

MANITOBA'S NDP FOR ALL OF US

SURVEY RESPONSES – MANITOBA HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

- 1. One a scale of 1-10 – with 1 being the highest – how do you rank, with explanation, investments in core infrastructure as a provincial government priority?**

Investments in core infrastructure are one of the top priorities of a Manitoba NDP government. We know the direct and indirect effects of investment in infrastructure will power our economy and build the roads, bridges, schools and hospitals our future generations need. Investments in infrastructure fuel economic growth, and support much-needed good jobs in our communities.

A Manitoba NDP government will improve investments in Manitoba's roads, schools, hospitals, and other infrastructure, and work with industry to create a Centre of Excellence for Infrastructure Innovation. We will invest \$6.64 billion over four years in infrastructure to repair the damage that was caused by the massive infrastructure cuts made by Brian Pallister. Pallister broke his promise to invest in infrastructure and we will repair the damage he's done.

- 2. Would your government commit to publicly releasing the infrastructure investment deficit reports for roads and for bridges on an annual basis?**

We will work with industry and stakeholders to restore trust and transparency to the relationship with government. We know the broken promises of Brian Pallister's PCs have made it difficult for industry to plan and to have confidence in their working relationship with government. The NDP will commit to being transparent with industry and providing the information needed to plan and organize on an annual basis.

- 3. Does your campaign platform address Manitoba's infrastructure investment deficit?**

Yes. As a result of the significant infrastructure investment deficit we are facing in Manitoba, our platform commits us to improving investments in Manitoba's roads, bridges, schools, hospitals and other infrastructure in the order of \$6.64 billion over four years. These infrastructure investments are also an important part of our plan to support 50,000 new jobs in Manitoba. We have already

committed to investing in important projects like a new personal care home in Transcona, upgrading the North End Sewage Treatment Plant, extending the Chief Peguis trail and widening Kenaston Boulevard. We will have more announcements about our commitments but we have made a clear pledge to address Pallister's infrastructure deficit.

- 4. Are you aware of the various analyses compiled on the return on investments (ROI) from core infrastructure investment programs, such as the Conference Board of Canada's 2015 brief on Manitoba's 2014-2015 \$1.04 billion core infrastructure investment (GDP rose by \$1.31 billion) and the federal Advisory Council on Economy Growth's 2016 report (GDP increases by \$1.06 for every \$1 invested)?**

Yes – and we strongly agree that investments in infrastructure provide a strong return on investment. We know we can create 50,000 good jobs for Manitobans by investing in important infrastructure projects. We can build our province, grow our economy and make a better Manitoba for all of us.

- 5. Do you agree that core infrastructure investment is an economic driver?**

Yes. Infrastructure investment is a key economic driver. The Manitoba NDP is committed to supporting and improving infrastructure investment to drive economic growth in communities.

We've recently seen the impacts of cuts to core infrastructure funding – with companies laying off workers, choosing not to hire, and selling off hundreds of pieces of equipment as they transition out of road construction. These choices that Pallister has forced companies into making have devastating trickle-down effects in communities, as families no longer have the steady income or good job they previously did and have less money to spend in local businesses.

- 6. Would your government commit to forming a working group, including industry stakeholders and economic experts, to review how infrastructure is funded now and recommend a new strategic and coordinated investment approach?**

The Manitoba NDP platform outlines our commitment to work with industry to create a Centre for Excellence for Infrastructure Innovation as a hub for collaboration between industry, government

and other experts. The Centre will be established in collaboration with industry and will facilitate these kinds of discussions around how we can make more strategic and coordinated investments in infrastructure.

7. Would your government commit to publicly release annual and five-year budgets for the Highways Capital program?

Our platform commits us to an important four year infrastructure investment – we have outlined how we will invest \$6.64 billion dollars in infrastructure investment over four years. This is a clear and transparent commitment for infrastructure including the Highways Capital program. We will show industry the level of support through our actions.

8. Similarly, would your government commit to releasing annually the asset-condition and needs reports for Manitoba's provincial highways and bridges?

We know good information is necessary for stakeholders and industry and that is why we will commit to working with industry and their representatives on long term outlooks and solutions so that industry can plan and prepare for coming projects.

9. Would you government commit to examining merging the departments of Trade and Infrastructure, to ensure infrastructure investment and trade strategy are aligned and harnessed in support of investments providing for the greatest return to the economy?

Trade policy and infrastructure are closely linked. A Manitoba NDP government is committed to close alignment between those two policy areas, and will be sure to align trade and infrastructure investments so that our projects can best support Manitoba's growing economy.

10. If elected, would your government commit to striking a provincial panel to review options for a New Fiscal Deal with municipalities?

We know Brian Pallister's freeze on municipal supports has done real damage to infrastructure investments all throughout our province. Schools, bridges, community centres and clinics have all been starved of support for three years. We will end the freeze on municipal operating grants to

ensure municipalities have the resources they need to meet their communities needs. We will also listen to municipalities rather than dictate to them as has been the style of Mr. Pallister.

- 11. If elected, would your government commit to dedicate the revenues from one percentage point of the PST via legislature to municipal core infrastructure (roads, bridges and structures, sewer & water)?**

Unlike Pallister who has slashed and underspent the infrastructure budget, the Manitoba NDP is committed to improving investments in Manitoba's roads, schools, hospitals, and other infrastructure. We have committed to investing \$6.64 billion dollars in new infrastructure over four years and know that this commitment will provide certainty and stability to our partners so that we can build Manitoba's future together.

- 12. If elected, would your government commit to prioritizing investment in the Capital Region's strategic trade transportation system?**

Investment in the Capital Region's trade transportation infrastructure is critically important. A Manitoba NDP government will work closely with the Capital Region municipalities to prioritize investments in regional trade transportation infrastructure and ensure they get done.