. *Nurses in schools*

- hire nurses in our schools in targeted areas.
- these nurses will help make our schools a primary site for community-based child health programs.
- ensure these nurses have the training to direct children and their families to other health care resources and services in the community.

Impact on 2000/2001 budget \$500,000

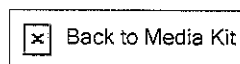
5. *Invest in parent school partnerships*

- create centres in high need areas that will offer parent education and support, pre-school programs.
- encourage an early partnership between parents, children and their community schools.

Impact on 2000/2001 budget \$1.75 million

Contact: - On Tour - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David Woodbury, 982-8053

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**



Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

September 9/1999

Today's NDP: hiring more full-time nurses

"In order to rescue health care we need to recruit full-time nurses for Manitoba's hospitals. Today's NDP will immediately implement our Nurses First program and will begin to hire permanent, full-time nurses to fulfill our pledge to end hallway medicine within six months."

- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(September 9, 1999) - Today's NDP will offer nurses job security, full-time work and a real voice in decision making as part of a strategy to recruit and retain nurses for Manitoba's short-staffed hospitals, Leader Gary Doer said.

"In order to address the severe nursing shortage and take steps to end hallway medicine we have to offer the security of full-time, permanent employment for nurses. That's the problem at the heart of our nursing shortage. We will work with facilities and nurses to increase the number of full-time postings," said Doer, who was accompanied by several nurses in search of full-time work.

Manitoba nurses identified the lack of permanent, full-time work as one key reason why it is difficult to recruit and retain nurses. Doer said that seven out of every ten of the 1,044 job postings this year for nurses at the Health Sciences Centre were for part-time jobs. Some offered so few hours and so little job security they have been re-posted 11 times in an attempt to attract applicants.

"Today's NDP will immediately implement our Nurses First! program and will begin to hire permanent, full-time nurses to fulfill our pledge to end hallway medicine within six months of forming government," Doer said.

This spring the Tories created a \$7 million fund for recruitment from outside Manitoba but managed to hire only five new nurses under the program. They have continued with their misguided strategy of offering part-time jobs. Meanwhile nursing vacancies have grown - there are now 713 vacant nursing positions.

"Mr. Filmon's Conservatives created the current crisis by firing 1,000 nurses. They've lost the confidence of Manitobans and nurses. Today's NDP is committed to rescuing health care by working with front line caregivers," Doer said.

Doer said the NDP's retention strategy will recognize some nurses currently working part-time in the system prefer that arrangement. But many, like those gathered with Doer, want full-time, permanent employment. Doer said the NDP will work with nurses and facilities to identify what existing positions should be made full-time. The NDP will also offer nurses an opportunity for real decision making in the health care field through its Ministerial Advisory Committee.

Finding and Retaining nurses

- new positions will offer permanent, full-time work.**
- wherever possible consolidate current advertised positions into full-time, permanent jobs.**
- work with nurses and facilities to identify existing positions that should be full-time, permanent.**

- immediately implement our Nurses First! initiative including:**
 - implement standards to guarantee adequate staffing.**
 - enhanced community college, university, and hospital training opportunities to meet current and future demand - and to ensure that there is an appropriate staff mix in health facilities.**
 - offer nurses a real voice in decision making through a Ministerial Action Committee on Nursing, better consultation, and fair compensation.**
 - bursary programs for training and upgrading.**

"With more beds in the short term and more full-time nurses to staff them, we can give patients dignity, improve the quality of care and give nurses the respect they deserve," Doer said.

Background Document

Nurses First!

- In a survey of Manitoba nurses conducted in April 1998, more than 40% said they were not able to deliver**

quality care.

- 80% said their workload had increased since 1995 - after Gary Filmon promised he would fix health care, then laid off 1000 nurses.

- in a review of 1999 job postings at the Health Sciences Centre:

- there were 1044 separate postings (some of them for multiple positions).
- 322 of them were for full-time positions (only 31% of the total postings).
- of the full-time postings, 187 (58%) were for permanent jobs and 135 (42%) were for term positions.
- some of the postings were for positions as low as 10% time.
- some of the jobs were re-posted up to 11 times.

"Young people planning their careers no longer see the nursing profession as a potentially satisfying career choice. Job prospects are poor. Full-time employment is almost unattainable. With the growing usage of casual nurses in hospitals and personal care homes, many nurses juggle several positions in several institutions being able only to secure casual work at each ... These factors in combination with the years of rollbacks to nursing salaries and compensation packages has resulted in the current shortage of nurses." (*Health Care in Manitoba, A Report from the front lines - Manitoba Nurses' Union, April 1998*)

- according to the WHA, the \$7 million Nursing Recruitment and Retention Fund had received 350 inquiries about employment and training opportunities for nurses by mid-August so it extended the deadline for submissions to August 31.


- the WHA does not know where the nurses they claim to have hired are working - and has admitted that the numbers they are using do not reflect full-time hiring.

- there are currently 713 vacant nursing positions, aside from the 650 shortfall admitted to by the Filmon Conservatives.

- the Manitoba Nurses Union has confirmed that only 5 nurses have relocated to Manitoba as a result of the \$7 million initiative.

Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David Woodbury, 982-8053

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 Back to the Media Kit

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Policies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

September 13/1999

MR. FILMON: A THIN EDUCATION PLATFORM

(September 13, 1999) - NDP campaign co-chair David Chomiak says Mr. Filmon's education re-announcement today shows how bankrupt his government's education policies are after 11 years in office.

"It's unfortunate that as Manitobans look to the parties for ideas, Mr. Filmon has decided to just re-announce their thin education platform and attack the NDP," Chomiak said.

"What an irony that the 'billion dollar' premier has to ask Ottawa for more money before he can freeze tuition fees. Our plan allows us to reduce fees by 10% immediately and guarantee funding at the rate of growth in the economy," Chomiak said.

"Since the beginning of the campaign Today's NDP has outlined it's vision for education and new hope for young people," Chomiak said.

Today's NDP Education Commitments

- **Grade Three Guarantee** - replacing standardized tests in the grade three year with a first of the year assessment to ensure literacy. Where needed develop a work plan for improvements with the teachers and parents.

- **Grade Eight Computer Literacy** - to ensure that by grade eight students know how to use computers. This includes computers in the classroom and an e-mail for every student.

- **Funding** - Mr. Filmon has promised 2% growth in education funding. We are committed to matching education funding to the growth in the provincial economy - next year with growth projected at 2.4% that's 20% more. We won't shortchange our public schools.

- **Grade 12 community service credit** - based on the experience in internationally recognized programs like the International Baccalaureate Program now in schools like Kelvin High School.

- *More emphasis on the basics* - Instead of having school time taken up with advertising for Corn Pops and Nintendo on YNN we want to see a greater emphasis on basics including the arts and physical education.

- *Nurses in the Schools* - As part of our healthy child program we'll put up to 80 nurses in targeted schools to help make our schools a primary site for community-based child health programs and to direct children and their families to other health care resources and services in the community.

- *Double College spaces* - We will implement the Roblin Commission recommendation of doubling college enrollment. Under Mr. Filmon, college enrollment has actually declined.


- *10% tuition cut* - We don't need to ask the federal government for more money to reduce tuition fees. Our 10% cut is unconditional and will not reduce the funds available to universities and colleges.

- *\$150 tax credit increase* that takes effect immediately and reduces burden of education property tax for both homeowners and renters.

Chomiak noted that in addition we have committed to bursary programs in nursing, more training spaces for nurses, an expanded college innovation fund, parent child centre funding and keeping schools open longer for community use.

Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David Woodbury, 982-8053

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to the Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make a Donation

September 13/1999

**Ending intolerable cancer
treatment delays:
Today's NDP commits \$2 million
to fix Filmon's broken promise**

***"It's unacceptable to have to wait 20 weeks for
basic cancer treatment. Mr. Filmon promised a
prostate centre last election. But like so many of
his promises last time, he broke his word.
Manitobans deserve immediate action on this
potentially deadly disease."
- NDP Leader Gary Doer***

(September 13, 1999) - Today's NDP will act immediately to shorten Manitoba's intolerable 20-week waiting list for basic prostate cancer treatment, said Gary Doer.

"We will cut prostate waiting lists by half, establish a prostate screening program, and work with medical practitioners, therapists, and stakeholders to develop a prostate centre," he said. The Conservatives promised a centre in 1994 and re-promised one in the 1995 election, but they failed to deliver. The result is, unnecessarily long waiting lists and the loss of specialists - like Dr. Milton Po, who is leaving for British Columbia this month.

"The waiting lists, due to the shortage of specialists and equipment, are simply unacceptable. No Manitoban should have to wait five months to receive treatment for cancer. During the last election the Conservatives said they would open a prostate centre and cut waiting lists. They did neither and waiting lists have continued to grow," Doer said.

The NDP will commit \$1 million to target waiting lists. Another \$1 million will be spent to implement a screening program for early detection and early treatment. And an NDP government would immediately begin consultations for the development of a prostate treatment centre.

More than 2,000 Manitobans have prostate cancer, which is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among men.

Immediate action on prostate cancer

- *cut waiting times in half - to 10 weeks* - within our first year in government, by hiring required radiation therapists and purchasing the required equipment - [cost \$1 million]
- *establish a prostate cancer screening program* - within our first year in government - the program will identify men at risk for prostate cancer and urge them to get tested - [cost \$1 million]
- *develop a comprehensive prostate centre* - in consultation with medical practitioners, therapists and stakeholders - the centre will provide screening, diagnostic testing and care and treatment options for prostate cancer victims - [minimal capital costs]


Backgrounder on Prostate Cancer

- "Building on a commitment to establish breast and cervical cancer screening programs in 1995, my government will continue to take measures to address the growing concern over cancer in our province. *A Prostate Centre will be established to provide leading edge service to the more than 2,000 Manitoba men who have prostate disease.*" (December 1, 1994 - Throne Speech)
- it took until June 1999 for a cervical cancer screening program to be announced - *there are no plans for a Prostate Centre.*
- the Manitoba Prostate Cancer Support Group represents 1,200 men with prostate cancer.
- if a man were to be diagnosed with cancer today *he would have to wait up to 20 weeks for radiation treatment.*
- *33% of men diagnosed with prostate cancer die of the disease.*
- *there are a number of screening alternatives for prostate cancer* - the development and use of the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test over the past 10 years has been very useful in identifying prostate cancer cells.
- prostate brachytherapy is a procedure that involves the implantation of radioactive seeds into the prostate, allowing patients to receive radiation therapy from the inside out - this treatment option is available in Alberta,

**British Columbia, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and
Saskatchewan.**

*Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David
Woodbury, 982-8053*

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 Back to the Media Kit

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

September 14/1999

Today's NDP: Making Manitoba a safer place to live

***"We recognize that crime can only be effectively dealt with through both prevention and suppression. Tough talk hasn't made us safer. We need action to make our neighbourhoods secure places to live and raise our families
- NDP Leader Gary Doer***

(September 14, 1999) - Opportunities for youth, swifter prosecution of violent crime and gang crime and maintaining a one-tier justice system are the cornerstones of NDP Leader Gary Doer's commitment to making Manitoba a safe and just place to live.

In the 1995 election Mr. Filmon said: "Fortunately, the Filmon government's policies have helped prevent (gang violence) from escalating to the point that it has in other major cities across North America where gangs have become numerous and violent."

However, under Mr. Filmon's watch, gang membership has risen from 400 to 1600, rates of youth crime, violent crime and robbery have become the highest in the country and victims of crime are being left out of the justice system. Most recently, a precedent was set in Manitoba that allows some individuals to avoid criminal charges on the basis of public embarrassment.

"We will establish programs that offer hope and opportunity to young people at risk of gang involvement. We will take action on gang violence by hiring the prosecutors needed to create a Justice Department Gang Unit whose sole purpose will be to deal with gangs," Doer said.

"More prosecutors will also allow us to reduce the youth court backlog and help speed prosecution of home invaders. And we will make sure everyone who breaks the law is subject to the same course of justice, regardless of who they are, by instructing prosecutors against the use of public embarrassment as a reason for not proceeding with charges."

"We will take action on auto theft by imposing a four-

year mandatory suspension of driver's licenses for those who steal vehicles. That will mean raising the driving age from 16 to 20 for youth who steal vehicles. We will also notify communities of auto thefts in their neighbourhood."

"Our comprehensive commitment will include a home security loan program for seniors and will ensure that services to victims of crime are increased," Doer said. "We will make our communities safer and restore faith in Manitoba's justice system."

Justice Initiatives

Offering new opportunities for youth:

- Provide positive alternatives for at-risk youth through our Neighbourhoods Alive! and Safe Places programs and increased recreation opportunities for Friendship Centres.**
- Establish a Young Offender Mentoring and Monitoring program that pairs college and university students with young offenders. Students will offer tutoring and mentoring and assist probation officers in ensuring that the conditions of probation are met (Cost=\$200,000)**

Hiring more crown prosecutors:

- To take action on gangs by establishing a "Gang Unit" within the department of justice that will fast track gang related crime through specialized prosecution and provide enhanced victims and witness services (Cost: \$1 million)**
- To reduce the youth court backlog which is now the highest in the country.**
- To take action on home invasions by making prosecution of home invaders a priority.**

Put an end to the "embarrassment defence":

- Maintain our one-tier justice system by issuing a directive to prosecutors against the use of public embarrassment as a reason not to pursue criminal charges.**

Action on home invasions and auto theft:

- Establish a Home Security Loan program for seniors (Cost: \$180,00 when fully operational)**
- Four-year mandatory suspension of drivers licenses for all those convicted of auto theft, moving the driving age from 16 to 20 for youth convicted of auto theft.**
- Notification of neighbourhoods whenever an auto**

theft has occurred.


Respect for victims of crime:

- Legislate a guarantee that victims of crime will have the right to full information on court proceedings and outcomes and a voice in court proceedings on request.**
- Enhance victim compensation and counselling for family members of homicide victims.**

****Payment for new initiatives for victims' programs will come from the victim surcharge on court fines and by collecting un-recovered bail forfeiture and offenders' fines.***

Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David Woodbury, 982-8053

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to the Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong Values: Modern Policies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make a Donation

September 14/1999

Today's NDP: Encouraging Small Business Success

"We will work with small businesses to ensure they can access the needed capital to expand and we'll lower small business taxes. We'll make it easier for smaller firms to bid on government contracts and we'll address their concerns over the limited number of skilled workers by doubling college spaces"
- NDP Leader Gary Doer

(September 14, 1999) - An NDP government will ensure Manitoba's small businesses grow and new entrepreneurs thrive through its "Small Business Success" strategy announced today by Leader Gary Doer.

"Our strategy will make life easier for small businesses and new entrepreneurs by cutting their taxes, eliminating needless red tape, giving them access to more government contracts, creating more investment capital and providing an effective training strategy to address skill shortages," Doer said.

"Small business owners are dedicated to their communities. They hire locally, they buy locally and they generate local economic benefits," Doer said. "We've met with small business owners from many sectors of the economy. They want to be able to compete for government contracts, they need access to capital, and they need skilled workers. We are going to help them overcome those obstacles."

"Small Business Success"

- break down government contract tenders so that, where practical, small businesses will be able to compete for more government work.**
- create capital sources for small businesses by building on the success of the Crocus Capital Fund.**
- provide an effective training strategy to address the skills shortage. Our commitment to double the number of college graduates will give businesses the skills needed to improve and expand.**
- follow through on our 1998 alternative budget**

commitment to reduce small business tax from nine per cent to five per cent.

- form an advisory committee to deal with unnecessary red tape. The group will reality check all existing and future regulations to ensure that they are education friendly.

- make small business a key player in our Manitoba Century Summit.

- target funding to business incubator networks to encourage Aboriginal entrepreneurs.


- promote tourism to expand urban and eco-tourism.

- ban corporate and union donations to political parties, reducing the possibility that large donations will influence government decisions.

"Small businesses and new entrepreneurs are the engine of our economy. By helping them with these clear and achievable commitments we will help improve the economic prospects for all Manitobans."

Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David Woodbury, 982-8053

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

 [Back to the Media Kit](#)

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong Values: Modern Polices
<	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A thank you for all our Candidates!!
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your new MLA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meet your local MP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make a Donation

September 15/1999

Giving more Manitoba kids sports and recreation opportunities

***"Our Team Builders commitment is another piece of our Families Package. It will increase opportunities for youth to participate in sports, improving the health and well being of children
- NDP Leader Gary Doer***

(September 15, 1999) - NDP Leader Gary Doer today unveiled a new program designed to get more kids involved in recreation and sports.

" 'Team Builders' will give kids across Manitoba greater opportunity to join sports teams and become active," Doer said. "The fund will start immediately at \$250,000 and increase to \$1 million - which community-based youth sports teams can access to match their own fundraising efforts. They can use the money to offset the costs of registration fees, equipment and travel. This will greatly enhance the opportunities of kids to participate whose parents might not otherwise be able to afford the growing costs of sport," he said.

Participating in sports improves children's health and well being and develops self-esteem, leadership skills, confidence and dedication. Today's NDP wants to make sure that every child has a chance to participate.

"Windsor Community Club is just one example where local volunteers have struggled to keep programs going. 'Team Builders' will help give community groups a hand, like here at Windsor where they're working hard to bring their full hockey program back to life at the club," said Doer.

Organizations and community clubs across Manitoba have found it increasingly difficult to raise recreation funds. For example, volunteers and executive members at Isaac Brock community club in Winnipeg's West End know they've lost an estimated \$10,000 in fundraising from bingo due to the proliferation of VLTs.

Doer said Team Builders, along with the extensive series of commitments already outlined during the campaign, combine to form the NDP's Families Package.

Those programs include Healthy Child, Neighbourhoods Alive! Excellence in our Neighbourhood Schools, Safe Places to Play and Family Responsibility Leave and now Team Builders.

"Our Families Package is designed to help make life better for Manitoba's parents and their children. We will provide families with financial relief through our achievable tax breaks, guarantee excellence in our schools, enhanced health services for children, and provide greater recreational opportunities for children and youth. Our commitment is to work together with communities to build hope and optimism for all Manitoba families," Doer said

Team Builders Program

- Team Builders is a fund that community based sports teams across Manitoba can access to match their own fund raising efforts to offset the costs associated with team sports.**
- It allows teams to attract more children and encourages the participation of girls and boys in a broad range of sports.**
- Teams can apply to access the fund through their community club or organization. It will match fundraising efforts by organizations and clubs to help offset the costs of registration fees, equipment and/or for travel.**

Families Package

Team Builders program

- *Team Builders is a fund that community based sports teams across Manitoba can access to match their own fund raising efforts to offset the costs associated with team sports.***
- *it will allow teams to attract more children and encourage the participation of girls and boys in a broad range of sports.***
- *teams can apply to access the fund through their community club or organization. It will match fundraising efforts to offset the costs of registration fees, equipment and/or for travel.***

Ensuring excellence in our neighbourhood schools

- *guarantee that every child will be reading and writing in their grade 3 year.***

- **provide every student with an e-mail address.**
- **ensure all grade 8 students can demonstrate a high level of computer literacy.**
- **enable all high school students to complete a community service credit before they graduate.**
- **tackle the legacy of user fees, fundraising, and tattered textbooks through stable school funding.**
- **invest in our public schools at a rate no less than the growth in the economy.**
- **take the Youth News Network and its commercials out of Manitoba's classrooms and ensure more time is spent on education basics including Physical Education and Arts.**

Healthy Child

- **a healthy start through a targeted nutrition program for pregnant women and pre-school and school-aged children.**
- **action on teen pregnancy including preventive health programs, preventative education programs in the schools and outreach to teens and teenage mothers through family planning clinics.**
- **make physical education part of the core curriculum - a recent survey by the Manitoba Physical Education Teachers Association revealed the majority of students don't get enough time in physical education. In targeted areas of the province, we will work with school divisions to develop a policy allowing gyms to be open to the community for after hours recreation.**
- **make schools an integral component of community-based child health programs and hire nurses and give them a greater role in preventive and school health programs.**
- **invest in parent school partnerships by creating centres in high need areas that will offer parent education and support, pre-school programs and encourage an early partnership between parents, children and their community schools.**

Tax relief for families

- **implement a \$150 property tax rebate for all of Manitoba's 400,000 plus homeowners and renters.**
- **Manitobans will get a \$75 tax credit in the first year and \$150 in the second year.**

Families Matter

- **offer six days per year of unpaid Family Responsibility Leave to allow working parents the flexibility to deal with family emergencies or family members who are ill.**
- **introduce a "Safe Places to Play" program that will**

open schools after hours and *expand recreation opportunities* for children and youth.

- Today's NDP will provide community groups with the support they need to rebuild our neighbourhoods. *Neighbourhoods Alive!* offers a tool box of programs that groups can access to make their communities safer, healthier and economically sound places to live.

Neighbourhoods Alive!

- provide up to \$10,000 per home for the purchase and the renovation and the sales tax on the renovation of homes in targeted neighbourhoods.
- support local job opportunities by enabling community groups and businesses to work together to develop training and job opportunities for youth and the unemployed in targeted areas.
- develop community safety initiatives that expand existing community-based services.

Offering new opportunities for youth:

- Provide positive alternatives for at-risk youth through our Neighbourhoods Alive! and Safe Places programs and increased recreation opportunities for Friendship Centres.
- Establish a Young Offender Mentoring and Monitoring program that pairs college and university students with young offenders. Students will offer tutoring and mentoring and assist probation officers in ensuring that the conditions of probation are met.

Team Sports - Background

- Accessible recreation is fundamental to the health and social well-being of children and youth.
- In the past, community clubs have raised money for their sports teams through bingos and other fundraising activities. With the advent of VLTS it has been more difficult for community clubs to raise the funds they need to cover the costs of team sports without raising registration fees. (\$10,000/ year was lost in the community clubs in MaryAnn Mihychuck's [St. James] constituency alone)
- Using hockey in Winnipeg as one example, the registration fee is made up four separate fees:

Community Centre Fee
Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association Fee

Hockey Manitoba Fee Canadian Hockey Association Fee

Average hockey fees are \$100-\$250 for children up to 13 and \$350 for youth 13 and over. This is in addition to equipment costs, extra practice ice rental, tournament entry fees, travel costs, ancillary costs and jerseys.

"Team Builders" Program

- "Team Builders" is a fund that community based sports teams across Manitoba can access to match their own fund raising efforts to offset the costs associated with team sports.**
- The program builds on the KidSport program which is a national charity designed to offset the costs of registration and equipment for low income "needy" children. The program is administered through Sport Manitoba, in conjunction with Winnipeg Police Services and the RCMP. It is based on funds raised in the community. Last year \$57,000 was raised to help over 500 individual children.**
- Our "Team Builders" program is different in that it is based on the application of teams (rather than individuals) through community clubs or community organizations. The fund can be accessed for traditional team sports such as soccer and hockey but will also encourage communities to initiate new programs such as swimming, cross country skiing, running, or gymnastic teams or clubs.**

The advantage of this approach is:

- It creates anonymity for families who can't afford registration fees or equipment.**
- It allows teams to attract more children.**
- It encourages the participation of girls and boys in a broad range of sports.**

How the Program would work:

- Teams can apply to access the fund through their community club or organization for the following purposes: to match fundraising that offsets the costs of registration fees, for equipment and/or for travel.**
- Funds will be administered based on the level of income of the club or organization and level of need within the club or organization:
Based on overall grant funds.
Based on bank account funds.
The level of socio-economic grant from the city.**

Total Cost= \$250,000

***Contact: - Donne Flanagan, 291-8116 (cellular); David
Woodbury, 982-8053***

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

☐ Back to the Media Kit

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make a Donation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong Values: Modern Policies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fact Sheets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your local Candidate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voter Info

Keep Manitoba Hydro and build a new partnership between business and labour for new and better jobs

Gary Filmon denies he wants to sell Manitoba Hydro - just like he denied during the last election that he wanted to sell MTS.

Hydro is the most efficient energy company in North America, with major sales outside Manitoba and healthy annual profits. In private hands, it would make its owners a lot of money.

MTS fetched \$500 million for the Tories, which they used as a slush fund to pay for their pre-election spending spree. Given another chance, there is little doubt - they will sell Hydro, robbing future generations of Manitobans.

The Filmon era has seen little cooperation between business, labour, and other stakeholders. We need to forge a new economic consensus. It's time for a new approach of partnership for greater prosperity for all - not just the privileged few.

Today's NDP sees a different future for Manitoba Hydro. Low energy rates are a strategic advantage for attracting jobs and promoting economic development throughout the province. Manitoba Hydro is an asset built by the people of Manitoba. It should be owned by all of us and benefit all of us.

Increased participation in the economy by all Manitobans must be a primary goal. The low skill, low wage strategy of the Filmon government has not worked for too many Manitobans. Real wages have fallen by about \$80 per month per worker since Filmon came to power - while across Canada, real wages have risen during the same period.

Today's NDP believes that common ground can be established around the goal of creating better jobs with a more skilled workforce. Competitiveness in the new economy presents a variety of strategic options. Our economic strategy will be founded on an education strategy. We will work with employers and educators to forge the high wage, high skill jobs of the new economy.

4. Make our communities safer

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

Back to 5 Good Reasons

Back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Make a Donation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Get Involved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Five Good Reasons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strong Values: Modern Polices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fact Sheets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet your local Candidate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voter Info

Make our communities safer by tackling the causes of crime with improved youth programs and by ensuring immediate consequences for gang violence and home invasions.

Every Manitoban should feel safe in their own home and neighbourhood. Unfortunately, violent crime has increased dramatically here in the past four years. Manitoba now has the highest rates of violent crime, youth crime, and auto theft in the country. Mr. Filmon's tough talk on crime has had little effect. *In fact, the Conservatives have broken 22 anti-crime promises they made in the last election.*

Today's NDP has put forward strong proposals to make our communities safer. Our Anti-Gang Plan will work on two levels to fight our growing gang problem. There will be tougher, quicker consequences for gang leaders and expanded opportunities for at-risk youth. Our Victims Rights Bill is the strongest legislation of its kind in the country. It's time victims had a real voice in the justice system.

The other approach is to prevent crime by ensuring kids have better education and recreation options, for example, to stop them from falling into crime.

Manitobans may have noticed the Conservatives' tough-on-crime talk start up again over the past few months - just as they were preparing for another election. Today's NDP will take immediate measures to send the right message to those who commit crimes as well as finally addressing some of the root causes of crime.

5. Keep balanced budget legislation and lower property taxes.

**Require more information?
Contact Today's NDP**

☒ Back to 5 Good Reasons

Back