



POLICY AND PLATFORM

Association of Manitoba Municipalities

Re: Provincial Election 2011 – Questionnaire Response

Infrastructure

Manitoba Liberals will review the funding of municipalities as part of an effort to manage our provincial infrastructure in a better fashion. A more stable transfer of dollars would need to be accompanied by quality standards for infrastructure development and maintenance.

Escalating Costs & New Revenue Sources

To keep up with escalating costs, Manitoba Liberals see innovation throughout numerous industries as a source of increased funding for municipalities. For example, there is incredible potential to build a thriving tourism industry in our province. Liberals will move quickly to initiate a Tourism Infrastructure Fund to promote and develop tourism with municipal partners and local business and public organizations; support investment related to the Rivers West project as well as the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre; create a fur trade centers initiative to capture the historic potential in sites like Fort Ellice and Fort Fairford; create the Lowlands National Park, which has been on hold far too long; and a World Heritage Corridor proposal centered at the Peace Gardens and Turtle Mountains area.

Housing

As Manitoba Liberals we believe in appropriate housing as a tool for creating a healthier society. We have seen how the cooperative housing model works better than the Manitoba housing model because residents become more engaged and active in the daily decisions affecting their lives, which is why Manitoba Liberals are committed to transitioning more Manitoba Housing units towards the cooperative housing model, as well as apply the home ownership template at Habitat For Humanity to the extension of the Home Renovations Program.

We will be announcing during the election campaign about funds dedicated towards a housing initiative, although we cannot specify the amount yet.

Internet Service

A Liberal provincial government will work quickly to enhance access to broadband services throughout Manitoba, and ensure that all communities have affordable access to broadband, an essential step in building our economy for the future.