



# Policy Resolutions

- 2021 Annual General Meeting

Compiled by MLP Policy Committee for Consideration at AGM

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## 1.0 The Environment/Economy/Infrastructure

### 1.1 Keeping Provincial Parks Open and Accessible

**Whereas** Manitoba's provincial parks are jewels, which Manitobans have shown clear support for; and,

**Whereas** parks are creatures of nature that need to be preserved for in their habitat; and,

**Whereas** the PCs, under the guise of Travel Manitoba, tendered a study in 2020 to rank all of Manitoba's provincial parks and make a plan to sell off and divest ones that weren't profitable; and,

**Whereas** in 2021, the PCs decided to turn over an entire park – St. Ambroise Provincial Park – to a private company by signing a 21-year lease agreement to operate it; and,

**Whereas** the Manitoba Liberal Party campaigned in 2019 on no privatizations, a promise of not selling off public assets or replacing public jobs with private ones;

**Be It Resolved** that the Manitoba Liberal Party commits to not selling off provincial parks and/or divesting the operations of the parks to the private sector; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that provincial parks are treated as more than recreational spaces so that they are preserved in their unique natural habitat.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 1.2 Re-Wilding Manitoba Through Restoration

**Whereas** “re-wilding” – returning cultivated areas to forests, grasslands, and wilderness – is known to promote the fight against climate change; and,

**Whereas** it is essential that we rebuild populations to leave a better province to future generations, rather than encroachment on wild areas which is a major cause of habitat loss for many Manitoba species, including Moose; and,

**Whereas** it is essential that we respect treaty rights to hunt and harvest; and,

**Whereas** wildlife conservation areas are being turned over to private organizations;

**Be It Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will work in partnership with First Nations, Metis, agricultural producers, municipalities and citizens to encourage the re-wilding of Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 1.3 Transit Improvements

**Whereas** access to transit is a vital resource for persons of all ages, abilities and economic levels; and,

**Whereas** access to an efficient and timely transit system is of benefit both to citizens, businesses and employers; and,

**Whereas** public transit systems are vital to assist both governments and individuals in reducing pollution and our carbon footprints; and,

**Whereas** the City of Winnipeg requires additional funding in order to improve its existing and proposed rapid transit and local transit routes to improve timekeeping, to improve services offered and to improve capacity; and,

**Whereas** the City of Winnipeg does not have the operating fund capacity to support such a system without resorting to additional property taxation and/or increased fares;

**Be It Resolved That** the Liberal Party of Manitoba pursue an increase of provincial financial support for Winnipeg Transit's operating budget from its current 20% to 50% and that city funding freed up by the increased provincial support go to supporting its expanded transit service program.

Sponsored by the Kirkfield Park Constituency Association

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 1.4 Transit Expansion

**Whereas** access to transit is a vital resource for persons of all ages, abilities and economic levels; and,

**Whereas** access to an efficient and timely transit system is of benefit both to citizens, businesses and employers; and,

**Whereas** public transit systems are vital to assist both governments and individuals in reducing pollution and our carbon footprints; and,

**Whereas** there currently is no form of affordable and/or efficient public transportation connecting residents of the Winnipeg Capital Region to the City of Winnipeg proper; and,

**Whereas** a system of affordable and efficient public transportations has existed in the Capital Region in the past prior to its privatization, reduction and dismantlement; and,

**Whereas** the Provincial Capital region, as defined by the Provincial Capital Region Partnership Act, consists of the City of Winnipeg; the City of Selkirk; the Town of Stonewall; and the Rural Municipalities of Cartier, East St. Paul, Headingley, Macdonald, Ritchot, Rockwood, Rosser, St. Andrews, St. Clements, St. Francois-Xavier, Springfield, Taché, and West St. Paul, containing nearly two thirds of the residents of Manitoba;

**Be It Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal government pursue the possibility of creating a new transit authority to oversee affordable public transportation between the various communities of the Capital Region to the City of Winnipeg proper; and,

**Be It Also Resolved That** the proposed transit authority be considered a joint corporation owned by the Province of Manitoba and all the municipalities and communities of the Capital Region who would each have representation on the corporation's board of directors.

Sponsored by the Kirkfield Park Constituency Association

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 1.5 Manitoba Hydro Reverse Meters

**Whereas** access to an efficient and affordable electrical generating system is of benefit both to citizens, businesses and employers; and,

**Whereas** an efficient and affordable electrical generating system utilizing multiple forms of renewable energy is vital to assist both governments and individuals to reduce pollution and carbon footprints; and,

**Whereas** all electrical generation and distribution are handed by Manitoba Hydro, a provincial crown corporation; and,

**Whereas** those persons who purchase home based renewable electricity generating systems should be able to sell said power back to Manitoba Hydro at a marketable rate; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba Hydro can utilize the additional power acquired from home based renewable electricity generating systems to supplement its traditional forms of renewal electrical generation to increase and/or supplement existing and future electricity sales contracts to interprovincial and interprovincial agencies/businesses;

**Be It Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal government will ensure that families/persons who choose to install home based renewable electrical systems are free to sell electrical power in excess to their requirements at a fair rate to Manitoba Hydro; and,

**Be It Also Resolved That** Efficiency Manitoba be charged with the development of a financial incentive program to help families/persons interested in building renewable electrical systems to pay for and maintain said systems; and,

**Be It Also Resolved That** the rates paid by Manitoba Hydro to home based renewable energy providers be determined by the Public Utilities Board on an annual basis.

Sponsored by the Kirkfield Park Constituency Association

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



## 1.7 Protecting Our Soils

**Whereas** Manitoba's soils are known to be among the highest quality in the world; and,

**Whereas** the soils of our province produce a significant portion of its agricultural wealth; and,

**Whereas** they can serve as a major carbon sink in mitigating climate change if well managed;

**Be It Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal government will work to ensure the protection and enhancement of the province's soils

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 1.6 Urban Forests

**Whereas** the forests of our towns and cities enhance the health and well-being of their residents; and,

**Whereas** forested areas serve to cool and shelter urban inhabitants; and,

**Whereas** urban forests protect against climate change by serving as carbon sinks by absorbing carbon dioxide that would otherwise be a greenhouse gas;

**Be It Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will endeavour to ensure that the protection and enhancement of our urban forests.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.0 Education and Childhood Care

### 2.1 Making Early Childhood Education a Priority

**Whereas** for years under the NDP and PCs alike, Early Childhood Education has been underfunded and workers have been underpaid; and,

**Whereas** instead of being under the department of education, it has been seen as an extension of the department of families.

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will move Early Childhood Education under the department of education, ensure fair wages for Educators and cooperate with the Federal Government to create a national childcare plan.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.2 Creation of a Manitoba Child Abuse Response Centre

**Whereas** currently, Manitoba has no centralized unit for dealing with children who are victims of sexual abuse; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba and Winnipeg need a central hub to support children and families, and where Crowns, police, social services, and mental health workers can work together.

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** building on models and success of comparable centres in Kelowna, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Vancouver, a Manitoba Liberal Government will provide sustained funding for the Manitoba Child Abuse Response Centre.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.3 Investing in Our Independent Post-Secondary Institutions

**Whereas** Universities and Colleges play a critical role in the cultural, intellectual and economic life of Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** under the PCs and NDP Manitoba's universities have fallen seriously behind other jurisdictions in salaries and receiving provincial research funds; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba's colleges and universities should be supported as the site of world-leading research, in agriculture, medicine and technology; and,

**Whereas** excellence in learning applied knowledge and free inquiry are both essential to learning; and,

**Whereas** the PCs have interfered with bargaining and programming at colleges and universities.

**Be It Resolved** that the MLP support Manitoba's post-secondary institutions arms' length status and respect the fundamental right of collective bargaining for the value of one's work; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that Manitoba Liberals will work in partnership with post-secondary institutions on a plan to attract and retain faculty, while investing in research, with the goal of making Manitoba's universities among the best in Canada.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.4 Locally Elected School Boards

**Whereas** Manitoba schools are located in a combination of large urban, urban, rural and remote communities and the individual needs of Manitoba schools vary greatly from community to community; and,

**Whereas** the citizens of Manitoba value locally elected school boards to make the decisions that will ensure the needs of their communities are understood and managed appropriately; and,

**Whereas** there is a need to ensure effective governance and accountability to the citizens of Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** the Province of Manitoba has a duty to ensure effective monitoring of locally elected school boards;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will ensure that locally elected school boards are preserved as an effective means of governing the education system in Manitoba; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will establish a monitoring and support division of the Department of Education to oversee and support divisions who may be experiencing difficulty with governance; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will establish a fair and equitable compensation package for locally elected school trustees that will be reviewed every four years, prior to school board elections.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.5 Amalgamation of School Divisions

**Whereas** there are currently 37 independent school divisions in the Province of Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** there may be situations where the amalgamation of school divisions would make both educational and fiscal sense; and,

**Whereas** there are many factors that must be taken into consideration prior to any amalgamation of school divisions;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will establish a joint task force to promote the voluntary amalgamation of school divisions, taking into consideration the following:

- composition of the task force to include the Manitoba School Boards Association; the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents; the Manitoba Association of School Business Officials; the Manitoba Teachers Society; the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils; and the Department of Education;
- timelines for any potential amalgamation of school boards will coincide with the 2026 municipal elections;
- consideration should be given to establishing a range for an optimal size school division (large urban, urban, rural, remote);
- some other factors to be considered should include: geography; school bus transportation; sharing of services between school divisions; centralized divisional procurement.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.6 Alternative High School Programs

**Whereas** many school divisions in Manitoba offer a wide variety of Alternative High School Programs to address the unique needs of certain high school students; and,

**Whereas** a unique example of an Alternative High School Program is the Maples MET School operated by the Seven Oaks School Division in Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** effective Alternative High School Programs have a proven track record of working effectively with students who may not succeed in a traditional high school environment; and,

**Whereas** effective Alternative High School Programs have proven to be successful in increasing the graduation rates for students who may be in jeopardy of dropping out of school or not graduating; and,

**Whereas** the current system of education funding in Manitoba does not provide for a specific funding allocation that fully addresses the needs of school divisions to offer unique, challenging and effective Alternative High School Programs;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government would establish a branch of the Department of Education to provide both appropriate curriculum and financial support to school divisions in Manitoba interested in offering Alternative High School Programs.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



## 2.7 Ministry of Education, Child and Citizenship

**Whereas** there are currently several government departments that focus on providing for the needs of children in Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** there is a desperate need to establish and ensure better coordination of services for children from birth to school leaving; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba parents deserve a “one stop shop” approach to finding the services they may require for their children;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will establish a new Ministry of Education, Child and Citizenship to address all government services delivered for children from birth to school leaving; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that this new Ministry of Education, Child and Citizenship will be responsible for, but not limited to, such programs as:

- education
- child care
- children’s special services
- child and family services
- school nutrition programs.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.8 Commitment to Full and Fair Funding for Public Education

**Whereas** strong public K-12 education is one of the foundations to an individuals' life and access to it makes the difference between whether they can enrich themselves as well as the rest of society; and,

**Whereas** Investing in the K-12 education is an investment for every community in Manitoba — impacting local employment, the larger economy, and democracy; and,

**Whereas** the PC government reduced guaranteed funding to education by \$248 million in 2021 by slashing the education revenue charged on properties at a time when the budget deficit is \$2.1 billion dollars; and,

**Whereas** the PC government spent \$1.3 million to send personal cheques to Manitobans during the tremendously mishandled third wave of COVID-19, providing relief to a fraction of Manitobans; and,

**Whereas** this measure overwhelmingly benefited the largest property owners, and people and business owners who don't necessarily live in Manitoba, putting money on board tables instead of kitchen tables; and,

**Whereas** the PC government has made life more difficult especially for seniors, students and many working and middle-class Manitobans who have been struggling for many years, forced to take on more debt to pay their bills;

**Be It Resolved** that the MLP will not eliminate crucial revenue for K-12 public education that is collected through the property tax; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that the MLP reverses the reduction to the annual rebate for renters as a result of the change made by the PC government.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.9 Universal School Nutrition Programs

**Whereas** currently Manitoba has the highest poverty rate in Canada; and,

**Whereas** currently Manitoba underperforms on national and international standardized test scores in literacy, mathematics and science; and,

**Whereas** there is a proven correlation between child poverty and the ability of a child to achieve success in school;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal Government will establish a Universal School Nutrition Program to ensure a minimum of one meal or snack is available daily for all children attending Manitoba schools.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 2.10 Making Post-Secondary More Affordable

**Whereas** about half of Canadian college graduates are in some form of student debt; and,

**Whereas** the burden of student debt increases the difficulties graduates face in buying or renting a home, starting a family, or launching a business, and these challenges have a negative effect on the provincial economy as a whole; and,

**Whereas** high tuition acts as a barrier that prevents many from attending college or university; and,

**Whereas** since more than 75% of jobs require the completion of university or college; and,

**Whereas** only 10% of university enrollment come from students in the lowest income bracket, while 50% of enrollment comes from students in the richest income bracket;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would extend the grace-period on provincial student loan repayments from 6 months to 2 years or once the student has an income over \$40,000/ year; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would work with the federal government to increase post-secondary transfers to the province; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would work to reduce and eliminate interest on provincial student loans; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would work to reduce and eliminate tuition fees for high employment yielding fields such as trades; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would work to reduce and eliminate tuition fees for professions critical to the success of Manitoba such as medical professionals.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 3.0 Seniors

### 3.1 Transitioning Home Care

**Whereas** most adults prefer to remain at home for as long as safely possible<sup>1</sup>; and,

**Whereas** per diem institutional care costs more than providing support at home<sup>2</sup>; and,

**Whereas** the cost of home care is prohibitive for many Manitobans, especially where publicly-funded home care is inadequate; and,

**Whereas** there is a shortage of home-care staff qualified for geriatric care; and,

**Whereas** attracting adequately-skilled personnel to the home care sector requires government investment in both education programs and in establishing wage standards<sup>3</sup>;

**Be it resolved that** the MLP in Government would create well-funded “Aging-in-Place” Strategy that would include

- Reviewing administration of Home Care to improve its responsiveness to the needs of the elderly clients;
- Using a team approach, so that every client is assessed regularly by a nursing supervisor who assigns support staff as needed for the individual without fragmentation of care;
- Augmenting training programs for providers of home care services to older adults;
- Improving the pay levels of each tier of workers commensurate with training and education;

**Be it further resolved that** service-delivery programs are based upon:

- Person-centred care that maintains an individual’s dignity, with policies that prioritize quality of life and opportunity to actualize personal choice;
- Frequent quality assessment, to avoid rigid adherence to time schedules at the expense of the wellbeing of the individual;

**Be it further resolved that** home care services be managed and delivered by local agencies so that related essential services (transportation, socialization, food security) are available and appropriate in all parts of Manitoba.

#### References

1) Canada’s elder crisis: Addressing the doubling demand. March 25, 2021  
Canadian Medical Association and Deloitte LLC; <https://wrha.mb.ca/files/cha->

2019-executive-summary-e.pdf

2) Why proper home care should be a cornerstone of how health system looks after seniors.

3) Continuing Care Position Paper: Working together to bring Home Care Home! Closing the gaps in Nova Scotia Home Care: prepared by CARP Nova Scotia Chapter, Health Advocacy Committee (HAC)

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 3.2 Tactics for Combatting Ageism

**Whereas** ageism as pervasive negative attitudes about older persons is widely accepted and normal for most cultures, as shown in the common use of the term “anti-aging”<sup>1</sup>; and,

**Whereas** fear of ageing is perpetuated by ageist language and stereotypes portraying old as negative and young as positive<sup>2</sup>; and,

**Whereas** research shows negative health outcomes among elders who experience and internalize ageism<sup>3</sup>; and,

**Whereas** the importance of the life-course perspective in elder mistreatment has been introduced into academic consciousness<sup>4</sup>; and,

**Whereas** intentional interaction of different age groups in a variety of situations promoting close communication, sharing of feelings and of ideas, and opportunities to co-operate actively in meaningful tasks have proven benefits for the participants and the communities involved as well<sup>5</sup>;

**Be it resolved that** the MLP urge the Government of Manitoba call for and support a committee of gerontologists and gerontological scholars tasked to create guidelines for identifying appropriate aging language for use in communications so as to avoid and disrupt ageist language which has the potential to promote or reinforce negative stereotypes; and,

**Be it further resolved that** the MLP urge the Government of Manitoba work to actively promote the positive attributes often ascribed to older Manitobans, such as empathy, compassion, and wisdom<sup>6</sup>; and,

**Be it further resolved that** the MLP urge the Government of Manitoba work with the Ministries of Labour, Seniors, Social Services and Education to actively promote and increase supported opportunities for inter-generational interaction, including but not limited to formalizing inter-generational learning in all levels of provincially-funded educational facilities.

<sup>1</sup> **The Language of Ageism: Why We Need to Use Words Carefully**; by Tracey L. Gendron, PhD, E. Ayn Welleford, PhD, Jennifer Inker, MS, John T. White, MS; *The Gerontologist*, Volume 56, Issue 6, 1 December 2016, Pages 997–1006. First use of the word ‘othering’ I’ve seen in a respected publication!

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> *The mistreatment of older Canadians: findings from the 2015 national prevalence study*, published in Volume 30, 2018 - Issue 3 of the *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, by Lynn MacDonald, National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly, University of Toronto, as cited in Manitoba Law Reform Commission’s *Elder Abuse and Neglect in Manitoba* Consultation Paper, June 2021

<sup>5</sup> *You’re Never Too Old To Play: Intergenerational Learning Programs*, Posted by

Shana Durand on January 19,

2017 <https://www.geteduca.com/blog/intergenerational-learning/>

<sup>6</sup> *The New Science of Practical Wisdom* by Dilip V. Jeste, MD, Ellen E. Lee, MD, et al <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7138215/>

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



### 3.3 **Mincome Supplement for Seniors 60-65**

**Whereas** many seniors in Manitoba, due to injury, disability or misfortune may find themselves unable to work when before the age of 65; and,

**Whereas** many seniors in Manitoba are forced to tap into their Canada Pension Plan at a younger age in order to cover basic necessities in life; and,

**Whereas** there is a gap in coverage for many people, as evidenced by the cheques mailed to seniors by the PC government;

**Be It Resolved** that the Manitoba Liberals will create a Mincome supplement for Manitoba Seniors aged 60-65.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

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## 4.0 Pandemic Recovery and Creating Wealth

### 4.1 Making Burnout Eligible for Workers' Compensation

**Whereas** Manitobans have sacrificed so much in their lives because of the COVID-19 pandemic, dealing with new and stressful challenges especially in the workplace; and,

**Whereas** burnout and exhaustion from on-the-job stress, overwork and anxiety is known to be a threat to mental and physical health and well-being; and,

**Whereas** while some traumatic injuries are included under legislation in Manitoba, but burnout is not;

**Be It Resolved** that Manitoba Liberals support legislating the inclusion of burnout as a workplace injury to be compensated by the Workers Compensation Board.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.2 Pay Equity for Rural Paramedics

**Whereas** health care, especially emergency health care in rural areas, requires quick access to paramedics; and,

**Whereas** current staffing levels in Manitoba are dropping dangerously low; and,

**Whereas** paramedics in the City of Winnipeg may make over \$10/hr. more than their counterparts in rural Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** paramedics support communities, and communities support paramedics;

**Be It Resolved** that Manitoba Liberals commit to closing the wage gap to ensure that rural paramedics are given a wage incentive to live and work in rural Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.3 Service Equity for Northern and Rural Manitoba

**Whereas** for many years, NDP and PC governments alike have cut local health services, police, and education, while centralizing more and more services in Winnipeg; and,

**Whereas** these policies have accelerated rural depopulation, and created a vicious circle of cuts, followed by population reductions, followed by cuts; and,

**Whereas** it must be recognized that Manitobans who live outside Winnipeg's perimeter are not second-class citizens; and,

**Whereas** it must also be recognized that public infrastructure, health and education are the foundation on which communities are built; and,

**Whereas** we need to recognize that the cuts and freezes that have taken place have not reduced overall costs to Manitobans. They have simply downloaded the burden and cost to rural and northern Manitobans.

**Be It Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will recognize these extra costs and create a formula to ensure that rural and northern education, health care and infrastructure are funded equitably.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.4 Study: Carbon Fibre, Hydrogen from Manitoba's Oil Patch

**Whereas** as we transition to a lower-carbon future, there is a number of important ways in which we can repurpose oil production; and,

**Whereas** research in Alberta has shown that it is possible to convert oil into two highly useful products that contribute to energy efficiency and green fuel: carbon fibre and hydrogen;

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will fund a viability study into the development of a carbon fibre manufacturing plant and hydrogen fuel plant based in Western Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.5 Free Admission to Manitoba's Parks

**Whereas** the PCs decided to outsource the sale of Manitoba's Park passes to a U.S. company based in Texas; and,

**Whereas** the result has been worse service and higher costs for Manitobans; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba's parks should not be privatized as they belong to all of us.

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** Manitoba Liberals will make admission to all provincial parks free.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.6 Keeping Provincial Parks Open and Accessible

**Whereas** Manitoba's provincial parks are jewels, which Manitobans have shown clear support for; and,

**Whereas** parks are creatures of nature that need to be preserved for in their habitat; and,

**Whereas** the PCs, under the guise of Travel Manitoba, tendered a study in 2020 to rank all of Manitoba's provincial parks and make a plan to sell off and divest ones that weren't profitable; and,

**Whereas** in 2021, the PCs decided to turn over an entire park – St. Ambroise Provincial Park – to a private company by signing a 21-year lease agreement to operate it; and,

**Whereas** the Manitoba Liberal Party campaigned in 2019 on no privatizations, a promise of not selling off public assets or replacing public jobs with private one;

**Be It Resolved** that the Manitoba Liberal Party commits to not selling off provincial parks and/or divesting the operations of the parks to the private sector; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that provincial parks are treated as more than recreational spaces so that they are preserved in their unique natural habitat.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 4.7 “Buy For Later” Program to Support Manitoba Businesses, Especially the Hospitality Industry

**Whereas** to date, the PCs assistance programs for Manitoba’s Small Businesses have been dismal failures; and,

**Whereas** thousands of small businesses across Manitoba are facing bankruptcy because the Manitoba Government has refused to step up with assistance; and,

**Whereas** it is unfair for the government to force businesses to close, at the risk of corporate and personal bankruptcy, without stepping up to provide help; and,

**Whereas** pandemic measures have choked off revenue, and therefore work. For that reason, wage subsidies do not solve the problem; and,

**Whereas** government could buy vouchers and certificates for hotel rooms, meals from restaurants to be used for the public good to house first responders, individuals and families requiring self-isolation, health-care workers, seniors, and people in vulnerable situations, or re-sold at a later date so government can recover its investment.

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government would act as a “buyer of last resort” - creating a fund to buy up vouchers for Manitoba-owned and operated businesses’ products and services, which can either be re-sold, or used for the public good.

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



#### 4.8 A Framework for Manitoba's Crown Land Dispositions Act

**Whereas** farming and ranching in Manitoba is inherently critical to Manitoba's food chain sustainability; and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoban Progressive Conservative government amended the Manitoba Crown Land Dispositions Act in 2019 affecting the viability of Manitoba's food chain; and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government has increased Crown Land Rental Rates Significantly causing many current Manitoban Farmers and Ranchers severe financial hardship as well as affecting the ability for Manitobans of all ages to become ranchers and farmers; and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government decreased lease terms from 50 to 15 years causing many current Manitoban Farmers and Ranchers severe financial hardship due to lose of farm/ranch equity, ability to obtain loans for growth, expansion, and repairs, as well as affecting the ability for Manitobans of all ages to become ranchers and farmers; and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government has amended the regulations to allocation by open auction; removal of unit transfers (later amended to allow family transfers); and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government has amended the regulations to extend leaseholder eligibility to Canadian residents outside Manitoba affecting the ability for Manitobans of all ages to become ranchers and farmers; and,

**Whereas** the current Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government no longer purchases land improvements made by the leaseholder at the end of a term;

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government in discussion with Manitoban First Nations, Manitoban Metis, Manitoba ranchers and farmers review, assess, and make recommendations for the current Manitoban Crown Land Dispositions Act to ensure a vibrant farming and ranching in Manitoba, while addressing the rights of Manitoban First Nations and Metis. These recommendations will then be reported back to Manitoban Government for amendment of said Act

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 5.0 Support for Indigenous Rights

### 5.1 Returning Royalties to Indigenous Communities

**Whereas** it is well established that the lands in which Manitoba is founded on were first discovered by First Nations, as well as being the birthplace of the Metis nation; and,

**Whereas** for close to a century, the Province of Manitoba collects revenue/royalties from the minerals and forestry sector and has shared very little with the First Nations and Metis from the traditional lands on which resources are extracted from; and,

**Whereas** partnering formally with Indigenous communities to share revenue allows for greater opportunities to enhance economic development, education, health, community development, cultural development for its citizens; and,

**Whereas** in Ontario, Thirty-five First Nation communities (represented by Grand Council Treaty #3, Mushkegowuk Council and Wabun Tribal Council) have resource revenue sharing agreements with the Government of Ontario;

**Be It Resolved** that the Manitoba Liberal Party recognize the unfairness faced by Indigenous Peoples and commit to entering into fair resource revenue sharing agreements with First Nations, Metis and Inuit so that they can share in the economic benefits of forestry and mining operations near their communities.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 5.2 Traditional Gun Rights

**Whereas** Manitoba Liberals recognize and respect the use of traditional firearms - shotguns and bolt-action rifles - in hunting and harvesting; and,

**Whereas** over the years, many other types of weapons and firearms have been developed based military gear - semi-automatic weapons with high magazine capacity that were never used for hunting or harvesting in the past;

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will work in partnership with First Nations, Indigenous Groups, and Hunters and Fishers to achieve common sense gun regulation and introduce a buy-back program for non-traditional weapons.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 5.3 Indigenous Reconciliation and Land Back

**Whereas** Canadians and Manitobans were awakened by the discovery of unmarked graves of children at the sites of residential schools across the country; and,

**Whereas** Residential schools and their horrors represent only the beginning of oppressive measures to destroy the spirit, lives and cultures of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, discrimination which was baked into the law and policies of the land; and,

**Whereas** Governments across Canada never stopped tearing apart First Nations families, whether through the Sixties Scoop, or through child and family services which in Manitoba, CFS apprehension rates in the 2000s were higher than any other government in the world; and,

**Whereas** there are treaty land entitlements not being honoured, leaving First Nations in Manitoba to wait for land promised to them in treaties signed 150 years ago; and,

**Whereas** Indigenous people face serious discrimination in many of the core responsibilities of provincial government: health care, education, and justice; and,

**Whereas** the present-day issue of Indigenous children in custody of CFS is the single most important moral and political issue that Canada faces, not just for righting historical wrongs, but in order to create a future together for those children, their families and their communities; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba Hydro and the Province of Manitoba have routinely launched projects that have done incredible damage to the territories and environment of Indigenous people in Manitoba;

**Be It Resolved** that Manitoba Liberals establish a Reconciliation Task Force in partnership with Indigenous Peoples to identify short, medium and long-term measures to close the gap between Indigenous people and other Manitobans in health, education and justice; to invest in restoring the environment and habitats that have been damaged; to accelerate the Treaty Land Entitlement process to provide Indigenous peoples what they have long been owed; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that the MLP commit to do all within its power to fulfilling the promises as set out in the 94 Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 5.4 Honouring The “Turning the Page” Agreement

**Whereas** Manitoba Metis Federation has filed a lawsuit against the province of Manitoba over its decision to cancel \$82 million in compensation for Manitoba Hydro development on Métis land; and,

**Whereas** in addition to the cancelled Turning the Page Agreement the Provincial Government unjustly cancelled a subsequent agreement with Manitoba Hydro to provide the MMF with \$67.5 million in compensation, spread out over 50 years; and,

**Whereas** the actions of the Provincial Government in cancelling these Hydro agreements is contrary to reconciliation with Indigenous communities;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would restore, uphold, and implement previously agreed upon and cancelled compensation for Manitoba Hydro projects on Metis Land.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 5.5 Recognizing Metis Self-Governance

**Whereas** the Canadian government has signed a historic agreement to recognize legitimately and legally the Métis government represents self-government for all Métis people in Manitoba; and,

**Whereas** for over two centuries the Manitoba Métis Community, a part of the Métis Nation, has exercised its self-determination and self-government by establishing governance structures, making and enforcing its laws, and following its traditions and customs, and it continues to do so today; and,

**Whereas** the right to self-determination is recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the inherent right to self-government is recognized and affirmed by section 35 and protected by section 25 of the Constitution Act, 1982; and,

**Whereas** the MMF continues to take measures towards the preservation, promotion and development of Métis culture and language;

**Be It Resolved** that The Manitoba Liberal Party recognizes the Manitoba Metis Federation as the government of the Red River Metis throughout Manitoba and Beyond; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would immediately work with the MMF to sign an agreement like the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement signed between the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada that recognizes the Manitoba Metis Federation's jurisdiction over citizenship, leadership selection, elections and the operations of their government on behalf of the Manitoba Métis.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 5.6 A New Relationship with Indigenous Communities

**Whereas** Manitoba has a responsibility to consult with Indigenous communities when any provincial law, regulation, decision, or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a treaty or aboriginal right of that community; and,

**Whereas** this responsibility has not been honoured by the provincial government; and,

**Whereas** existing legislation regarding consultation with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit communities is outdated and inadequate; and,

**Whereas** the Federal government has recently passed legislation implementing the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and,

**Whereas** the provincial government has failed to fulfill the calls to action set out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

**Be It Resolved That** a new Manitoba Liberal government would work with Indigenous communities to implement all provincial responsibility set out in the TRC; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would introduce legislation to implement UNDRIP in Manitoba; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would work with Indigenous communities to update and strengthen provincial policy regarding Indigenous consultation on Crown affairs; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would ensure First Nations involvement regarding procurement for all provincial projects effecting Indigenous communities.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 6.0 Health Care Resolutions

### 6.1 Covering Vision Care Under Medicare

**Whereas** many children and adults require vision correction and assistance; and,

**Whereas** many children and adults lack the means to afford eyeglasses and vision aids that can help them see, read, and work; and,

**Whereas** individuals unable to get necessary eyeglasses due to monetary reasons is unfair and can lead to medical complications; for children who do not have proper vision care, it can directly impair brain development;

**Be It Resolved** that the Manitoba Liberal Party supports covering vision care as part of Manitoba Medicare.

Sponsored by the MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



## 6.2 Protecting International Students' Health

**Whereas** in 2018, the PC Government cancelled health insurance for international students, claiming to be saving \$3.1 million by doing so; and,

**Whereas** international students added \$374.8 million to Manitoba's economy in 2016 (Stats Canada), actively spending money in the province to pay tuition, rent, and taxes; and,

**Whereas** in 2021 an international student in Manitoba who required emergency surgery was left with a \$123,000 medical bill after spending 24 days between two hospitals in Winnipeg; and,

**Whereas** many international students in Manitoba were ineligible for proof of vaccination for months because they don't qualify for Manitoba Health cards; and.

**Whereas** the PCs announced in 2021 a program to recruit and train international nurses due to the health crisis and shortage of nurses in Manitoba;

**Be It Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will immediately reinstate health coverage for all international students who choose to study in Manitoba.

Sponsored by the MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 6.3 Lead Impacts on Children

**Whereas** lead in water, in the air and in soil represents contamination and pollution and is involved in the poisoning of children and adults; and,

**Whereas** substantial evidence shows that lead exposed children with a blood level of 0.24umol/L and above have learning difficulties including difficulties learning to read and do math, have behavioural difficulties including impulsive and hyperactive behavior and difficulties in self-control, are more likely to drop out of school, are more likely to have addictions and mental illnesses and are more likely to be involved in juvenile delinquency and in crime; and,

**Whereas** other jurisdictions do much more screening of blood lead levels in children; and,

**Whereas** the Canadian Pediatric Society has recommended that strong interventions be undertaken in any child found to have a blood lead level higher than 5 ug/ml (0.24 umol/L) including a thorough investigation of the source of the lead and measures to reduce lead exposure; and,

**Whereas** standard interventions being used which have been shown to reduce arrests for crime include dramatically reducing any lead exposure, addressing nutritional issues which can impact lead absorption and addressing behavior and/or learning issues; and,

**Whereas** a recent report from the Manitoba Liberal Caucus – “Lead and Crime in Manitoba: Urgent Action Needed” provides much more detail with respect to these issues;

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will implement as soon as possible a Manitoba Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program designed to fully eliminate the lead poisoning of children in Manitoba; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government, as part of this program will implement mandatory screening of children between ages 1 and 3 for high blood lead levels in any area of Manitoba where there exist concerns about lead exposure; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government, as part of this program, will implement a public awareness program to alert Manitobans to the dangers of lead exposure; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government, as part of this program, will require all schools and childcare centres to promptly and periodically thereafter, test for lead in the drinking water and that the Department of Sustainable Development publicly report the results of these tests and

corrective action taken as recommended on September 28, 2020 by Manitoba's Auditor General; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will develop and implement a more effective approach for screening children at age 3 to enable early detection and treatment of children with behavioural and learning disabilities, and that any child found to have a behavioural or learning disability at age 3 be screened for lead poisoning; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will work with the City of Winnipeg to improve enforcement of atmospheric lead pollution in the St. Boniface Industrial area and mandate the enclosure of the outdoor shredder in this area to reduce such pollution.

Sponsored by the MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 6.4 Framework for Improving Access to Healthcare for Manitobans

**Whereas** there is a severe Health Care Providers shortage across Canada including Manitoba, and severely impacting rural and northern Manitobans, driven by current COVID-19 pandemic, causing burnout of our Health Care providers; and,

**Whereas** it has been known since the 1990's that the "Baby Boomer" Health Care Providers would be of the age to retire starting 2010 and due to the current pandemic, many of them are choosing to retire; and,

**Whereas** the shortage of Health Care providers whether they are Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Clinical Assistants, Registered Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurses or Certified Health Care Aides affects the ability of Manitoba to provide timely, accessible Health services, affects the overall health of Manitobans; and,

**Whereas** the use of Agency Services affects the quality of Health care provided, as well drives up the costs of Healthcare Services; and,

**Whereas** access to quality Health Care is a known factor in the overall Health of Manitobans; and,

**Whereas** the current Progressive Conservative government is not focusing on educating, retaining, and recruiting Health Care Providers and instead keeps decreasing funds for Health Care; and,

**Whereas** the cost of recruiting international Health Care Providers is expensive, and frequently once they have come to Manitoba to work, they often leave before their contract is up and move to other parts of Canada; and,

**Whereas** the current Progressive Conservative government has decreased the number of educational seats for many Health Care Provider programs;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government will implement and fund initiatives to retain current Health Care Providers especially those providing services in Rural and Northern Manitoba, utilizing recommendations from Health Care Associations such as Canadian Nurses Association, Nurse Practitioner Association of Manitoba, Canadian Regulated Nurses of Manitoba etc.; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will fund initiatives to "Grow Their Own" Health Care Providers thru addition of educational seats, funding assistance to Health Care Programs, programs to decrease educational debt post-graduation through service commitments within Manitoba, including Northern and Rural Manitoba, and explore potential of working in Conjunction with Health Canada to meet the needs of all Manitobans in remote Communities; and.

**Be It Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will develop Policies around recruiting and retaining International Health Care Providers to ensure the International Health Care Providers meet the demands of their contracts, and encourage them to stay.

**Supporting Documents:**

Canadian Nurses Association: Tested Solutions for Eliminating Canadian Registered Nurses Shortage [https://www.cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/rn\\_highlights\\_e.pdf](https://www.cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/rn_highlights_e.pdf)

Oulton, J.A. (2006). The Global Nursing Shortage: An Overview of Issues and Actions. *Policies, Politics & Nursing Practice* Supplement to Vol 7, No 3, Aug pp 34S-39S

<http://cbc.ca/radio/whitecoat/canada-nursing-shortage-covid-pandemic-1.6174048>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/8188175/canada-nurse-shortage-covid/>

Sponsored by the MLP Policy Committee

Moved By\_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By\_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 6.5 Winnipeg Regional Hospitals

**Whereas** with half of Winnipeg ER's closed, just prior to a worldwide pandemic, the catastrophic result has created backlog (2021) of 130,000 surgeries. The ER consolidation was needed because "many patients wait too long for care", and "Our health-care system is currently broken" (Health Ministry Kelvin Goertzen, 2017) <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/health-care-system-changes-manitoba-1.4060124>), but wait times have increased, not decreased.

Dr. David Peachey's report (Healing Our Health System), was the blueprint for these actions, but enlarging departments prior to the consolidation was not followed. Immediately, the "previously negligible" wait list for cardiac surgery grew to around 100 patients (CBC News, June 10, 2019), among others. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/staff-exhausted-surgeons-quitting-peachey-report-overhaul-winnipeg-health-care-system-1.5169802>)

**Whereas** nurses have been mandated to work double shifts, threatened with job loss, resulting in doctors and nurses with much needed specialties, to resign. (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/emergency-nurses-health-sciences-centre-raise-alarm-long-wait-times-1.6158973>, Aug 31/21).

**Whereas** consolidation, left a system without an adequate margin of safety, chaotic EMS transports to remote crowded ER's with long wait times, inadequate staff, sometimes precipitating patient death.

**Whereas** "Shared Health" has repeatedly failed in its job, from accessing PPE stocks, to the placement of PET scanners. WRHA has threatened healthcare workers with dismissal, if concerns were expressed to the press.

**Whereas** new and existing infrastructure (4<sup>th</sup> Floor Grace Hospital, HSC Women's Centre, etc.), have been left underutilized.

**Be it Resolved** all previously closed ER's be re-opened, re-staffed, and with contracts (unlike the past 4.5 years of nurses without contracts).

**Be it Further Resolved** that Shared Health be dissolved, and the WRHA be publicly accountable to Manitobans and the hospitals, fostering hospital administrations to have greater input and autonomy.

Sponsored by the MLP Policy Committee

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 6.6 Guaranteeing Access to Free Contraception

**Whereas** Timely access to effective contraception reduces the incidence of unintended pregnancy; and,

**Whereas** adolescent parenting is associated with lower lifetime educational achievement, lower income, and increased reliance on social support programs; and,

**Whereas** apart from the personal costs, unintended pregnancies are a costly burden for Manitoba's health and social service systems; and,

**Whereas** the costs of universal contraception coverage would be more than offset by the savings in direct medical costs related to unintended pregnancy; and,

**Whereas** cost should not prevent individuals, particularly young people, from their right to make choices about their reproductive health; and,

**Whereas** Access to contraception is recognized as a basic human right;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government ensure the provincial health care plan covers 100% of costs of *all* contraceptives for *all* Manitobans.

Sponsored by the MLP Youth Commission

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 7.0 Community Safety

### 7.1 Addressing Crime

**Whereas** crime has risen sharply under the PC government, including property crime, violent crime and murders; and,

**Whereas** the City of Winnipeg has been continually voted the most unsafe urban center in Canada, with crime increasing annually in every neighborhood in Winnipeg; and,

**Whereas** Winnipeg holds the dubious honour of being the violent crime capital of Canada, with a rate of 153.5 violent crimes per 100,000 people; and,

**Whereas** the PC government has failed to take any preventive measures to warn Manitobans about the dangers of meth and other deadly drugs; and,

**Whereas** the PC government has cut, dismantled and undermined community programs that prevent crime;

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will support municipalities in employing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) programs, and work with Manitoba Hydro to improve community lighting; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government would fund anti-crime and anti-gang community safety programs, and anti-drug campaigns in the public and in schools, and create drug stabilization units in Winnipeg, Brandon and across the province.

Sponsored by St. Boniface Constituency Association

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM



## 7.2 Calls to Action to End Homelessness

**Whereas** more than 1500 people in Manitoba are experiencing homelessness. Our bus shelters, particularly but not exclusively downtown, have become "homes" for those who are homeless; and.

**Whereas** there must be a shift in support for homeless people away from police or transit, and towards health care and mobile support units from existing organizations;

**Be It Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal government will support the recommendations put forward in *All the Way Home* report released in December 2020:

- 1) Open several community centres and other city buildings as warming shelter,
- 2) Prompt access to EIA within 48 hours,
- 3) Prompt access to seamless addictions treatment,
- 4) Create and maintain a single web-based dashboard of resources for those who are homeless,
- 5) Signage and maps provided in bus shelters listing places available to stay warm,
- 6) Provide free masks in bus shelters as long as the COVID-19 pandemic continues,
- 7) Organize a city-wide coordinated approach to supporting and contacting mobile help units,
- 8) Use a fast-track approach to put people in an apartment or a hotel room,
- 9) Use Indigenous cultural approaches to welcome people in from the cold,
- 10) Help people all the way to a positive and sustainable life path.

**Be It Further Resolved** a Manitoba Liberal government will partner with the Federal Government on transformative initiatives such as through their fund to assist with the purchases of hotels for rapid housing during Covid-19.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 7.3 Ban on Government Advertising on Platforms with Hate Speech

**Whereas** in the last years, there has been an explosion in content that is unquestionable hate speech on many social media and other tech platforms; and,

**Whereas** the content includes racist conspiracy theories, holocaust denial, and hate directed against women, people of different faiths, nationalities and ethnic backgrounds; and,

**Whereas** this content is hosted not just on small sites, but on major platforms, including Google, Facebook and YouTube; and,

**Whereas** the common thread, along with hate, is that these “platforms” are not responsible for what they publish. They claim not to be “publishers” at all; and,

**Whereas** this is contrast to publishers - newspapers, radio, TV and web publications that take legal accountability for what they print;

**Be It Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will not buy advertising on platforms unless they are “publishers” and are accountable for the content they print. We will purchase advertising in local media outlets instead.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### 7.4 Inquiry into Abuse Allegations

**Whereas** there have been multiple instances of harassment, threats, intimidation, and individuals discounting sexual assault allegation in Manitoba's labour movement, including prominent union leaders who have been alleged to have made inappropriate comments; and,

**Whereas** the current internal investigative process has failed to deliver either justice or a safe workplace for everyone; and,

**Whereas** change is only going to happen if women and other workers in Manitoba's labour movement have the ability to come forward and speak their truth in safety; and,

**Whereas** the central purpose of a labour union is to protect workers, and at the end of this process, Manitoba Liberals want to make sure unions in Manitoba are doing just that.

**Be It Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will formally call for all-party agreement on an independent judicial inquiry into multiple allegations of sexual harassment and even sexual assault in Manitoba's labour movement; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that there must be special measures taken to ensure witnesses feel safe testifying free from intimidation or retaliation.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 7.5 Discontinuing Day Light Savings Time

**Whereas** changing back and forth from Day Light Savings Time is disruptive and dangerous; and,

**Whereas** MPI reports an increase in auto collisions by 20% following the spring clock change; and,

**Whereas** the disruptions caused by time changes have proved to negatively impact people's sleep and health; and,

**Whereas** this method no longer achieves the results it was intended to create;

**Be It Resolved** that the practice of implementing Day Light Savings Time be abolished in Manitoba and the time zone be set at Standard Time year-round.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 8.0 Immigration

### 8.1 Rural Issues Related to Immigration

**Whereas** rural communities can benefit from the arrival of immigrant newcomers with skills that are needed; and,

**Whereas** there is often a lack of translation services; and,

**Whereas** Internet services are lacking; and,

**Whereas** English/French education for children and adults is needed; and,

**Whereas** public transportation services are needed; and,

**Whereas** employment opportunities for spouses are limited; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba has an established target of 7% for Francophone immigration and immigration is critical to the vitality of the province's Francophone minority, including in rural areas;

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will work with all levels of government and with local community organizations, including Francophone communities, to leverage the opportunities that immigration provides for the province and address the challenges faced by immigrant newcomers arriving in rural Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 8.2 “Head Tax”

**Whereas** immigrant newcomers are charged \$500 per person; and,

**Whereas** the charge lacks a clear purpose and has a questionable cost/benefit; and,

**Whereas** the income is allocated to general revenues rather than immigrant services; and,

**Whereas** the charge is class discriminatory and favours those with more wealth;

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government of Manitoba will work with all levels of government towards eliminating the current \$500 per person charge to immigrant newcomers arriving in Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

### 8.3 Family Reunification

**Whereas** family reunification should be encouraged in order to achieve several benefits, such as:

- Reduced transience among immigrant newcomers,
- Improved well-being among immigrant newcomers,
- Increased productivity of income earners,
- Facilitation of economic immigration as envisaged by the Provincial Nominee Program,
- Reduced amount of money "going home",
- Addressing a current moral issue;

**Be it resolved** that the Manitoba Liberal Party urge the Government of Manitoba to work with all levels of government towards supporting family reunification.

Sponsored by Constituency Association of Roblin

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

#### **8.4 Immigration Misconceptions and Program Limitations that Need to Be Addressed**

**Whereas** there are several misconceptions and lack of support that limit immigrant newcomers achieving their full potential and recognition within Canadian society, such as:

- The sense that immigrants get the “rotten” jobs,
- Ensuring that immigrant skills are matched to the communities and jobs where they are needed,
- Building on skills useful within immigrants’ original contexts,
- Endeavouring to match incoming foreign students’ training to the job market,
- Demonstrating that newcomers are not taking jobs away from Canadians,
- Directing newcomers to jobs that are “socially” useful,
- Supporting newcomers as they gain Canadian/Manitoba credentials such as citizenship, professional status, drivers’ licenses, etc.

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will work with all levels of government towards addressing current immigration misconceptions and program limitations

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

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## 9.0 Gender Equity

### 9.1 Equal Pay

**Whereas** the employment rate for women in Manitoba is 10% less than that for men; and,

**Whereas** women earn \$0.87 for every dollar earned by men, largely as a result of wage inequality between women and men within occupations; and,

**Whereas** across Canada, gender parity at all levels in the workplace "improves profitability, workplace culture and the economy as a whole," PwC noted in a study last year. It estimated that Canada would likely see \$105 billion in GDP growth if it closed the wage gap and boosted female work-force participation; and,

**Whereas** the government of Manitoba studied gender pay inequality in the 1980's yet made no effort to close the gap for Provincial Employees.

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government would study wage inequality in provincial departments and close the gap.

Sponsored by St. Boniface Constituency Association

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 9.2 Addressing Period Poverty – Free Menstrual Products

**Whereas** diva cups, menstrual pads, tampons, and the like constitute menstrual products; and,

**Whereas** access to menstrual products constitutes a basic need for all people who menstruate; and,

**Whereas** access to such efficacious products should not constitute a financial burden to the citizenry; and,

**Whereas** one-third of Canadian women say they've struggled to afford menstrual products; and,

**Whereas** 83% of Canadian women say they feel their period prevents them from fully participating in activities and 70% of Canadian women say they have missed school or work or have withdrawn from social activities because of their period; and,

**Whereas** making menstrual products more accessible is a way to address health implications such as toxic shock syndrome;

**Be It Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would require all public schools and post-secondary institutions to provide free menstrual products for students in school bathrooms; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that a new Manitoba Liberal government would require specified public service bodies to provide free period products to anyone who needs them.

Sponsored by MLP Youth Commission

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 10.0 Matching Federal Funds

### 10.1 Missed Opportunities

**Whereas** the Government of Canada has offered financing to the provincial government to address the needs of Manitobans, including health care supports and infrastructure assistance; and,

**Whereas** the Government of Manitoba has refused or been slow to access such assistance resulting in missed opportunities; and,

**Whereas** Manitobans have not been able to access the federal funds for such as health care and infrastructure improvements for active transportation that have been available in other provinces.

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will work with the Government of Canada to address the needs of Manitobans.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 11.0 The Charter and Human Rights

### 11.1 Notwithstanding Clause

**Whereas** the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms forms the foundation of our society; and,

**Whereas** these same fundamental Rights and Freedoms are threatened by Section 33 of the Charter, commonly called the Notwithstanding Clause; and,

**Whereas** each time that the Notwithstanding Clause has been used or threatened to be used, it has been a matter of convenience and not necessity; and,

**Whereas** the Notwithstanding Clause has been most recently used in Quebec in a way never intended by the makers of the Charter to allow a gross violation of human rights; and,

**Whereas** we must now assume that a precedent has been set and that the Notwithstanding Clause can be abused by any Province, including Manitoba;

**Be It Hereby Resolved That** a Manitoba Liberal Government will introduce legislation in the Manitoba Legislature requiring a two thirds majority vote to invoke Section 33 of the Charter, known as the Notwithstanding Clause.

Supporting documentation:

<https://www.thelawyersdaily.ca/articles/17897/cba-urges-better-regulation-of-immigration-consultants-denounces-bill-21-religious-discrimination>

The relevant passage from the article states: "As well, the CBA agreed to ask federal and provincial governments to establish guidelines limiting the use of the s. 33 "notwithstanding" clause in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to situations where: the proposed legislation has been vetted by courts and there has been "meaningful and transparent" prior public consultation, along with a two-thirds majority vote in the legislature or Parliament."

Sponsored by Lakes Region

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 12.0 Manitoba's 150 Celebration

### 12.1 A New Flag for Manitoba

**Whereas** following the adoption of the modern Canadian flag, the people of Manitoba engaged in their own short but turbulent debate about the creation of a unique provincial flag. On 12 May 1966, in a ceremony ensconced in imperial symbolism that emphasized the British presence in Manitoba during the preceding 300 years, the newly minted flag of Manitoba was raised for the first time at the Manitoba Legislative grounds; and,

**Whereas** the new Manitoba flag was created to remind Manitobans, and Canadians, that while Canada may be charting a course towards reconciliation, in Manitoba, Britishness took precedence, a relic from the days of our former British colonial heritage an ignores the roles that Indigenous, French and multicultural historical traditions have played in the founding of this province; and,

**Whereas** a group of experts from the North American Vexillological Association graded all 72 North American provincial, state and territorial flags as part of a NAVA flag survey in 2001. Manitoba came in 44th place, the worst ranking of all provincial flags. The province's flag is criticized for bearing a close resemblance to Ontario's, which placed 43rd; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba's flag is often confused with Ontario's flag, with the only difference being a bison instead of three maple leaves. Both provinces' flags are similar to the Red Ensign that Canada used as a national flag prior to adopting the maple leaf design in 1965. There is a red background, a Union Jack in the upper left corner, and a provincial symbol toward the bottom right corner; and,

**Whereas** the Red Ensign, has recently taken on a darker symbolism, adopted as Canada's equivalent of the Confederate flag by some extremists;

**Be It Hereby Resolved that** a new Manitoba Liberal government will form an all-party flag committee to study a new provincial flag, hold a competition, and approve a new provincial flag in its first mandate.

Sponsored by the Constituency Association of Roblin

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM

## 13.0 Cannabis Policy

### 13.1 Cannabis Revenue for Municipalities

**Whereas** when the Federal Government offered to split Cannabis revenues 50/50 with provinces, provinces disagreed, claiming that costs of the change required more funding; and,

**Whereas** one of the central purposes of the legalization of cannabis was to reduce the black market in cannabis, and deprive criminals and gangs of revenue; and,

**Whereas** the Federal Government amended the revenue sharing formula, to offer a further 25% to provinces, on the condition that that funding go to municipalities; and,

**Whereas** the PC Government has been collecting revenues but has refused to share it with municipalities; and,

**Whereas** Manitoba has among the highest prices for cannabis across Canada; and,

**Whereas** statistics show that the customers for legal cannabis in Manitoba skew to older groups; and,

**Whereas** the PC government has claimed there will be no revenue from cannabis, but has provided no evidence whatsoever for this claim; and,

**Whereas** MLLC has projected that it will have \$95-million in revenue from cannabis, a figure that does not include the other taxation revenues; and,

**Whereas** younger consumers may be purchasing lower-cost black market cannabis;

**Be It Hereby Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will share 25% of the federal excise revenue with municipalities; and,

**Be It Hereby Further Resolved** that a Manitoba Liberal Government will review cannabis taxation to see whether lower prices will reduce the black market, and act according to the findings.

Sponsored by St. Boniface Constituency Association

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Adopted/Not Adopted at the October 2021 MLP AGM