

Thank you for your letter. We are grateful that you are engaging members across Alberta in a critically important election. The issues you raise on behalf of your members are direct ballot questions on May 29. Below is information about our commitments - you can find more information at <a href="https://www.albertandp.ca/plan">https://www.albertandp.ca/plan</a>.

### **Investing in Public Health Care**

The Alberta NDP are proud to be the party that always stands up for our universal public healthcare system. We will invest in frontline public healthcare, period.

While Danielle Smith has said she will sell hospitals, we will work to staff them. While Danielle Smith has said Albertans should get used to paying to see a doctor, we have been steadfast in our commitment that no Albertan will ever have to pay to see a doctor.

Currently, 800,000 Albertans are without a family doctor - this has to change. Family doctors are essential to the foundation of our healthcare system; when people have access to regular check-ups, they have better health outcomes. Our investments in Family Health Teams mean that if you need a doctor, you will get to see a doctor, in a matter of days, for free and within your community.

This will not only improve access to care but also reduce pressure on ERs and EMS, and lower costs for acute care. A strong public healthcare system will also allow us to compete for skilled labour in a time of labour shortages.

We will reduce surgery wait times by investing in frontline healthcare. The Alberta NDP will undertake the largest healthcare workforce recruitment and retention campaign Alberta has ever seen. This will include up to \$10,000 signing bonuses for new healthcare workers; creating up to 10,000 new post-secondary spaces specific to healthcare and related fields over the next three years; and sitting down with healthcare workers to determine the financial and workload adjustments that make the biggest difference to them.

Most importantly, we will treat healthcare workers with respect and restore trust with the government, providing robust support to retain workers and prevent burnout.

### Pensions

We are also steadfastly committed to keeping your pensions safe, which means keeping them in the Canada Pension Plan. The Alberta Pension Plan, which has been a priority of Danielle Smith and the UCP, is risky and would allow the UCP to gamble with Albertan's hard-earned



pensions. Retirement security is fundamental for millions of Albertans and we have no interest in jeopardizing it.

## **Economy and Jobs**

Alberta's tax advantage allows us to attract top talent while supporting businesses and families across the province. **We'll eliminate the small business tax rate** for more than 100,000 small businesses, including retail establishments, restaurants, mechanic shops, family farms, and more. Alberta business owners could save up to \$10,000 per year from this change. At the same time, we'll ask large corporation to pay a little bit more, moving the corporate tax rate to 11% - which remains the lowest in the country.

Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP have a plan to attract \$20 billion in private-sector capital investment and create 47,000 good-paying jobs. We will create a new Alberta's Future Tax Credit; establish a regulatory fast pass for companies with a good record; and expand the Alberta Petrochemical Incentive Program (APIP).

#### Education

The Alberta NDP is committed to providing top-quality education to all students across the province. This is why we will build and modernize 125 schools and hire 4,000 teachers and 3,000 EAs and support staff across the province, to improve student-to-teacher ratios and ensure students don't fall behind due to overcrowded classrooms.

For post-secondary students, we will freeze tuition at 2022-23 levels, cancelling the latest round of tuition hikes proposed by Danielle Smith, and capping any future increases to inflation. We will also increase availability of student grants. This plan will save 300,000 Alberta students more than \$100 million this year.

### **Environment**

Tackling climate change and having a strong economy go hand in hand, which is why the Alberta NDP supports game-changing technologies and emissions-reducing investments such as in Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS), methane reduction, and energy storage.

Today, there is significant global investment that is sitting on the sidelines because Alberta does not have a clear plan. Markets want this, which is why Alberta industry is moving forward.

We need to plan for the future - for resilient infrastructure, long-term energy security, and emergency management - so that we are prepared for the effects of climate change in Alberta.



We'll set reasonable and achievable targets and report annually to Albertans on progress and emissions reductions.

## **Indigenous**

We are committed to working with Indigenous communities and peoples to build a better future for all families in Alberta. We will respect the nation-to-nation relationship as recognized by Treaty in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and as affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution of Canada.

We also propose to partner with Indigenous communities to implement the TRC, and to include Indigenous culture and history in the Alberta K-12 curriculum. We will consult with Indigenous communities on how to best support Indigenous-led health care, including establishing an Indigenous Health Fund for community-led projects. We will invest \$120 million in the Indigenous Housing Capital program and work with Indigenous communities to create an Indigenous Housing Strategy, which will address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes.

We will work with Indigenous communities to support implementation on all of these critical matters.

# Labour

During our time in government, The Alberta NDP modernized labour laws, enhancing job-protected leaves, putting in fair overtime rules and proper holiday pay, and we made sure the right to organize was enhanced and protected. As one of the UCP's first acts in government, they repealed important workers' rights and removed the democratic voice of workers by introducing Bill 32.

Alberta's NDP will repeal Bill 32, restoring a democratic voice for workers. We will give workers back their overtime and holiday pay under the Employment Standards Code. We will also strengthen OHS and WCB and provide presumptive coverage for PTSD for all workers.

Thanks again for the opportunity to learn more about your priorities leading into this important election.

Sincerely,

The Alberta NDP