

Prairie Manifesto Project

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Province: ☐ Alberta ☒ Saskatchewan ☐ Manitoba

Party: SKP Election Year: 2003

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: _____

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Date Collected: 2006 / 10 / 06
YYYY MM DD

Source: UofR-LIB — pamphlets

AS = 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

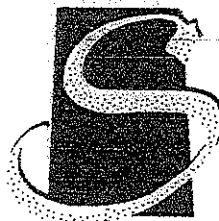
Elections - Saskatchewan (2003)



Contents

The Saskatchewan Party Plan.....	2
Lower Taxes for Saskatchewan Families	4
Reducing the Property Tax Burden... ..	5
Keeping Young People in Saskatchewan.....	6
Lower Taxes on Business Growth and Productivity	7
Rebuilding Saskatchewan's Infrastructure	8
Building a Sustainable and Profitable Agriculture Industry.....	9
Stopping the NDP Attack on Seniors	10
WorkFirst - Welfare Reform that Gets People Back to Work	10
Cracking Down on Crime.....	11
Growing Saskatchewan With Quality Health Care	12
Investing in World-Class Education ..	13
Refocusing Saskatchewan's Crown Corporations.....	14
Enterprise Saskatchewan: Marketing Saskatchewan to the World	14
Building on Saskatchewan's Natural Economic Advantages	15
Building Partnerships to Grow Saskatchewan.....	16
A Return to Accountable Government.....	18
A Return to Balanced Budgets	19
The NDP Record	20
The Saskatchewan Party Team.....	22
A Message from Saskatchewan Party Leader Elwin Hermanson.....	24

Let's Get Saskatchewan Growing



**SASKATCHEWAN
PARTY**

The Saskatchewan Party Plan

It's Time for a Change

www.saskparty.com



The Saskatchewan Party Plan: Grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 People in Ten Years



- ✓ Establish the lowest income tax rates in Canada for graduating post-secondary students by offering an annual \$7,000 tax deduction for up to four years after graduation;
- ✓ Reduce personal income taxes for everyone and remove thousands of lower-income families and seniors from the tax rolls altogether;
- ✓ Make Saskatchewan a Small Business Tax-Free Zone by eliminating the small business tax – a first in Canada;
- ✓ Reduce property taxes by making the education portion of property tax fully deductible against income – another first in Canada;
- ✓ Reduce the education property tax on agricultural land by 15%;
- ✓ Cut the corporate capital tax in half to encourage new private sector investment in Saskatchewan's economy and create jobs;
- ✓ Increase post-secondary education operating funding by 5% every year for the next four years;
- ✓ Build a new integrated Health Sciences Facility at the University of Saskatchewan to attract and retain doctors, nurses and other health care providers;
- ✓ Introduce a Health Care Bill of Rights and Responsibilities;
- ✓ Improve and strengthen the provincial emergency medical response system including the establishment of an air ambulance helicopter service to speed up emergency response times outside our major cities;
- ✓ Increase provincial funding to municipalities by \$80 million over four years to keep property taxes as low as possible and renew municipal infrastructure;
- ✓ Work with the federal government and producers to implement a stable long-term agricultural safety net program;
- ✓ Commit \$1.2 billion over 4 years to rebuild a safe and effective highway system;
- ✓ Establish strict discipline boot camps for chronic repeat young offenders who steal cars and break into homes;
- ✓ Fulfill the NDP's broken promise to hire 200 new police officers to make our communities safer;
- ✓ Implement WorkFirst to move fully employable welfare recipients from welfare to work;
- ✓ Focus Crown Corporations on providing power, natural gas, telecommunications and insurance services in Saskatchewan at the lowest possible cost to consumers;
- ✓ Stop Crown Corporations from competing against existing Saskatchewan businesses;
- ✓ Stop Crown Corporations from gambling and losing millions of taxpayers' dollars on bad business investments outside Saskatchewan;
- ✓ Introduce balanced labour legislation that respects and protects the rights of workers and employers;
- ✓ Stop waste and mismanagement of taxpayers' dollars by conducting a comprehensive review of all government departments, agencies and Crown Corporations;
- ✓ Introduce strong balanced budget legislation to stop the NDP's cycle of three straight deficit budgets;
- ✓ Implement honest budgeting practices that show a complete picture of the province's finances as recommended by the Provincial Auditor; and
- ✓ Establish "*Enterprise Saskatchewan*" to aggressively market Saskatchewan to the world and focus the government on growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.

Our Grow Saskatchewan Plan will:

- ✓ Build partnerships with businesses, working people, First Nations and local governments focused on growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years;
- ✓ Lower income taxes for every family in Saskatchewan;
- ✓ Make Saskatchewan the best place in Canada to start your career by offering an annual \$7,000 tax deduction to graduating post-secondary students for up to four years after graduation;
- ✓ Make Saskatchewan the first Small Business Tax-Free Zone in Canada to stimulate new job creation;
- ✓ Cut the corporate capital tax in half to stimulate new investment, reward business growth and increase productivity;
- ✓ Reduce the education property tax burden by becoming the first province in Canada to make the education portion of property tax on your primary residence deductible from your provincial income tax;
- ✓ Reduce education property tax on agricultural land by 15%;
- ✓ Establish "*Enterprise Saskatchewan*" to ensure all parts of government are focused on growing Saskatchewan and to market Saskatchewan around the world as a great place to invest, start a business and create jobs;
- ✓ Restore high quality, accessible and reliable publicly-funded health care services for everyone in Saskatchewan;
- ✓ Increase post-secondary education funding to provide lifelong learning opportunities within a world-class education system;
- ✓ Implement a 10-point plan designed to double the value of agriculture and agri-business production in Saskatchewan over ten years;
- ✓ Eliminate government waste, duplication and mismanagement by performing a comprehensive Government Efficiency Review to ensure all parts of government are focused on growing Saskatchewan and using tax dollars in the most efficient way possible;
- ✓ Establish fair and balanced labour laws that respect the rights of workers while encouraging businesses to invest and create new jobs in Saskatchewan;
- ✓ Stop Crown Corporations from competing directly against existing Saskatchewan businesses and focus the Crowns on their core business of providing power, natural gas, telecommunications and insurance services in Saskatchewan; and
- ✓ Invest \$1.2 billion over four years to rebuild, maintain and manage a reliable and safe transportation system that fosters economic growth in all parts of Saskatchewan.



The Saskatchewan Party has a common sense plan that will:

- ✓ attract more people, more jobs and more investment into Saskatchewan;
- ✓ generate the tax dollars our province needs to restore high quality, accessible health services and provide world-class educational opportunities;
- ✓ ensure our province has the resources we need to invest in safe drinking water, effective law enforcement and well-maintained streets and roads;
- ✓ return the province to balanced budgets;
- ✓ focus the government on providing excellent public services in Saskatchewan; and
- ✓ ***Grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 People in Ten Years.***



***It's Time to Get
Saskatchewan Growing***

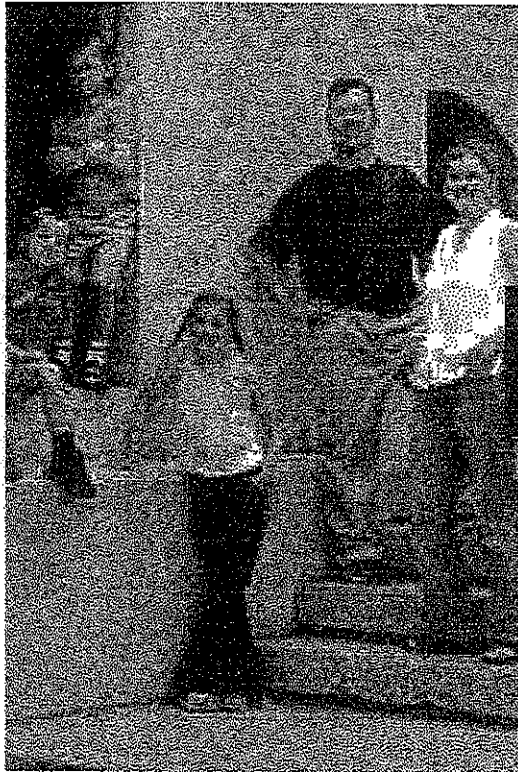
Vote for Elwin Hermanson and the Saskatchewan Party



Lower Income Taxes for Saskatchewan Families

A competitive tax structure that puts more of your money back in your pocket and rewards entrepreneurial private sector business investment is the foundation of a growing economy.

That's why lower taxes form the foundation of the Saskatchewan Party plan to grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.



A Saskatchewan Party government will close the gap and cut taxes for everyone in Saskatchewan by:

- Increasing the basic personal exemption from \$8,000 to \$10,000 over four years; and
- Increasing the child tax credit from \$2,500 to \$3,000.

When our Grow Saskatchewan plan is fully implemented, a family of four in Saskatchewan won't start paying provincial income tax until family income reaches \$26,000.

As a result, every person in Saskatchewan who pays provincial income tax now will pay lower taxes. And thousands of lower income families will be removed from the tax rolls and therefore won't pay any provincial income tax at all.

The result will be:

- Lower taxes for everyone;
- More money in your pocket; and
- Competitive income tax rates that help grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years.

After 12 years of NDP government, Saskatchewan families pay too much tax. A Saskatchewan Party government will lower personal income taxes for everyone in Saskatchewan.

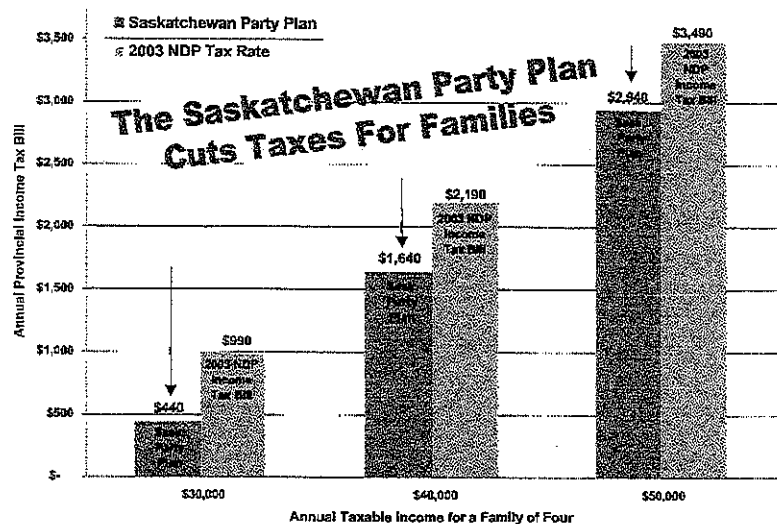
After 12 years of NDP government, Saskatchewan families pay too much tax and low income families pay the highest taxes in Canada.

A family of four in Saskatchewan starts to pay provincial income tax when family income reaches \$21,000.

The same family in Alberta doesn't start paying provincial income tax until family income reaches \$34,500.

That's a huge difference and it's a major barrier to growing Saskatchewan.

Lower Income Taxes For Saskatchewan Families





Reducing the Property Tax Burden

Under the NDP, Saskatchewan people face some of the highest property taxes in Canada. That's a major barrier to growing Saskatchewan.

A Saskatchewan Party government will cut the education portion of property taxes by:

- 1. Making education property taxes on primary residences fully deductible against provincial income for tax purposes – a first in Canada.***

Under the Saskatchewan Party plan, homeowners will receive a provincial income tax reduction of as much as \$150 for every \$1,000 of education property tax they pay.

- 2. Cutting education property tax on agricultural land by 15 percent.***

Under the Saskatchewan Party plan, owners of agricultural land will have their education property tax bill cut by 15 percent at the time the property tax bill is paid.

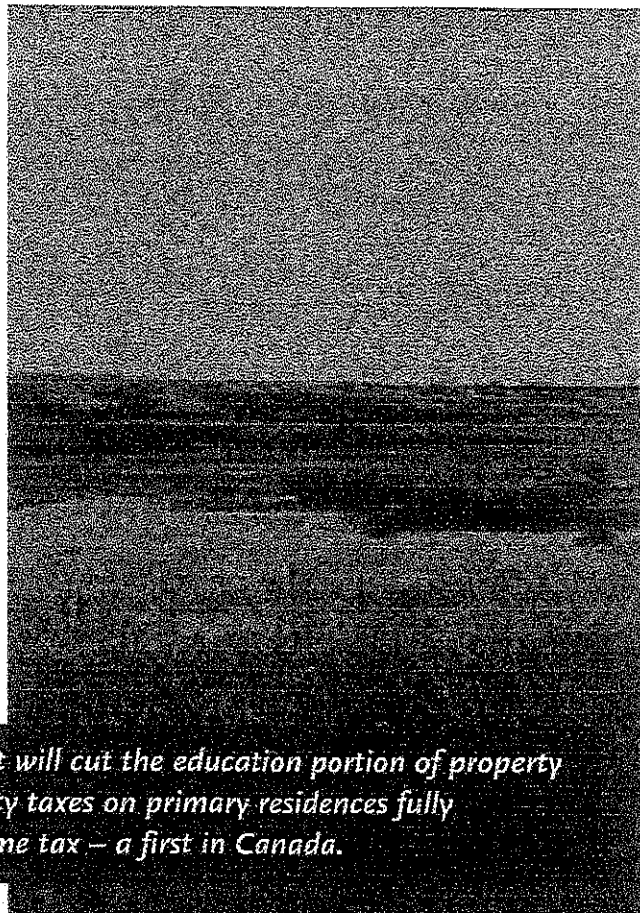
Lower property taxes make Saskatchewan communities more competitive in attracting new people because homeowners and farm families will keep more of their hard earned money.

Lowering property tax for agricultural land improves the bottom line of farm families and increases the value of farmland.

Together, these two education property tax cuts will play an important role in achieving the Saskatchewan Party's goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.



A Saskatchewan Party government will cut the education portion of property taxes by making education property taxes on primary residences fully deductible against provincial income tax – a first in Canada.





Keeping Young People in Saskatchewan



Post-secondary graduates who stay in Saskatchewan will receive a \$7,000 income tax deduction for up to four years.

The Saskatchewan Party Plan:

Graduating post-secondary students will receive a provincial income tax cut of between \$770 and \$1,050 per year for up to four years after graduation.

That's in addition to the \$10,000 basic personal exemption that every person in Saskatchewan will receive under our provincial income tax reduction plan.

When fully implemented, post-secondary graduates who choose to work and live in Saskatchewan will pay no provincial income tax on their first \$17,000 of income for four years. That's more than double the \$8,000 exemption that the NDP has in place today.

Under the Saskatchewan Party plan, graduating post-secondary students who choose to live and work in Saskatchewan will pay the lowest income tax rates in Canada!

A married couple that chooses to work and live in Saskatchewan will pay no income tax on the first \$34,000 of family income for up to four years after graduation.

The Saskatchewan Party is serious about growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.

Creating new jobs and establishing the lowest income tax rates in Canada for graduating post-secondary students will encourage more young people to work and live in Saskatchewan.

It's part of our plan to get Saskatchewan growing!

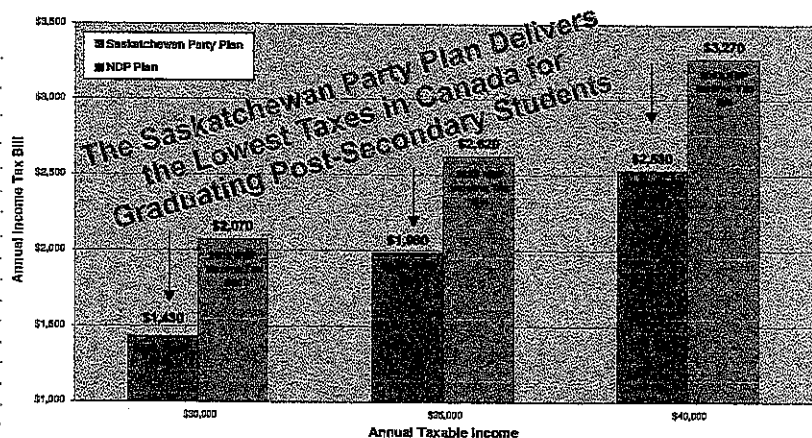
Too many young people are leaving Saskatchewan. A Saskatchewan Party government will give them a reason to stay.

The Saskatchewan Party's Grow Saskatchewan Plan is designed to stimulate the creation of thousands of new jobs for young people here in Saskatchewan.

But we also need a competitive tax system that gives young people an incentive to work and live in Saskatchewan.

That's why a Saskatchewan Party government will establish the lowest income tax rates in Canada for graduating post-secondary students.

Under our Grow Saskatchewan Plan, graduating post-secondary students who choose to work and live in Saskatchewan will be eligible for a \$7,000 annual income tax deduction every year for a maximum of four years after graduation.





Lower Taxes on Business Growth and Productivity



The evidence is overwhelming. The most successful economies in Canada and around the world share one fundamental characteristic – lower taxes on the growth and productivity of small businesses. Small businesses create most of the new jobs in Canada – jobs that will contribute to the Saskatchewan Party's goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years.

A Saskatchewan Party government will take aggressive action to stimulate small business growth by:

1. Making Saskatchewan the first Small Business Tax-Free Zone in Canada by eliminating the Small Business Tax; and

The NDP Record

VS

The Saskatchewan Party Plan

SMALL BUSINESS TAX BILL

TAXABLE SMALL BUSINESS INCOME	SASKATCHEWAN PARTY PLAN	NDP PLAN
\$50,000	\$0	\$2,500
\$100,000	\$0	\$5,000
\$200,000	\$0	\$10,000
\$300,000	\$0	\$15,000

2. Cutting the corporate capital tax on investment in half to encourage new private sector business investment and new job creation.

Making Saskatchewan a Small Business Tax-Free Zone and removing the barriers to private sector capital investment will make Saskatchewan the best place in Canada to start or grow a business. Our Grow Saskatchewan Plan will set the stage for small businesses to create new jobs and new opportunities for people to live and work in Saskatchewan.



A Saskatchewan Party government will take aggressive action to stimulate small business growth by making Saskatchewan the first Small Business Tax-Free Zone in Canada.

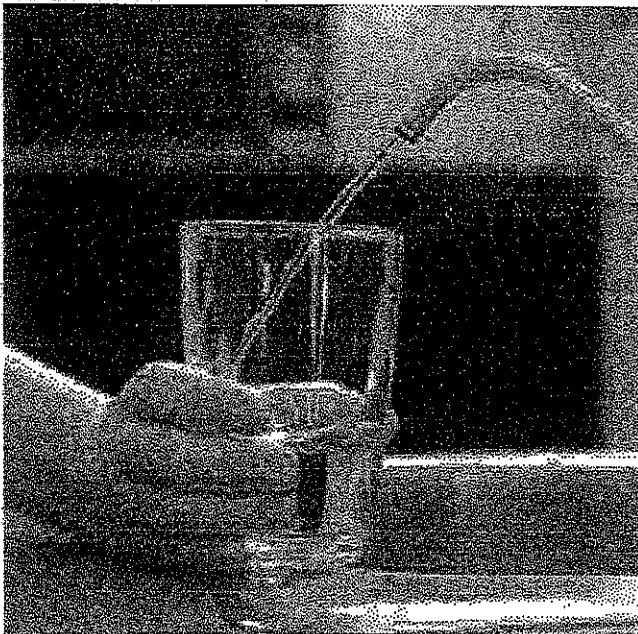


Rebuilding Saskatchewan's Infrastructure

Investing in Our Communities

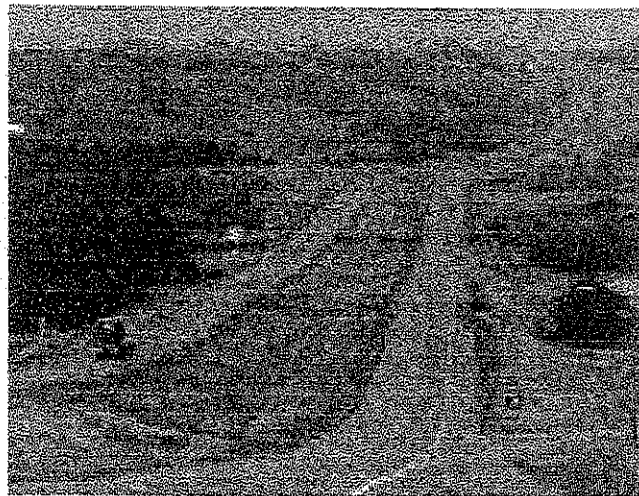
Municipal governments are telling us they need the autonomy, legislative authority and financial ability to make decisions and provide services based on local priorities rather than being told what to do by the provincial government.

Municipal infrastructure is the economic base of the province and the foundation of every community. Growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years will require high quality municipal services, vibrant communities, strong local infrastructure and competitive property taxes.



A Saskatchewan Party government will invest in communities by:

- increasing provincial government funding to municipalities by \$80 million over 4 years to enable local governments to provide high quality services while keeping property taxes as low as possible;
- working with all municipalities to provide more local control over the provision of local services; and
- negotiating a new Municipal Revenue Sharing Agreement between municipalities and the province based on provincial own source revenues and the municipality's ability to raise local property tax revenue.



Restoring a World-Class Transportation System

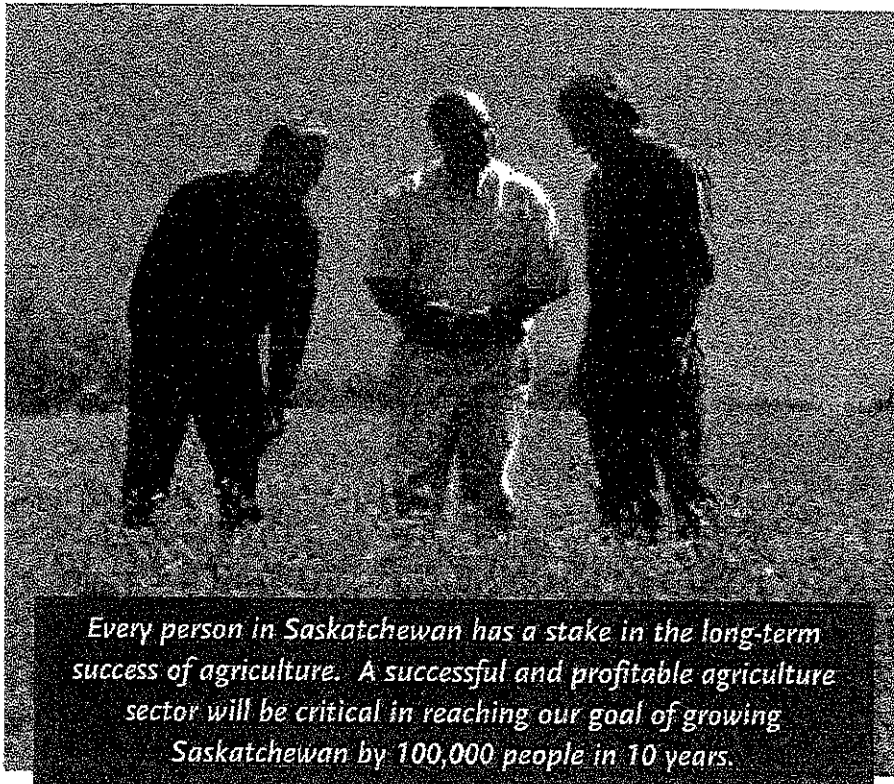
A safe and reliable transportation system is one of the most fundamental building blocks of a growing economy. For most of the past 12 years, the NDP has ignored the critical need for a long-term transportation strategy and failed to make the investment necessary to build and preserve a world-class highway network.

A Saskatchewan Party government will restore Saskatchewan's highway and transportation system by:

- committing \$1.2 billion over four years for highway and road construction and maintenance;
- completing a comprehensive evaluation of every highway in Saskatchewan to determine its role in achieving our goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years;
- releasing a four-year plan clearly showing the government's road construction and maintenance program;
- developing a strategy to encourage the sustainable development of the short line rail industry to assist in meeting the transportation challenge in rural Saskatchewan;
- working with the Saskatoon and Regina Airport Authorities to promote investment and economic growth by enhancing air service to and from Saskatchewan; and
- promoting new highway construction technology designed to meet the demands of Saskatchewan's climate and large scale truck traffic.



Building a Sustainable and Profitable Agriculture Industry



Every person in Saskatchewan has a stake in the long-term success of agriculture. A successful and profitable agriculture sector will be critical in reaching our goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years.

Agriculture is the most important industry in Saskatchewan. But it has been hard hit in recent years by drought, low commodity prices, dramatic increases in U.S. farm subsidies and now the closure of the American border to most Canadian beef exports.

As a result of the lack of leadership by the NDP, our agriculture industry has struggled and our rural communities have paid the price.

The NDP Record:

- ✗ During last year's devastating drought the NDP dramatically increased crop insurance premiums and eliminated spot-loss hail coverage.
- ✗ This year the NDP again raised crop insurance premiums by an average of 52%.
- ✗ The NDP has failed to negotiate a new long-term safety net program with the federal government.
- ✗ The NDP has stumbled through the BSE crisis with no plan for supporting the livestock industry.
- ✗ The NDP has no long-term agriculture strategy and no vision for the future of agriculture in Saskatchewan.

A Saskatchewan Party government will implement a 10-point plan to double the value of agriculture and agri-business production in Saskatchewan over ten years by:

- Enhancing the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Program and working to negotiate a sustainable long-term safety net program with the federal government and producers;
- Reducing education property tax on agricultural land by 15% and increasing the provincial government's share of K-12 education costs to 50% of total costs;
- Establishing a \$300 per head low interest cash advance to address the serious cash flow problems facing producers due to the BSE crisis;
- Eliminating the Small Business Tax for all businesses including farm businesses;
- Cutting the corporate capital tax by 50% to encourage new investment in the agriculture industry;
- Negotiating the right for producers to have a choice in marketing grain production through the Canadian Wheat Board, in the open market or for use in local value-added enterprises;
- Investing in new water and irrigation infrastructure to promote more value-added and intensive production in Saskatchewan;
- Ensuring government regulations facilitate the flexibility to develop value-added niche market products;
- Removing bureaucratic barriers to value-added private sector investment in the agriculture industry; and
- Establishing provincial Centres of Excellence to promote and facilitate innovation and research in development of value-added processing in Saskatchewan.



Stopping the NDP Attack on Seniors



After a decade of NDP government, Saskatchewan seniors are under attack:

- ✗ Saskatchewan seniors pay some of the highest property taxes in Canada because the NDP has slashed grants to our cities and towns;
- ✗ Under the NDP, Saskatchewan's low-income seniors pay the highest personal income tax rates in Canada;
- ✗ In the 2002 provincial budget, the NDP attempted to increase long term care fees for seniors by as much as 135%;
- ✗ Saskatchewan has the highest violent crime and property crime rates in Canada;
- ✗ Seniors continue to endure the heartache of watching their children and grandchildren leave Saskatchewan because the NDP has done nothing to address the worst population loss record in Canada; and
- ✗ Saskatchewan seniors suffer on the longest hospital waiting lists in Canada.

A Saskatchewan Party government will stop the NDP attack on seniors by:

- Reducing income taxes for seniors and removing thousands of seniors from the income tax rolls;
- Cutting education property taxes for seniors who live in their own homes;
- Increasing funding to municipalities by \$80 million over four years to help prevent property tax increases;
- Stopping the NDP from ever again attempting to impose massive long-term care fee increases;
- Stopping the NDP from increasing utility rates to pay for multi-million dollar business losses in Ontario, Atlanta and Australia;
- Bringing crime rates down by honouring the NDP's broken promise to hire 200 new police officers;
- Recruiting and hiring more doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals to improve frontline patient services and reduce waiting lists; and
- Growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years so more of their children and grandchildren can remain in Saskatchewan.



WorkFirst — Welfare Reform that Gets People Back to Work

The Saskatchewan Party believes in the dignity of work and in the goal of moving fully-employable welfare recipients from welfare to work.

Our Grow Saskatchewan plan will stimulate new job growth. New jobs are the key to moving fully employable welfare recipients from welfare to work.

The Saskatchewan Party's WorkFirst Plan will:

- Require fully employable welfare recipients to work in order to qualify for welfare benefits;
- Shift the goal of welfare offices across Saskatchewan from paying cash assistance to facilitating the transition of fully employable welfare recipients from welfare to work quickly; and
- Reduce the number of fully-employable welfare recipients by 25 percent over four years.



Cracking Down on Crime

In 1999, the NDP promised to hire 200 new police officers. They broke that promise.

Meanwhile, Saskatchewan has remained the crime capital of Canada. After 12 years of NDP government, Saskatchewan has the highest violent crime rate in Canada, the highest property crime rate in Canada and one of the highest car theft rates in North America.

Saskatchewan people deserve to live in safe neighbourhoods and safe communities.

Boot Camps for Repeat Young Offenders

Repeat young offenders need to learn respect for themselves, for others and for other people's property. A Saskatchewan Party government will establish Strict Discipline Young Offenders Camps, sometimes known as boot camps, for chronic young offenders involved in property crimes and car thefts.

More Police Officers on the Streets

A Saskatchewan Party government will fulfill the NDP's broken 1999 election promise to hire 200 new police officers.

Protecting Children from Sexual Predators

A Saskatchewan Party government will pass tough new laws to protect children from sexual predators by fining pimps and johns a maximum of \$25,000 and sending them to jail for a minimum of six months on the first conviction.

Compensating Victims of Crime

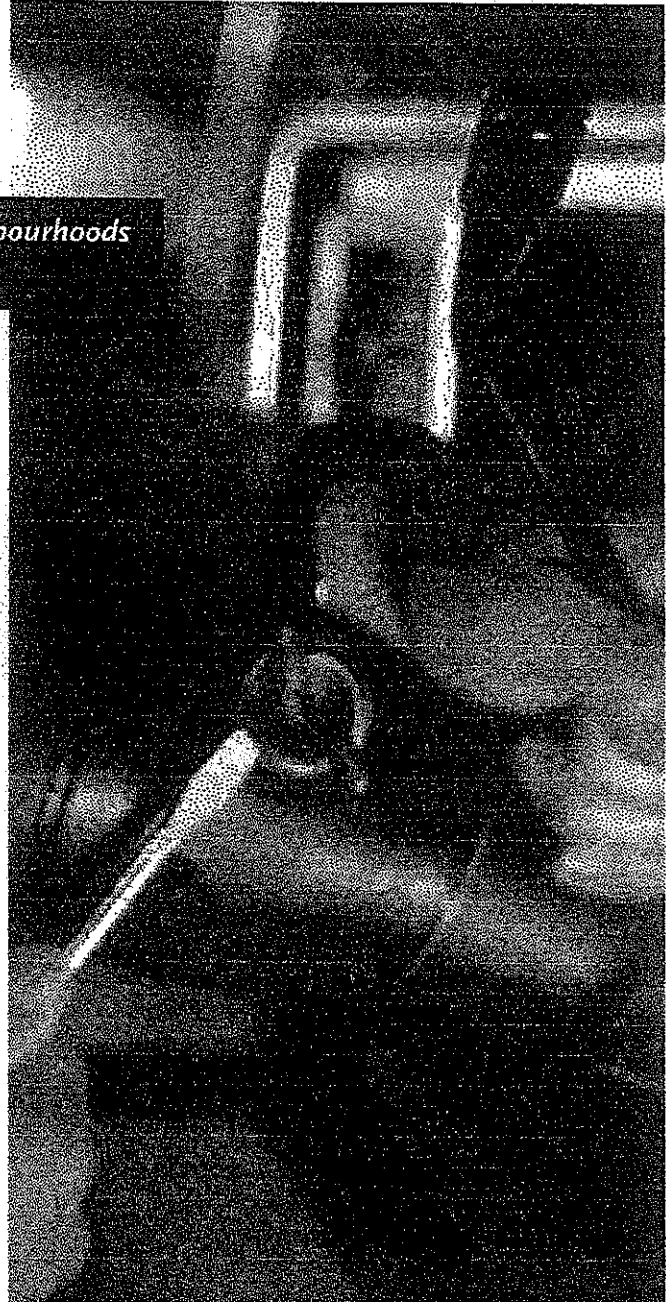
In 2002, the NDP drained \$750,000 out of the Victims of Crime Compensation Fund. This money comes from a surcharge on court-imposed fines and was supposed to be used to compensate victims of crime.

A Saskatchewan Party government will ensure that all funds raised for the Victims of Crime Fund are paid out to victims of crime and not taken by the government.

Justice System Reform

Saskatchewan's courts are clogged with expensive and often bitter property, marital and child custody disputes.

A Saskatchewan Party government will encourage the expanded use of out-of-court mediation services to reduce the cost and the time required to settle many legal and family disputes.





Growing Saskatchewan With Quality Health Care

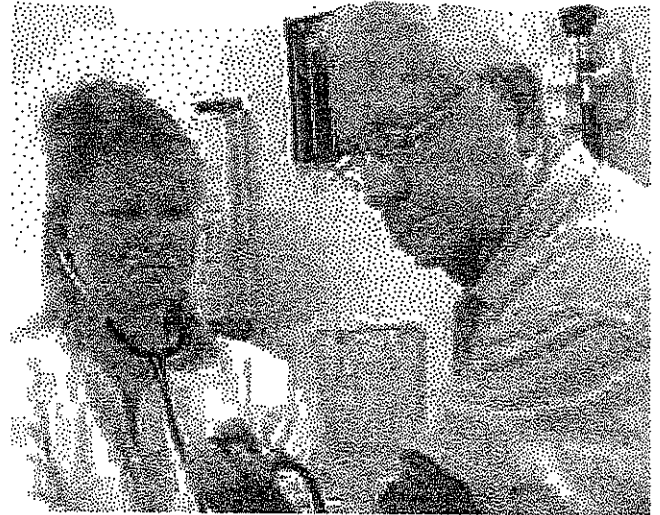
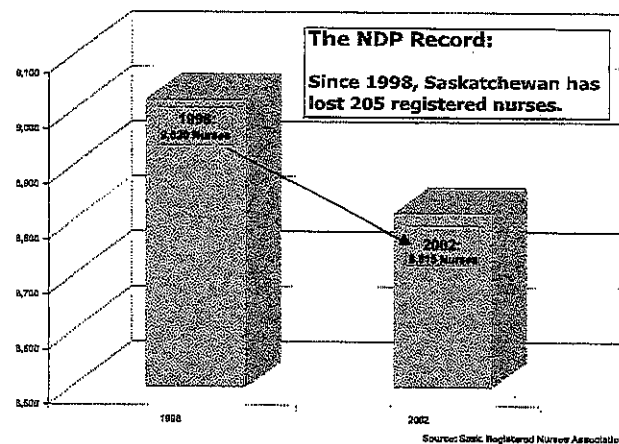
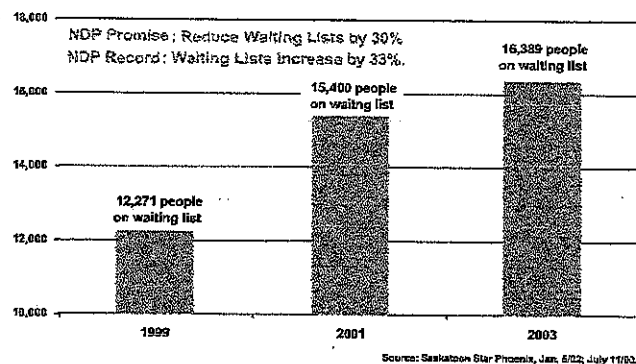
Our Grow Saskatchewan Plan will re-establish Saskatchewan as a leader in providing excellent, accessible, publicly-funded health care in accordance with *The Canada Health Act*.

In 1999, the NDP promised to reduce surgical waiting lists by 30 percent and hire 500 new health care providers. Instead, waiting lists have increased by 30 percent and Saskatchewan has lost more than 200 nurses.

The Saskatchewan Party believes that all Saskatchewan residents should have access to quality and timely publicly funded health care. That's why health care will be a priority for a Saskatchewan Party government.

We need to reduce our surgical wait times, improve front-line patient care and focus on advanced medical research.

Surgical Waiting List in Saskatoon 1999 - 2003

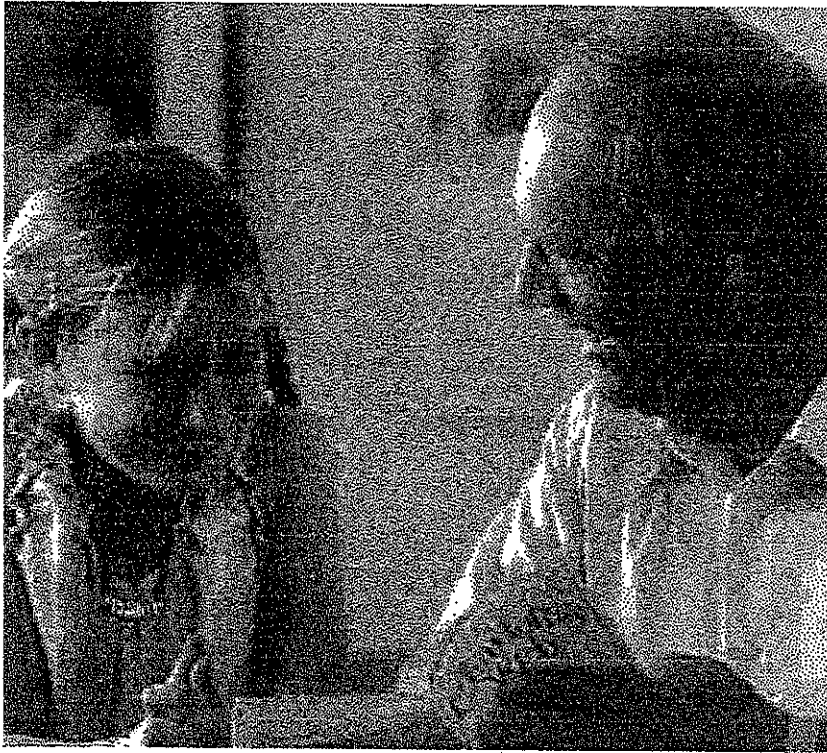


A Saskatchewan Party government will:

- Invest \$100 million to build a new state-of-the-art integrated health science facility at the University of Saskatchewan to help attract and retain doctors, nurses and other health care providers;
- Add 240 new nurse training seats and increase the overall number of training seats to address the growing shortage of health care professionals;
- Implement an aggressive recruitment and retention program to attract and keep doctors, nurses and other health care professionals;
- Increase the provincial share of health care capital construction projects to 85% (from its current level of 65%) to ensure health facilities are built or upgraded based on need instead of local financing capability;
- Improve the provincial emergency medical response system in Saskatchewan including the introduction of a centralized air ambulance helicopter service to speed emergency medical response times and provide professional trauma service in rural Saskatchewan;
- Establish a Health Care Bill of Rights and a permanent Health Care Commissioner to clearly define the relationship between the health care system and the people of Saskatchewan;
- Build strategic alliances with centres of excellence in Canada and with world-class centres like the Mayo Clinic for specialty diagnostic and treatment services;
- Create an Institute for Research and Treatment of Diabetes and Nephrology that is fully accessible by aboriginal people; and
- Support the creation of a dedicated light beam for advanced medical research at the Canadian Light Source in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan.



Investing in World-Class Education



K-12 Education

A Saskatchewan Party government will:

- Stabilize K-12 school enrollments and keep teachers in Saskatchewan as our population grows by 100,000 people in ten years;
- Increase the provincial government's share of funding to K-12 education from its current level of about 40% up to 50% within our first term;
- Cut the education portion of property tax by allowing it to be deducted from taxable income for provincial income tax (See page 5 for details);
- Cut the education portion of property tax on agricultural land by 15% (See page 5 for details);
- Implement the School Plus concept in all school divisions and promote strong community and parental choice in the planning, decision-making and delivery of K-12 education;
- Encourage multi-use educational facilities to make more efficient use of each tax dollar;
- Strengthen the provincial network of schools, regional colleges, technical institutes and universities and expand on-line K-12 education programming to expand education options in remote and less populated areas; and
- Integrate provincial and K-12 library systems through multi-use facilities and shared resources to cost-effectively increase public access and the quality of library services across Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Party plan to grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years means more students and a growing tax base that will enable the province to invest in education while keeping tax rates low.

Growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people will create the opportunity to invest in the renewal of educational facilities, develop a comprehensive province-wide distance education system, ensure students have access to the post-secondary educational opportunities they need to work in the new knowledge-based economy and restore a secure future for Saskatchewan teachers.

Post Secondary Education

A Saskatchewan Party government will:

- Increase operating funding to Saskatchewan's universities, SIAST and regional colleges by 5% per year over four years;
- Invest \$100 million in a new Health Sciences Facility at the University of Saskatchewan to provide state-of-the-art medical research opportunities and more training spots for much-needed doctors, nurses and other health care professionals;
- Offer graduating post-secondary students who choose to live and work in Saskatchewan the lowest income taxes in Canada by cutting their provincial income taxes by up to \$1,050 per year for up to four years after graduation (See page 6 for more info);
- Remodel the Saskatchewan Student Loan Program to ensure the children of middle-income families have access to student loans;
- Expand on-line university and college course programming to facilitate more post-secondary learning opportunities close to the student's home community and to increase the post-secondary options available to full-time workers and students with disabilities;
- Work with business, industry and labour to share the costs of post-secondary and skills-training programs and to ensure graduating students are equipped to work in the new knowledge-based economy; and
- Link educational institutions with private sector employers to ensure graduating students have the skill set necessary to work successfully in the new knowledge-based economy.



Refocusing Saskatchewan's Crown Corporations

Saskatchewan's Crown Corporations have made a tremendous contribution to the development of Saskatchewan.

But the NDP government has expanded our major Crown Corporations far beyond their core businesses of providing power, natural gas, telecommunications and insurance services in Saskatchewan.

Under the NDP, Crown Corporations have gambled and lost millions of taxpayers' dollars investing in dozens of risky business ventures. And the NDP has lost millions more buying other businesses that compete directly against existing businesses here in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan taxpayers don't need their government spending millions to buy money-losing dotcoms in Atlanta and Nashville. We don't need our government losing millions on movie companies, potato farms and stock market gambles.

A Saskatchewan Party government will:

- Focus SaskPower, SaskTel, SaskEnergy and SGI on the goal of growing Saskatchewan by providing high quality utility services in Saskatchewan at the lowest possible price;
- Evaluate the structure, mandate and role of our four major Crown Corporations (SaskPower, SaskTel, SaskEnergy and SGI) in achieving the goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people over ten years. The Saskatchewan Party has no plan to sell the four major Crowns;
- Stop SaskPower, SaskTel and SaskEnergy from competing against existing Saskatchewan businesses in areas outside their core utility functions;
- End the NDP practice of using Crown Corporations to make high-risk business investments that lose millions of taxpayers' dollars by placing a moratorium on all government investments outside Saskatchewan;
- Divest non-core crown investments such as shares in meat packing plants, hog barns, movie companies and potato businesses with all proceeds used to pay down the provincial debt;
- Ensure non-core Saskatchewan based investments that provide a valuable service to Saskatchewan people such as the Saskatchewan Transportation Corporation (STC) are only divested if and when a private sector business is prepared to continue providing the service;
- Ensure that Saskatchewan continues to have a publicly-administered, government-owned basic auto insurance program; and
- Oppose any further deregulation of the market for electricity that has caused major electricity rate hikes and power shortages in other jurisdictions.

These eight steps will lay the foundation for the growth of our major utility businesses through service to Saskatchewan people in Saskatchewan as our province grows by 100,000 people in ten years.

A Saskatchewan Party government will focus SaskPower, SaskTel, SaskEnergy and SGI on the goal of growing Saskatchewan by providing high quality utility services at the lowest possible price.



Enterprise Saskatchewan: Marketing Saskatchewan to the World

The Saskatchewan Party's Grow Saskatchewan Plan will:

- deliver lower and more competitive income tax rates;
- create the first small Business Tax-Free Zone in Canada;
- introduce major reductions in taxes on business growth and productivity;
- cut education property taxes;
- establish fair and balanced labour laws;
- focus our major crown corporations on their core services in Saskatchewan; and
- deliver smarter, more efficient government.

In short, Saskatchewan will become the best place in Canada to start or grow a business. But we will need to tell the world about the advantages of doing business in Saskatchewan. And businesses need new capital investment to grow and create new jobs. Businesses need new markets for their products. And Saskatchewan needs a government focused on growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.

A Saskatchewan Party government will establish Enterprise Saskatchewan as a new agency in partnership with Saskatchewan business leaders to:

- Ensure all parts of government stay focused on growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years;
- Work with Saskatchewan businesses to market our province around the world as a great place to live, invest and create new jobs;
- Drive the provincial government's economic development strategy;
- Manage the government's existing portfolio of more than 80 business investments; and
- Provide one-stop service for businesses and investors who are interested in starting a new business in Saskatchewan or expanding an existing business.



Building on Saskatchewan's Natural Economic Advantages



Saskatchewan is a province of huge and largely unrealized potential.

We have an abundance of natural resources. We have quick and close access to the largest markets in the world.

Saskatchewan people are well educated, hard working, productive and innovative.

Yet much of our potential has gone unfulfilled because of the failing economic policies of the NDP government.

The Saskatchewan Party plan will begin to fulfill our province's tremendous potential by creating a positive climate for growth and opportunity.

Our plan will create a strong partnership between people, industries, organizations and local governments across Saskatchewan focused on a common and important goal: Growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years.

A Saskatchewan Party government will focus economic expansion in nine specific areas where Saskatchewan already has - or could have - a natural competitive advantage:

- information technology, biotechnology and synchrotron science;
- research and development;
- oil and natural gas development;
- energy production;
- intensive and value-added agriculture;
- eco and cultural tourism;
- advanced education;
- forestry; and
- mining.

By capitalizing on our strengths to grow and diversify our economy, we will grow the tax base from which to invest in renewed community infrastructure, protect our environment, provide clean and safe drinking water, quality highways, world-class health care and top notch education.

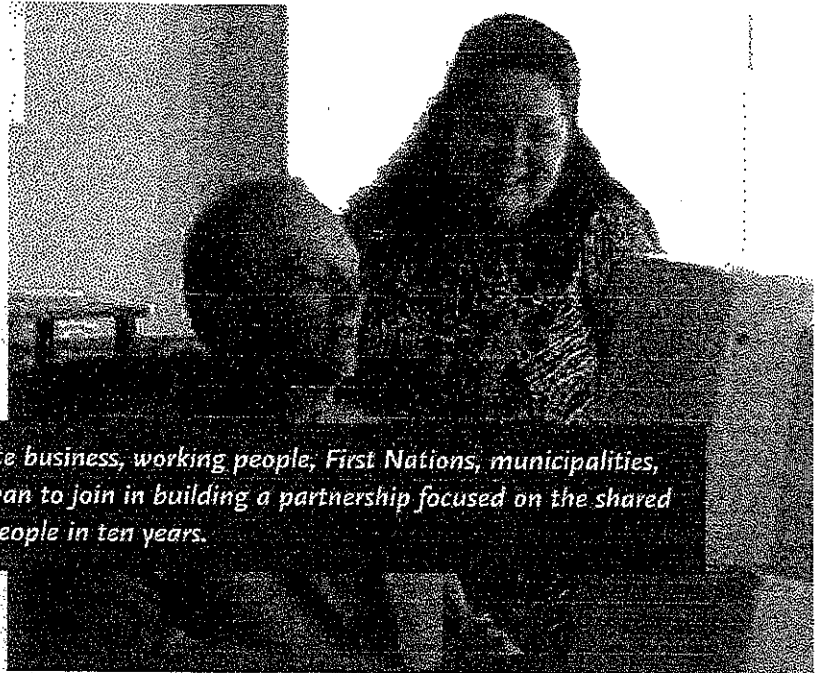


Building Partnerships to Grow Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan was built by generations of people who agreed to cooperate and work in partnership to overcome major challenges and grow our province.

But under the NDP, Saskatchewan people have been pitted against one another: urban against rural; business against labour; school divisions against municipalities; community against community.

A Saskatchewan Party government will invite business, working people, First Nations, municipalities, school divisions and everyone in Saskatchewan to join in building a partnership focused on the shared goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.



A Saskatchewan Party government will invite business, working people, First Nations, municipalities, school divisions and everyone in Saskatchewan to join in building a partnership focused on the shared goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.

Building a Partnership with Municipalities

Urban, rural and northern municipalities will play a key role in growing Saskatchewan. Partnerships between the provincial government and municipalities provide much of the local infrastructure upon which the economic base of our province is built.

A Saskatchewan Party government will strengthen that partnership with municipalities by:

- Increasing provincial government funding to municipalities by \$80 million over 4 years to enable local governments to provide high quality services while keeping property taxes as low as possible;
- Working with all municipalities to provide more local control over the provision of local services; and
- Negotiating a new Municipal Revenue Sharing Agreement between municipalities and the province based on provincial own-source revenues and the municipality's ability to raise local property tax revenue.

Building a Partnership with First Nations

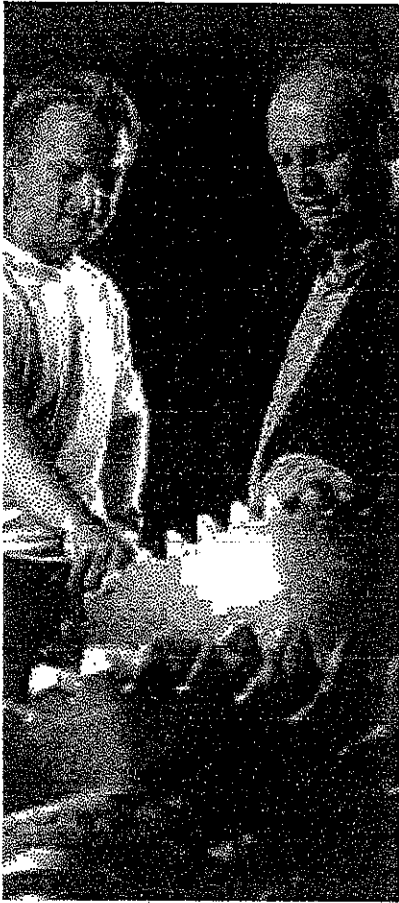
Saskatchewan's success over the next decade hinges on the success of our rapidly growing First Nations population. First Nations people and businesses must be full partners in the growth and governance of Saskatchewan with equal opportunities, rights and responsibilities.

A Saskatchewan Party government will build a partnership with First Nations based on:

- Recognition that treaty rights must be respected and honoured by the federal government within the context of the economic, social and political climate of the 21st century;
- Support for the principle of responsible aboriginal self-government where self-government is defined as community or local government that is democratic and fully accountable;
- First Nations as full partners, investors and owners in the economic development of Saskatchewan; and
- Support for First Nations/private sector partnerships in major projects including:
 - value-added expansion of our rich uranium resources;
 - participation in infrastructure development including the financing and construction of local infrastructure, highways, pipelines and electrical transmission assets; and
 - new opportunities for value-added growth of our forestry, agriculture and tourism industries.



Building Partnerships to Grow Saskatchewan



Building a Partnership with Labour

All working people, whether they belong to a union or not, will play an important part in achieving the shared goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years.

Working men and women will also be some of the biggest winners as Saskatchewan grows.

Lower taxes and a more business friendly environment will attract new investment and stimulate new job creation.

More jobs in Saskatchewan means more work for everyone including unionized employees.

But, Saskatchewan's current labour laws are creating a major barrier to new private sector investment and job growth in Saskatchewan.

Without new investment capital, businesses can't grow. As a result, Saskatchewan is losing people, jobs and investment to other provinces.

A Saskatchewan Party government will introduce fair and balanced labour laws that respect and protect the rights of workers while removing the current barriers to business growth and investment by:

- Requiring that union certification or de-certification is supported by a majority of employees through a secret ballot vote in every workplace after both the union and management have had the opportunity to publicly communicate their positions to employees;
- Eliminating union preference tendering on all government and Crown Corporation construction contracts to restore competition and lower government construction costs;
- Reviewing the mandate and operation of the Workers' Compensation Board to ensure the WCB is serving injured workers efficiently and effectively while being fully accountable to the employers who pay the bills; and
- Working with representatives from organized labour to adopt a new collaborative approach to collective bargaining that focuses on problem solving and mutual gains for management and employees.

The result will be an economic environment where private sector investment is welcomed and new jobs are created within a framework of fair labour laws, reasonable regulation and democratic workplaces.

A fair and balanced labour environment is a critical part of the foundation upon which Saskatchewan will grow by 100,000 people in ten years.

Building a Partnership with Business

Small businesses create most of the new jobs in Canada. Saskatchewan needs more jobs to achieve our goal of growing by 100,000 people in 10 years.

Small businesses need lower taxes, an investment-friendly environment, less bureaucratic red tape and a government that works with them instead of against them.

That's why a Saskatchewan Party government will make Saskatchewan the best place in Canada to start or grow a business by:

- Making Saskatchewan the first Small Business Tax-Free Zone in Canada;
- Attracting new business investment by cutting the corporate capital tax on investment in half;
- Conducting a full Government Efficiency Review to eliminate government waste and red tape and to ensure government services are provided in the most efficient way possible; and
- Stopping Saskatchewan's Crown Corporations from using taxpayers' money to compete against existing Saskatchewan businesses.

With government operating efficiently and focused on encouraging private sector job growth, small businesses will be the primary engine driving the growth of Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years.

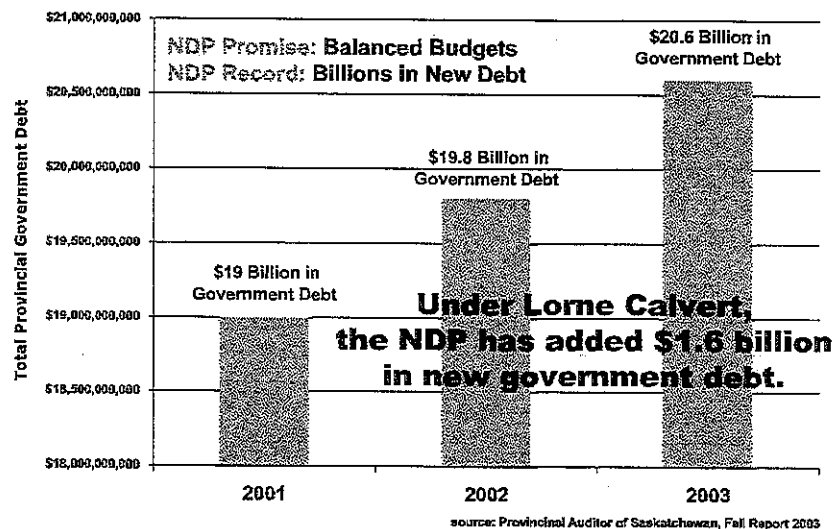


A Return to Accountable Government

Since Lorne Calvert was appointed Premier in 2001, his NDP government has piled up three straight deficit budgets and added more than \$1.6 billion in new provincial debt. Saskatchewan's provincial debt is now higher than it was when the NDP took power in 1991.

A Saskatchewan Party government will return Saskatchewan to balanced budgets and make government fully accountable by:

- introducing strong balanced budget legislation that ends the NDP's budget deficits;
- moving to budgeting based on Summary Financial Statements that present a complete picture of government finances;
- establishing set election dates every four years; and
- implementing free votes in the legislature so that MLAs can represent the views of their constituents rather than simply toeing the party line.



Cutting Waste and Mismanagement in Government

Saskatchewan people don't believe they are getting good value for the tax dollars they are paying every month. It's not hard to understand why. The NDP has gambled and lost millions of dollars on risky foreign business ventures in places like Atlanta and Australia.

Meanwhile, the real funding priorities of health, education and community infrastructure are left to fight over shrinking tax dollars. Families and businesses expect their government to do something about waste and mismanagement.

A Saskatchewan Party government will respond by providing effective and efficient government at the lowest possible cost.

A Saskatchewan Party government will launch a comprehensive Government Efficiency Review of every program, department, board, agency, commission and Crown Corporation based on the following five questions:

- Does it serve a compelling public interest?
- Is it affordable within the fiscal environment of the province?
- Is it being delivered in the most efficient way possible?
- Is it accountable to the taxpayer?
- And, most important - does it contribute to growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in 10 years?

No part of government will be left out of this test and the result will be smarter, more efficient government - government that serves the best interests of the taxpayer in a way that is fully accountable to the taxpayer.



A Return to Balanced Budgets

Step One:

Fixing the NDP Mess and Balancing the Budget

A Saskatchewan Party government is committed to returning Saskatchewan to balanced budgets.

Over the past three years, the Calvert NDP has introduced three straight deficit budgets and added \$1.6 billion in new government debt in Saskatchewan. Worse, the NDP has attempted to masquerade its massive deficits as balanced budgets.

Step Two:

Implementing Our Grow Saskatchewan Plan

The annual cost of the Saskatchewan Party tax reduction plan is \$260 million when fully implemented by the fourth year of our term. The annual cost of the Saskatchewan Party spending measures is \$100 million when fully implemented by the fourth year of our term. These are specific spending measures, on top of other spending increases that will be necessary in priority areas like health and education.

A growing economy will result in a growing tax base and higher revenues for Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Party plan assumes a real economic growth rate of 3.5 per cent per year. This will increase provincial revenues by about \$200 million per year, or \$800 million over four years – allowing a Saskatchewan Party government to return the province to balanced budgets and then fully implement our plan by the fourth year of our term within a balanced budget.

A Saskatchewan Party government is committed to implementing all the measures outlined in this platform within our four-year term of office.

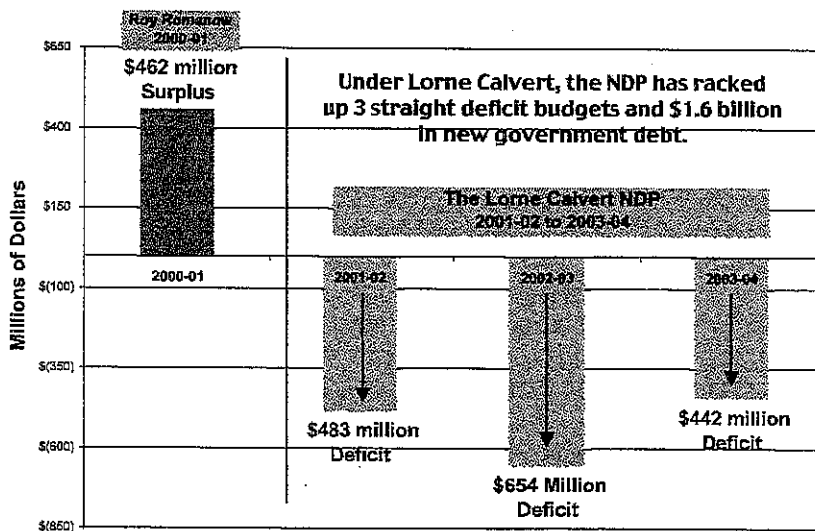
However, we will not implement any new tax cut or spending increase that will result in an increased deficit. That means before we can begin to implement our tax reduction plan and proceed with the new spending measures outlined in this platform, we will have to clean up the NDP's financial mess and return the province to balanced budgets.

A Saskatchewan Party government is committed to presenting a full and accurate picture of the province's finances.

That means, unlike the NDP, we WILL account for all of the revenues and expenditures of government including our Crown Corporations and we WILL NOT use imaginary funds like the NDP's so-called 'fiscal stabilization fund' to try to hide a deficit.

This will be possible through disciplined management of government departments, Crown Corporations focused on growing Saskatchewan and increased government efficiency. For example, last year alone, the NDP lost more than \$90 million on out of province investments in places like Australia, Ontario, Nashville and Atlanta.

A Saskatchewan Party government will end the NDP practice of losing your hard-earned tax dollars in foreign countries and take aggressive action to maximize government efficiency. The Saskatchewan Party is committed to ending the Calvert NDP's practice of running up massive deficits and will return the province to balanced budgets.



The NDP Record

The NDP Record: Job Creation

Since 1999, the NDP has posted the worst job creation record in Canada.

The NDP Record: Population Loss

Under the NDP, Saskatchewan's population has dropped below 1 million people for the first time since 1983.

The NDP Record: Deficits and Debt

Lorne Calvert's NDP government has returned Saskatchewan to the deficit days of the 1980s — three straight deficit budgets and over \$1.6 billion in new government debt.

The NDP Record: Crime

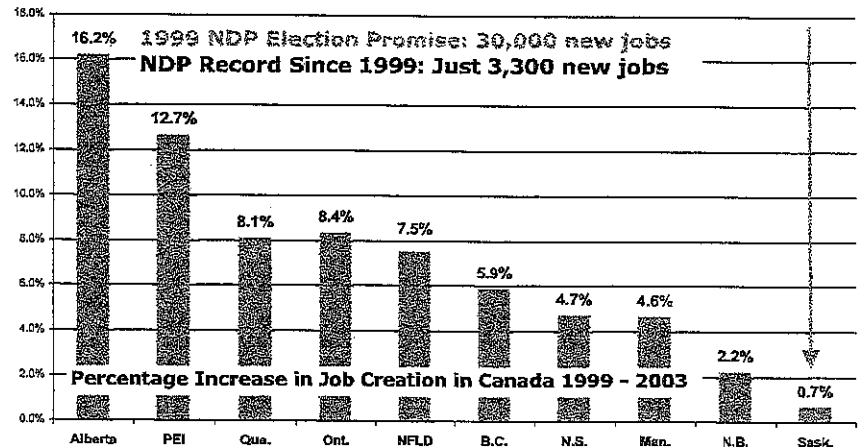
Under the NDP, Saskatchewan has recorded the highest property and violent crime rate in Canada and has become the car theft capital of North America.

The NDP Record: Health Care

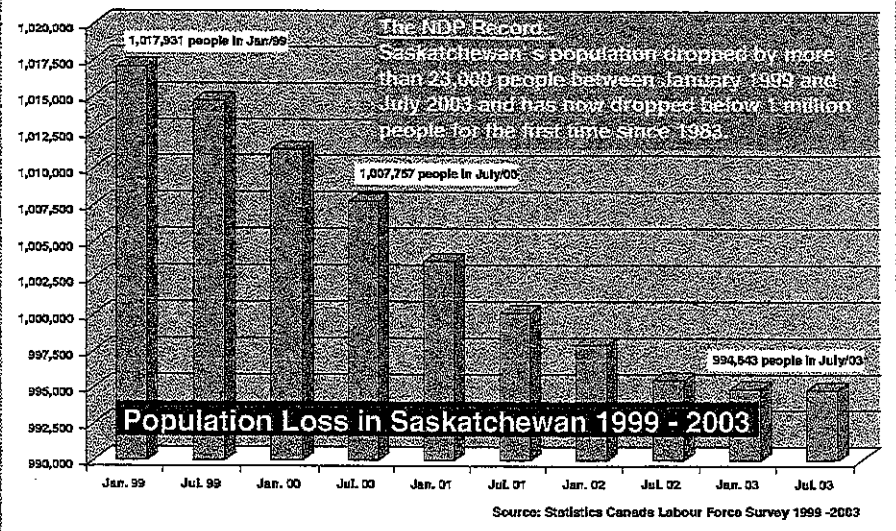
In 1999, the NDP promised to reduce surgical waiting lists by 30 percent and hire 500 new health care providers. Instead, waiting lists have increased by 30 percent and Saskatchewan has lost more than 200 nurses.

NDP Record: The Worst Job Creation Record in Canada

source: Statistics Canada Labour force Survey 1999 - 2003



The NDP Record: Population Drops Below One Million People



It's time for a change.

The NDP Record

You do the Math . . .

The NDP has gambled and lost millions of YOUR tax dollars on THEIR bad investments.

How much has the NDP lost? You do the math:

<u>NDP Government Business Failures</u>	<u>Tax Dollars Lost</u>
SPUDCO - failed potato business in Saskatchewan	\$28,000,000
Coachman Insurance - money-losing insurance company in Ontario	\$17,200,000
Persona Inc - money-losing cable company in Newfoundland	\$9,400,000
Retx.com - money-losing dotcom in Atlanta, Georgia	\$14,500,000
Tappedinto.com - money-losing dotcom in Nashville, Tennessee	\$2,400,000
ClickaBid.com - failed internet-based auction business	\$1,900,000
Navigata Inc - money-losing BC telecommunications company.....	\$13,500,000
Craig Wireless - money-losing Manitoba internet company.....	\$10,000,000
AgDealer - money-losing internet site for farm equipment sales	\$8,900,000
Mega Bingo - failed NDP bingo scheme in Saskatchewan	\$7,900,000
Premium Brands - money-losing stock market gamble.....	\$4,300,000
Minds Eye Entertainment - money-losing movie company.....	<u>\$7,000,000</u>

You do the math



On election day, vote for Elwin Hermanson and the Saskatchewan Party

The Saskatchewan Party believes that YOUR tax dollars should be spent on YOUR priorities - improving health care, supporting agriculture, fixing highways and reducing taxes.

The Saskatchewan Party Team



ELWIN HERMANSON
Leader of the Saskatchewan Party

"As Leader of the Saskatchewan Party, I am proud to introduce our team of 58 candidates – talented men and women from a wide variety of backgrounds and from every part of the province who share the goal of growing Saskatchewan by 100,000 people in ten years."



RANDY WEEKES
Feedlot Owner/Farmer



DAN D'AUTREMONT
Farmer



KEN KRAWETZ
Former Business Owner
Former Educator



ALLAN KERPAÑ
Former Member of
Parliament



WINSTON MCKAY
Aboriginal Issues
Consultant



MICHAEL CHISHOLM
Accountant/Farmer



GREG BRAGICH
Former Municipal
Councillor
Farmer



GREG ROSS
Former Mayor



DELBERT KIRSCH
Farmer/Auctioneer



WAYNE ELHARD
Businessperson



DOREEN EAGLES
Farmer



DONNA HARBAUER
Medical Laboratory
Technologist
Farmer



DON MCMORRIS
Former Business Owner



JUNE DRAUDE
Former Business Owner



JASON DEARBORN
Farmer



GLEN HART
Former RM Councillor
Farmer



MILT WAKEFIELD
Former Chief
Commissioner – Canadian
Grain Commission



BEN HEPPNER
Business Owner
Retired Educator



RON DOSDALL
Retired Educator



ROD GANTEOFER
Business Owner
Former School Board
Chair



BOB BJORNURUD
Former RM Reeve



DARIN CHOW
Lawyer



GWEN BETEL
Public School Board
Trustee



DON TOTH
Farmer



BERT PROVOST
Retired Educator



**A Message from Saskatchewan Party Leader
Elwin Hermanson**

I believe in Saskatchewan.

Together, I believe we can restore confidence in our province and create the opportunity for unprecedented growth.

I believe we can attract new investment, create new jobs and grow Saskatchewan by 100,000 people over the next ten years.

People will see Saskatchewan as the best place in Canada to find a job, raise a family and start a new business.

More young people will decide to stay in Saskatchewan.

And, for the first time in many years, more people will be moving into Saskatchewan than moving out.

Saskatchewan's growth and prosperity will be shared by every part of our province.

Our growing population will create an expanded tax base to sustain and pay for health services, educational opportunities and community infrastructure.

A Saskatchewan Party government will focus your tax dollars on providing the high quality public services you need and deserve. And we will save your tax dollars by getting the government out of places it doesn't belong – like bad investments in Australia, Atlanta and Ontario.

New jobs and new opportunities. A growing population. Safe and vibrant communities. High quality public services.

Well-educated young people building their futures in Saskatchewan.

That's the province I believe in. That's my vision for Saskatchewan. And that's what you can expect from a Saskatchewan Party government.

Elwin Hermanson
Leader of the Saskatchewan Party

Let's Get Saskatchewan Growing



www.saskparty.com