



Policy Resolutions

- 2022 Annual General Meeting

Compiled by MLP Policy Committee for Consideration at AGM

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1.0 Environment/Economy/Infrastructure

1.1 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 Hereby Resolved That a new 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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.2 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 Hereby Resolved That a new 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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.3 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 Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will endeavour to ensure that the protection and enhancement of our urban forests.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.4 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 Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will work to ensure the protection and enhancement of the province's soils

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.5 Embracing Sustainable Transportation Technology in Manitoba

Whereas the Government of Canada has unveiled a \$9 billion “2030 emissions reduction plan” with several provisions aimed at lowering the country's emissions, including a plan to mandate 20% zero-emission new light-duty vehicle sales in 2026, rising to 60% by 2030 and 100% by 2035; and,

Whereas the Progressive Conservative Government of Manitoba has not taken reasonable steps to implement sustainable transportation technologies forming government; and,

Whereas in 2020, there are 70,081 collision incidents reported with Manitoba Public Insurance and the safety of autonomous electric vehicles has been well-documented, with a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study finding that self-driving cars have the potential to reduce traffic fatalities by up to 90%; and,

Whereas transitioning to a fleet of autonomous vehicles would create jobs in the engineering and technology sectors while also reducing the number of jobs in the automotive industry; and,

Whereas the total distance driven by vehicles in Manitoba is expected to increase from about 10.4 billion kilometers in 2020 to 19.1 billion kilometers in 2030;

Be It Hereby Resolved That the Manitoba Liberal Party will commit to the rapid adoption of autonomous vehicle technology in Manitoba by working with all levels of government and the private sector to:

1. Create incentives for the purchase and use of electric, hydrogen, hybrid, autonomous, and other fuel-efficient vehicles, a charging infrastructure for electric vehicles; a fleet of autonomous vehicles to be used for public transportation in Manitoba,
2. Work with the automotive industry, academia, and others to promote and support the development and testing of autonomous vehicles in Manitoba,
3. Encourage the use of autonomous vehicles for commercial purposes, such as ride-hailing and delivery,
4. Study the feasibility of implementing a pilot project of an autonomous vehicle network in a defined area of Manitoba,
5. Help to create a legal and regulatory framework that allows for the operation of autonomous vehicles on Manitoba roads and educate the public about the benefits of autonomous vehicles.

Sponsored by Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.6 A Green New Deal for Manitoba

Whereas a changing climate threatens human life, healthy communities, and critical infrastructure; and,

Whereas exceeding 2 degrees warming will significantly increase the risk of disease, food and water insecurity, fires, coastal property damage, loss of biodiversity and severe weather including heatwaves, droughts, and flooding; and,

Whereas human activity is the dominant cause of climate change; and,

Whereas the global temperature increase must be kept under 1.5 degrees to avoid the most severe impacts of climate change, requiring net-zero emissions by 2050;

Be It Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will - achieve net-zero emissions by 2030 through a fair and just transition; and,

Be It Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will secure for all Manitobans: clean air and water, climate and community resiliency, healthy food, access to nature and a sustainable environment; and,

Be It Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will create jobs and ensure prosperity and economic security for all Manitobans; and,

Be It Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will sustainably invest in Manitoban infrastructure and industry.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.7 Silica Sand Mines and Environmental Concerns

Whereas two silica sand mines may be approved in Manitoba (CanWhite Sands-CWS) near Vivian, and Canadian Premium Sand–CPS, adjacent to the Hollow Water First Nations reserve, there are grave concerns by Hollow Water First Nations, and the town of Springfield. The CPS project alone requires 150,000 litres of water per day, mentioned in a documentary about Camp Morningstar, an Indigenous camp to draw awareness.

(National Film Board “The Lake Winnipeg Project: Camp Morningstar
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CV6bZtc_Eeg)

Whereas the CPS operation involves excavation, exposing a shale layer containing pyrite, generating acid when exposed to air and moisture, poisoning groundwater, a meaningful consultation process required by Section 35 to ensure Treaty 5 Rights has not been undertaken.

Whereas these Alberta-based companies, having misled and “Greenwashed” their proposals claiming that the 2.6 million tons of silica sand/year for 25 years is for patterned solar glass. Excessive iron content requires expensive and environmentally damaging acid leaching process. The likely application for this sand would be for natural gas fracking operations in the Montney Formation in B.C./Alberta. The lucrative sand sale (213.6 million tonnes), comes with great social and environmental damage to multiple aquifers in Manitoba, as expressed by citizens of Selkirk and Springfield, concerned about their only source of potable drinking water.
<http://www.policyalternatives.ca/manitoba> This proposal, in concept, delays the curbing of fossil fuel use, and causes irreversible damage.

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government would not grant licenses to either of these companies without complete public environmental assessments, combined with Indigenous and Community education process and consultation.

Sponsored by the MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

1.8 Filling the Electric Vehicle Gap in Manitoba

Whereas Manitobans want to reduce their carbon footprint by owning an electric vehicle/s, however there is currently a lack of infrastructure such as charging stations in Manitoba to meet the need; and,

Whereas the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives estimates that for every 10 percent reduction of light duty vehicles replaced with all-electric vehicles in Manitoba, we would see a reduction of 393 kt CO₂eq annually; and,

Whereas heavy duty trucks account for over 2,000 kt of CO₂eq, or 10%, of Manitoba's carbon emissions every year; and,

Whereas since 2019 the federal government introduced a rebate program for individuals and businesses who purchase an electric vehicle/s;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government create an initiative for businesses and organizations in Manitoba to invest in the necessary infrastructure for electric vehicles such as charging stations; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government would introduce, at a provincial level, a rebate program to provide Manitobans with incentives to purchase an electric vehicle/s; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government would support the shift of heavy-duty trucks from gas to electric by enhancing the "Manitoba GrEEEn Trucking Program," offering incentives to companies/owner-operators that install various technological improvements on trucks to reduce their emissions; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government would implement policies in alignment with a target to see a reduction in the purchase of 100% gas-powered vehicles by 20 percent by 2027 and a further 50 percent reduction by 2032, for a decrease of 1965 kt CO₂eq annually.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

2.0 Education and Childhood Care

2.1 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 new Manitoba Liberal Government will provide sustained funding for the Manitoba Child Abuse Response Centre.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

2.2 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 Hereby 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 _____

2.3 Ministry of Education, Children 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 Hereby 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 Also Resolved that this new Ministry of Education, Child and Citizenship will be responsible for, but not limited to, such programs as:

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

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

2.4 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 Also Resolved that the MLP reverses the reduction to the annual rebate for renters because of the change made by the PC government.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

2.5 Civics Education

Whereas an informed electorate is essential for a healthy democracy; and,

Whereas participation in elections is often less than 60 percent of eligible voters; and,

Whereas winning candidates frequently receive less than 40 percent of those who vote resulting in an unrepresentative outcome;

Be It Hereby Resolved that a Manitoba Liberal government will undertake measures to increase the awareness and involvement of Manitobans in the electoral process.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

2.6 Freeze the Education Rebate

Whereas the PCs continue to borrow hundreds of millions of dollars by increasing the Education Property Tax rebate from 25 percent in 2021 to 37.5 percent in 2022, with a scheduled increase to 50 percent in 2023; and,

Whereas the decision to cut cheques to corporate landowners during a time of record deficits and debt means that Manitobans who do not receive the rebate will have to repay the debt; and,

Whereas there is no ultimate benefit to Manitoba by cutting large cheques to corporations outside of Manitoba as there is no evidence that any of the savings from the rebate will be passed along to Manitobans;

Be It Hereby Resolved That any rebates provided as a result of the Education Property Tax Credit will only be provided to the personal owner/s of a single-family home; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a personal owner/s of more than one single-family home may only receive a rebate for one single-family home.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

3.0 Seniors

3.1 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”¹; and,

Whereas fear of ageing is perpetuated by ageist language and stereotypes portraying old as negative and young as positive²; and,

Whereas research shows negative health outcomes among elders who experience and internalize ageism³; and,

Whereas the importance of the life-course perspective in elder mistreatment has been introduced into academic consciousness⁴; 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 well⁵;

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 Hereby 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 wisdom⁶; and,

Be It Hereby 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.

¹ **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!

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ *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

⁵ *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/>

⁶ *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' Association

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

3.2 Buurtzorg Neighbourhood Care

Whereas Buurtzorg Neighbourhood Care (BNC) is a model of community nursing conceived in the Netherlands, is widely cited as a promising and evidence-based approach to improving the delivery of integrated nursing and social care in community settings; and,

Whereas BNC is characterized by high levels of client and nurse satisfaction, professional autonomy exercised through self-managing nursing teams, client empowerment and holistic, client-directed care; and,

Whereas Client-directed experience of the BNC is positive because of there is better access to care, improved continuity of care and longer appointment times in comparison with traditional community nursing provision; and,

Whereas BNC offers an opportunity for developing service integration in community care and how to form effective collaborations across the care system with other health and social care professionals; and,

Whereas There will be cultural and regulatory differences that need to be worked out with respects to the nurses' ability to exercise professional autonomy. However, promoting independence among clients, improving the client experience, and empowering nurses and clients in the successful embedding of these aims as normalized ways of working will require a significant cultural shift at all levels; and,

Whereas BNC offers the benefits of effective, efficient and comprehensive community and social care; and will save money because of the reduction in managerial staff in favour of enhanced nursing to client services such as empowerment of nurses to coordinate and refer care needs plus Geriatric Teams (to divert seniors from acute care settings), social care needs, and Palliative care as needed and directed by the clients;

Be It Hereby Resolved that a MLP Government support and promote the transition to the Buurtzorg Neighbourhood Care (BNC) model as the organizational and operational structure for the Manitoba government home care system.

References:

Transforming community nursing services in the UK; lessons from a participatory evaluation of the implementation of a new community nursing model in East London based on the principles of the Dutch Buurtzorg model

https://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/id/eprint/4655483/1/Lalani_etal_2019_Transforming-community-nursing-services-in-the-UK.pdf

<https://hopeinitiative.ca/> New Models of Home Care Canadian 4 year research project HOPE Ontario

People Powered Care document and Empowered Home Care Summit plus video from Summit

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVsLRTq_DY Video from the Health Summit

<https://www.buurtzorg.com/about-us/buurtzorgmodel/>

Self-management, continuity, building trusting relationships, and building networks in the neighbourhood are all important and logical principles for the teams.

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

3.3 Dehydration in Older Persons in Manitoba

Whereas Older persons residing in Long Term Care (LTC) institutional facilities or in communities in Manitoba can develop symptoms like UTIs (Urinary Tract Infections), mental confusion, as well as heart palpitations, coma, and death, are or have been suffering from dehydration; and,

Whereas Older persons lose more water capacity than young adults, and don't feel the need to drink more fluids (avoiding caffeinated products), so drink much less than they need to function well; and,

Whereas physical inactivity, social disengagement, isolation, depression, dementia, sleep disorders, and polypharmacy all can affect how often or whether we remember to take hydrating fluids; and,

Whereas constantly offer fluids to people over age 60. At the same time, observe them. If you realize that they are rejecting liquids and, from one day to the next, they are irritable, breathless, or display a lack of attention, these are almost certainly recurrent symptoms of dehydration; and,

Whereas potential consequences of dehydration include constipation, falls, medication toxicity, urinary-tract and respiratory infections, delirium, renal failure, seizure, electrolyte imbalance, hyperthermia, and longer time to wound healing (especially pressure ulcers).^{8, 9} In older adults with many comorbidities, dehydration can precipitate emergency hospitalization and increase the risk of repeated hospitalizations.^{2, 10} Most significantly, dehydration has been associated with increased mortality rates among hospitalized older adults;¹¹ and,

Whereas in older adults with many co-morbidities, dehydration can precipitate emergency hospitalization and increase the risk of repeated hospitalizations.^{2, 10} Most significantly, dehydration has been associated with increased mortality rates among hospitalized older adults;¹¹

Be It Hereby Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the need for adequate hydration for all older adults in the residential or homeless communities, through educational information and reminders to health care professionals in all settings to keep dehydration in older adults as a risk factor for ED and acute care settings; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a MLP government support sufficient budgets to promote the practice of routine hydrations practices for all older persons residing in LTC or continuing care facilities; and be aware the potential for medical changes related to dehydration before transportation to hospitals.

References

https://journals.lww.com/ajnonline/Fulltext/2006/06000/Oral_Hydration_in_Older_Adults_Greater_awareness.23.aspx? Oral Hydration in Older Adults

<https://kincardinerecord.org/story.php?id=11517> Arnaldo Liechtenstein, physician

https://journals.lww.com/ajnonline/Fulltext/2006/06000/Oral_Hydration_in_Older_Adults_Greater_awareness.23.aspx? Mentes, Janet PhD, APRN, BC

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

3.4 Deprescribing Medications used in Long Term Care Facilities and Communities in Manitoba

Whereas older persons residing in Long Term Care (LTC) institutional facilities, and communities in Manitoba, are often on more than five (5) prescription medications, which carry a much higher risk of drug interactions and harms; and,

Whereas older persons are often not the targeted population to be included in clinical trials' research on new drugs, and they are not likely to be included in any research studies on the effects of current drugs on the older person's metabolism; and,

Whereas the unknown effects of prescription medications on older persons, puts those persons at a higher risk of adverse events, including hallucinations, disorientation; all of which can be regarded as a new medical condition onset, which often leads to adding additional medications to treat those medical events, thereby compounding the problem even more; and,

Whereas consents for some medications, like antipsychotics and antidepressants, which carry unacceptable or fatal risks to older persons which, without applicable diagnostic conditions such as psychosis or schizophrenia, are not discussed fully with the older person nor the legal representatives of that person to make an informed consent; and,

Whereas Families and legal representatives may not fully understand the risks and may not realize that these drugs carry serious harms and add to the burden of the prescription cascade effect when more than 5 medications are on board in their systems;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the practice of routine monthly to tri-monthly deprescribing review of medications of older persons in Long Term Care facilities in Manitoba, together with Choosing Wisely De/Implementation Med Safer Manitoba and utilizing the Beers Criteria along with non-pharmaceutical interventions first; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the practice of routine deprescribing reviews of medications in older persons within the communities where older persons reside, to minimize risks and harms from the overprescribing of medications, together with the Choosing Wisely De/Implementation MedSafer Manitoba and utilizing the Beers Criteria.

References

<https://choosingwiselycanada.org/event/irn-march2022/>

The MedSafer Study: Understanding the Benefits of Electronic Decision Support for Deprescribing During an Acute Care Hospitalization

<https://www.medsafer.org/ecare>

MedSafer E-CARE TeamThe MedSafer application was created in Montreal by two clinician researchers from the McGill University Health Centre in order to facilitate safer prescribing in older adults. We invite you to get to know them and the rest of their MedSafer team.

<https://www.medsafer.org/why-are-polypharmacy-deprescribing-important>

Drug Use among seniors in Canada 2016

https://secure.cihi.ca/free_products/drug-use-among-seniors-2016-en-web.pdf

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

3.5 Deprescribing Physical Restraint Use in Long Term Care Facilities in Manitoba

Whereas Older persons residing in Long Term Care (LTC) institutional facilities in Manitoba, are often prescribed physical restraints, which carry a much higher risk of harms such as pressure sores of the skin, mental distress, and agitation, when used for behavioural reasons, which may be due to dementia, confusion due to polypharmacy, or use of inappropriate drugs found on the Beers Criteria list of medications to avoid in older persons, especially with dementia; and,

Whereas the use of physical restraints in the older adult can lead to harms related to physical inactivity, social disengagement, depression, dementia, sleep disorders, and vocalizations calling for help, which often leads to polypharmacy to quieten the person; and,

Whereas the use of physical restraints on an older person is often done in response to the lack of adequate staffing ratios to residents as is clearly evident in the documentation from LTCAM and MARCHE over the last decade or more to the government requesting funding for more staff; and,

Whereas several studies have found that restraints actually increase the severity of falls and can increase confusion, muscle atrophy, chronic constipation, incontinence, loss of bone mass and decubitus ulcers. Restraint use is also linked to emotional distress, including loss of dignity and independence, dehumanization, increased agitation and depression; and,

Whereas the use of physical restraints on an older person without proper legal authorization or consent is a violation of that person's rights; and.

Whereas Section 7 of the Charter states “that everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of the person and the right to not to be deprived of these except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice” and older adults in LTC who are unable to voice this right are not afforded the same rights under the Charter;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the practice of non-restraint interventions including increase staffing levels, education of staff to use alternative methods to work with those with dementia; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a MLP government support the deprescribing of physical restraints use in older persons towards total elimination of physical restraint use in all LTC facilities in Manitoba.

References

Jokanovic N, Tan EC, Dooley MJ, Kirkpatrick CM, Bell JS. **Prevalence and factors associated with polypharmacy in long-term care facilities: a systematic review.** *J Am Med Dir Assoc.* 2015;16(6):535.

USING RESTRAINTS IN LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES: DOES THE CHARTER OF RIGHTS MEAN THAT LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES MUST CHANGE THEIR PRACTICES? <http://advocacycentreelderly.org/appimages/file/restraints.pdf>
http://www.hqontario.ca/Portals/0/modals/qi/en/processmap_pdfs/resources_links/restraints%20cno.pdf

According to Prevention of Falls and Fall Injuries in the Older Adult (2002, Nursing Best Practice Guideline, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario), several studies have found

that restraints actually increase the severity of falls and can increase confusion, muscle atrophy, chronic constipation, incontinence, loss of bone mass and decubitus ulcers. Restraint use is also linked to emotional distress, including loss of dignity and independence, dehumanization, increased agitation and depression.

<https://academic.oup.com/biomedgerontology/article/75/4/813/5540408#>

The Impact of the Long-term Care Homes Act and Public Reporting on Physical Restraint and Potentially Inappropriate Antipsychotic Use in Ontario's Long-term Care Homes

The high prevalence of restraint use in long-term care (LTC) has long been widely recognized by researchers, policy makers, and the greater public as an indicator of poor-quality care (1-7). This issue was of particular concern in Canada where rates of physical restraint use were, historically, higher than in a number of other countries, including the United States (8). **Calls have been made seeking the complete elimination of physical restraints in nursing homes (9).**

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

3.6 Deprescribing Sedatives and Hypnotics Use in Long Term Care Facilities in Manitoba

Whereas older persons residing in Long Term Care (LTC) institutional facilities in Manitoba, are often prescribed sedative and hypnotic medications, which carry a much higher risk of harms such as falls and fractures; and,

Whereas older persons in Long Term Care facilities are not exposed to daily exposure to natural sunlight and are exposed to artificial lighting in these facilities that never varies nor resemble the normal circadian rhythm; and,

Whereas sleep disturbance in LTC residents is likely to result from a variety of individual and environmental factors, including age-related changes in sleep architecture, environmental noise, nocturnal care practices, physical inactivity, social disengagement, depression, dementia, sleep disorders, and polypharmacy; and,

Whereas studies in LTC residents have linked sleep disturbance to decreased functional status,³ less functional recovery with rehabilitation,¹⁹ social disengagement,²⁰ greater risk of falls,²¹ frailty,²² agitation,²³ and higher mortality;²⁴ and,

Whereas sleep in LTC can be interrupted by environmental factors such as noise, lighting, room temperature, room sharing, and nocturnal care activities. With residents seldom being taken outdoors, limited exposure to bright light during the day significantly contributes to circadian deregulation; and,

Whereas even though some decrease in Benzodiazapines prescription continues to decrease, there is a parallel increase in low-dose, off-label use of other medications with sedative properties such as trazodone and quetiapine, and a high rate of psychotropic polypharmacy;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the practice of non-pharmaceutical interventions to promote natural sleep, sleep deprivation should be routinely assessed among all LTC residents and considered an important part of care planning; including exposure to sunlight and regulation of lighting within the facility to encourage natural and regular sleep patterns; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a MLP government support and promote the practice of routine deprescribing reviews of sedatives and hypnotic medication use in older persons in all LTC facilities.

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Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

3.7 Seniors Friendly Municipal By-laws

Whereas municipal land use/zoning bylaws and development standards often limit development that meets the needs of seniors and disabled persons; and,

Whereas seniors' residential areas often lack amenities such as sidewalks for pedestrian access and proximity to shopping areas; and,

Whereas alternative housing forms such as "granny suites" often are not allowed by zoning bylaws; and,

Whereas Provincial Land Use Policies direct municipal land use bylaw requirements;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will review the current Provincial Land Use Policies to ensure that they are seniors and disabled person friendly.

Sponsored by MLP Seniors' Association

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

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 Hereby 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 _____

4.2 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 _____

4.3 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 _____

4.4 “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.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

4.5 Follow Up Study for Universal Basic Income

Whereas technology has contributed to job displacement and wage stagnation over the last 40 years and nearly half of Canadian jobs are at high risk of automation in the coming years; and,

Whereas basic income increases entrepreneurship and gives everyone the ability to take risks whilst also significantly improving health & educational outcomes; and,

Whereas basic income can grow Canada's economy more than it costs while ending poverty and,

Whereas Canadian workers' share of income has steadily decreased since the 1970's and continues to fall. Automation has been shown to be a main contributor of this decline and 42% of Canadian jobs are at high risk of automation; and,

Whereas a basic income pilot in Japan increased interest in starting a business by 3.9x and a basic income pilot in South Korea resulted in a 45% increase in local business revenues; and,

Whereas 8.7% of Canadians live below the poverty line, 20% of Canadians live in the bottom 40% of incomes, and a UBI will ensure that communities at risk (including Indigenous peoples) are able to feel financially secure;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will through a process of intersectional consultation with stakeholders and political parties, introduce a Universal Basic Income (UBI) trial for all Manitobans as a prototype for all Canadians; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will conduct a basic income cost-benefit analysis, including reviews of basic income projects and studies by subject matter experts.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

4.6 **Tighten Provincial Corporate Beneficial Ownership to Freeze Russian Assets in Province**

Whereas Russian President Vladimir Putin's lawlessness and invasion of Ukraine have been enabled by governments all over the world who have refused to crack down on tax havens; and,

Whereas, in an attempt to fight global money laundering, tax evasion, and fraud, many jurisdictions have introduced searchable electronic databases that allow people to discover the real owners making money from corporations. Manitoba is not one of them; and,

Whereas Canada has signed agreements to fight tax havens by agreeing to have provinces set up corporate registries; and,

Whereas, in 2019, the Manitoba PCs introduced Bill 22, 'The Business Registration, Supervision and Ownership Transparency Act', that simply requires a corporation to produce a list of the beneficial owners when asked - providing one knows that the corporation exists;

Be it Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will introduce new legislation to reveal the "beneficial owners" of corporations registered in Manitoba to identify and freeze Russian assets in Manitoba.

Sponsored by the MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

4.7 **Audit into Pandemic Spending and Supports to the Public and Private Sector**

Whereas the PCs spent \$19-million US - (\$26.6-million Canadian in April 2020) to purchase millions of masks that didn't fit and couldn't be used, resulting in a lawsuit from the supplier; and,

Whereas \$1.2 million was spent on unusable, hand sanitizer made with fuel ethanol that had never been approved for sale by Health Canada; and,

Whereas a non-refundable down payment of \$7.2 million was paid to Providence Therapeutics, a Calgary start-up that had never successfully developed a vaccine at all, for a vaccine booster that will not be delivered; and,

Whereas Manitoba spent 100 times more than Saskatchewan did on personal protective equipment; and,

Whereas, given the number of untendered contracts that have been handed out, it is fair to suppose that these aren't the only three deals that were a colossal waste of money for Manitobans; and,

Whereas, although the PCs allocated \$10 million to support eligible non-profit organizations in the child welfare, adult disability services, homelessness, and childcare sectors through the Pandemic Staffing Support Benefit, they only spent around \$1 million from the fund, making it more difficult for Manitobans to access services; and,

Whereas this PC government forces individuals to make unsafe decisions that continue to put themselves and others at risk when the Province should have created a paid sick leave program, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will request the Auditor General's Office call a special audit into the spending of the PC government, including business supports, after millions of dollars were wasted throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

5.0 Support for Indigenous Rights

5.1 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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

5.2 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 Hereby 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 Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

5.3 Translating Mine Claim Information

Whereas mining claims have been staked near indigenous communities; and.

Whereas mine claims are frequently not acted upon; and,

Whereas potential economic and employment opportunities are not being made available; and,

Whereas mine claim information is not available in indigenous languages;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will make mining claims information more readily available, including translating such information into indigenous languages.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

6.0 Health Care Resolutions

6.1 “A Commitment to the Expansion of CancerCare Manitoba on the former Manitoba Clinic Grounds”

Whereas the Government of Canada, in its 2021 publication “Canadian Cancer Statistics” estimated that about 2 in every 5 Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetime and that about 1 in 4 Canadians will die of cancer; and,

Whereas the “Canadian Cancer Statistics” publication estimated that 229,200 Canadians were diagnosed with cancer in 2021, and that 84,600 Canadians died of cancer, making it the leading cause of death in Canada; and,

Whereas the “Canadian Cancer Statistics” publication projected that 483.6 Manitobans per 100,000 would be diagnosed with cancer in 2021, representing 6,900 new cases, or 19 cases per day; and,

Whereas nearly every Manitoban has been touched by cancer in some way; and,

Whereas it is imperative that Manitoba increase its capacity for research and treatment of cancer, given that the number of cancer cases has been increasing because of a growing and aging population; and,

Whereas in February 2017, the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government cut funding to a number of health-care projects in the province, including the cancellation of an expansion of CancerCare Manitoba (with the building of a new facility on the grounds of the former Manitoba Clinic at Sherbrook Street and McDermot Avenue), originally announced by the previous NDP Government in January 2016.¹ ; and,

Whereas the CancerCare expansion would have helped consolidate CancerCare Manitoba resources under one roof and would have addressed an urgent need for more space and equipment; and,

Whereas the cancelled expansion of CancerCare Manitoba has left a serious need for additional capacity for treatment and equipment unaddressed for the past five

¹ Dr. Sri Navaratnam, President and CEO of CancerCare Manitoba was quoted in the Government of Manitoba press release which announced the expansion: “CancerCare Manitoba must be prepared for the increase in patient volume while enhancing the patient experience for Manitobans and their families (“Province Announces New CancerCare Manitoba Facility To Be Built At Sherbrook And MacDermot”, Government of Manitoba Press Release, January 15, 2016).

years.²; and,

Whereas the Manitoba Progressive Conservative Government's Budget 2022 included no renewed commitment to the expansion of CancerCare Manitoba on the grounds of the former Manitoba Clinic;

Be It Hereby Resolved that a Manitoba Liberal government will:

1. Advocate for the expansion to CancerCare Manitoba on the grounds of the former Manitoba Clinic at Sherbrook Street and McDermot Avenue; and
2. Commit that within its first 100 days in office, a Manitoba Liberal Government will announce the expansion of CancerCare Manitoba on the grounds of the former Manitoba Clinic, and announce preliminary plans for the expansion, which will include consultation on the expansion with CancerCare Manitoba, cancer community stakeholders in Manitoba, and Manitoban cancer patients and supporters.

Sponsored by the West Winnipeg Region

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Dr. Navaratnam was quoted in an online story by CTV Winnipeg following the cancellation of the CancerCare Manitoba expansion, "When we moved into the existing building we were already out of capacity, so we really needed that [expansion]." (CTV Winnipeg, February 8, 2017).

6.2 Reinstatement of Health Insurance for Manitoba Students from Abroad

Whereas international students at Manitoba's post-secondary institutions are the single biggest pool of future immigrants in Manitoba's provincial nominee program and contribute significantly to Manitoba's economy through higher tuition, rent, and by working and paying taxes; and,

Whereas since 2016 to 2022, the Federal government has provided Manitoba with significant \$s under the Canada Health Transfer and \$s for Equalization; and,

Whereas in 2018, the PCs eliminated the coverage of health insurance for international students, a program that was an investment of \$3.1 million; and,

Whereas as a result of the cut, many students continue to face extra costs just to see a doctor or for mental health treatments, finding themselves with bills in the tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars; and,

Whereas international students are more reluctant to go to the doctor for fear of incurring a bill they cannot afford to access basic health, leaving many to suffer with untreated health issues.

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will reinstate the full coverage of health insurance for international students in Manitoba.

Sponsored by the MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

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 _____

6.4 Winnipeg Regional Hospitals Under Utilized Space

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 Minister 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; and,

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; and,

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

Be It Hereby Resolved That all previously closed ER's be re-opened, re-staffed, and with contracts (unlike the past 4.5 years of nurses without contracts); and,

Be It Hereby 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 _____

6.5 Immediately Halt Waves of PC Cuts & Invest in Public Health Care

Whereas the crisis in our health care system was made worse when the PCs went ahead with a health care system transformation in the middle of a pandemic, despite repeated warnings from health care professionals; and,

Whereas in a blog post from October 2021, Dr. Sandor Demeter said he is resigning from nuclear medicine at HSC due to cuts, dysfunction, and an inability of Shared Health to make decisions on time - what he termed an "agonizing health care transformation."; and,

Whereas Dr. Demeter states that "The inability to make decisions and move forward has had profound negative impacts on staff morale. For example, the HSC Diagnostic Imaging Director position has been vacant for almost three years and the Cyclotron and Radio pharmacy Director positions have been vacant for over two years."; and,

Whereas by and large, doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals, have done an extraordinary job within the constraints of the principles and priorities and funding of PC government; and,

Whereas for health care positions including Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Health Care Aides & Homecare there is on average a vacancy rate ranging from 15 to 30 percent across Regional Health Authorities in Manitoba; and,

Whereas the PCs reliance on agency nurses has increased dramatically over the course of the pandemic and although agency benefits aren't as good, agency nurses cannot be mandated to work overtime; and,

Whereas in 2021, Manitoba nurses successfully settled the salary portion of their collective agreement through arbitration, however, many pieces of the agreement including workplace and schedule conditions have yet to be agreed on;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will immediately halt disruptive waves of changes in Manitoba's public health care system to provide stability to the system; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will invest in public sector care by filling the dramatically high vacancies across RHAs in Manitoba.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Liberal Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

6.6 Immediately Reduce the Surgical and Diagnostic Backlog

Whereas it is inhumane to ask Manitobans to pay the price in suffering while they wait for the PCs to fix what they broke. Manitoba needs to rebuild our public health care system for the future as that is the only long-term solution; and,

Whereas, while Manitoba occasionally covers the costs of procedures in other provinces, the Province very rarely covers the costs of travel or a place to stay during and after surgery; and,

Whereas some Manitobans have been required to pay tens of thousands of dollars to receive necessary surgeries outside of Manitoba, driving up large costs for receiving the surgery, to travel, and to eat and be housed while away from their homes; and,

Whereas the PCs have broken Manitoba's health care system and that an emergency plan to cope with a backlog of almost 170,000 surgeries and procedures – according to Doctors Manitoba - needs to be rolled out now; and,

Whereas the PCs continue to mislead Manitobans on the status of the surgical and diagnostic backlog; and,

Whereas the PCs and NDP built a health care system that has created longer waiting lists by setting quotas on the number of hip and knee replacements and eye surgeries that the government will cover;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will implement the following measures to address the surgical and diagnostic backlog:

1. A plan to restore Manitoba's capacity to care for its own in the public health system within 12 months;
2. Manitobans who need procedures during the 12-month rebuilding period will be offered the option of travelling to other provinces for care or, as a last-ditch measure, the U.S.;
3. A "health equity fund" will be created that will cover costs of travel for patients and family members who cannot otherwise afford to travel;
4. The cap on the number of hip and knee replacements and eye surgeries that can be performed each year will be lifted so that surgical teams in Manitoba can address the backlog;
5. "Truth in Reporting on Wait Times". Currently, many wait times are defined as the time between a surgeon scheduling a procedure and the procedure itself - usually a few weeks, whereas real-world wait times are in the months or years. More accurate reporting will be from the time a problem is identified to when it is resolved.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Liberal Caucus

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

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 _____

7.2 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 Hereby 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 _____

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7.3 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 Hereby 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 Hereby 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 _____

7.4 **Make Puppy Mills Illegal**

Whereas a puppy mill is a commercial dog-breeding facility that focuses on increasing profit with little overhead cost where the health and welfare of the animals is not a priority; and,

Whereas puppy mills are inhumane and unhealthy for every dog involved. The dogs are kept in small wire cages for most of their lives and usually have some sort of illness or disease due to their lack of care; and,

Whereas mothers are harshly and continually bred their whole lives to make more puppies for sales; and,

Whereas living conditions are usually dangerous to the dog's well-being and involve multiple health risks to the dog's health. These often include tight, caged in living areas, not enough food/water, female dogs bred whenever possible, and when they can no longer breed, they are often put down, and the males who are not sold are often put down;

Whereas puppy Mills are not explicitly illegal in Canada unless the dogs are seen to be living in the absolute worst of conditions;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will prioritize the banning of all puppy mills in Manitoba;

Be It Further Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will act to ensure no puppies are imported from other provinces' puppy mills.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

7.5 Infill Housing Policy

Whereas the concept of densification by the construction of infills, limiting urban sprawl, infrastructure and housing costs, while helping the environment, seems laudable, but without the input of the communities affected, the opposite is occurring. “Infills” typically remove a single-family dwelling, replacing it with two narrow homes, virtually on property lines, by-passing zoning, almost three stories in height, blocking sunlight to neighbouring yards; and,
<https://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/deepening-debate-over-residential-infill-in-winnipeg-1.5142444>

Whereas these structures stick out like the proverbial “sore thumb”, there are other concerns, like privacy, sunlight loss, the elimination of mature trees, poor construction site practices, landscaping, wastewater capacity, and drainage; and,

Whereas infills have been “greenwashed”, the community of Glenwood of St. Vital, represents a microcosm. Comprising only 0.6% of Winnipeg residences, Glenwood has 10% of all Winnipeg infills (Survey Feb '22). Average home ownership was 22.5 years, with the primary factors being an affordable and safe community, number of trees, and close to greenspace. Interviews with homeowners show a common grievance; despite attending and raising concerns at city planning meetings, approvals for infills continues unbridled; and,

Whereas in other cities, property owners that have “Granny Suites” are required to live in the property, this is not required in Winnipeg, which incentivizes *increasing*, rather than decreasing housing costs; and,

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will adopt an infill policy of resident home ownership to allow “Granny Suites”, single home per lot, mature tree protection, address infrastructure and environmental issues, and communities to have input, not lip service, to policy development,

Sponsored by the MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

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 _____

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 _____

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
- Reduced amount of money "going home",
- Addressing a current moral issue;

Be it Hereby 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 _____

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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

8.5 Coverage of Basic Needs Assistance for Refugees

Whereas Russia's aggression in Ukraine has resulted in many displaced Ukrainians, some of whom are seeking – or looking to seek - refuge in Manitoba; and,

Whereas in Afghanistan during the last 20 years, a generation of people grew up in a more liberated country, and in the summer of 2021 the Taliban took over Afghanistan, limiting the opportunities for and the potential of women; and,

Whereas the Federal Government is responsible for refugees until they arrive in Canada and provinces are responsible for settlement; and,

Whereas not-for-profit housing agencies and individuals have identified available accommodations that could be used for housing refugees, however, many have no way to pay for their living costs; and,

Whereas it is especially important for families, many of whom are women and children, have access to public supports to provide them with immediate security;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will implement a rent-assist program - that can be used for a minimum of three months - for refugees arriving in Manitoba with no guarantee of living accommodations; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That the Manitoba Liberal government will commit that no refugee will go without shelter and/or having their basic necessities met immediately upon arrival in Manitoba.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

9.2 **Ban Abuse of Non-Disclosure Agreements in Harassment, Bullying, and Misconduct Cases**

Whereas on April 26, 2022, Manitoba Liberals introduced Bill 225, legislation designed to reform Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) in Manitoba so survivors of sexual harassment, intimidation, and misconduct cases can no longer be forced into silence through a legal agreement; and,

Whereas NDAs were created in the 1980s to keep people from walking out the door with valuable company secrets; and,

Whereas a growing global campaign "Can't Buy My Silence" led in Canada by Dr. Julie Macfarlane, Professor Emeritus of Law at the University of Windsor, sued for defamation after speaking up about information hidden in an NDA made by her university and a faculty member being terminated for harassment, and by Zelda Perkins in the UK, who broke an NDA after working for Hollywood movie producer Harvey Weinstein; and,

Whereas people who have signed NDAs may struggle because they cannot speak with family, friends, or counsellors about what they have experienced or witnessed and while they can go to the police, they may be afraid to do so; and,

Whereas Bill 225 requires that an NDA can only be enforceable if it is the expressed wish and desire of the complainant. They must also have had the opportunity to get independent legal advice before they proceed with one; and,

Whereas disgraced Winnipeg fashion mogul Peter Nygard also used NDAs to silence individuals who worked at his company. Nygard is facing extradition to the USA for a class action civil suit in New York and has been charged with sex crimes in Toronto and Montreal on allegations of sexual assault; and,

Whereas on November 17, 2021, Prince Edward Island became the first province in Canada to ban the misuse of NDAs after MLA & Deputy Leader of the Green Party Lynne Lund received unanimous support after introduced similar legislation last year;

Be It Hereby Resolved That the Manitoba Liberal Party formally support Bill 225, The Non-Disclosure Agreements Act.

Sponsored by MLP Caucus

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

10.0 Northern Development

10.1 Northern Energy

Whereas northern Manitoba is the source of much of Manitoba's electrical energy; and,

Whereas many northern communities do not have access to affordable electrical energy, often relying on expensive and greenhouse gas emitting diesel fuel; and,

Whereas the potential of Manitoba's electrical energy has not been fully achieved for northern and interprovincial development; and,

Whereas the potential of northern uranium fueled small nuclear reactors as a source for community electrical supply has not been tapped;

Be It Hereby Resolved That aa Manitoba Liberal government will explore and effectively and efficiently tap into the potential of northern energy sources.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

10.2 Northern Transportation Services

Whereas limitations in transportation services to northern communities deter economic and social development; and,

Whereas improvements to surface and traditional air transportation services are extremely costly; and

Whereas cargo air ship technology exists that could provide transportation of heavy goods at relatively low cost; and,

Whereas due to its poor condition, the Hudson Bay Railway needs significant upgrades;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will support an examination of air ship transportation services to northern communities; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will support significant investment in the Hudson Bay Railway.

Sponsored by MLP Policy Committee

Moved by _____

Seconded by _____

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 _____

11.2 Citizens' Assemblies to Address Complex Policy Issues

Whereas Citizens' Assemblies are increasingly being used around the world to find consensus on complex and divisive issues; and,

Whereas Citizens' Assemblies involve a deliberative and learning-based approach in which citizens interact with each other and with experts to arrive at their own considered conclusions and,

Whereas the use of Citizens' Assemblies can help to overcome the sense of powerlessness and mistrust that many people feel towards government and the political process; and,

Whereas there is a dire need for independent, non-partisan citizen engagement on complex issues in Manitoba, such as the climate crisis, healthcare, education, and poverty; and,

Whereas Citizens' Assemblies are increasingly being used all over the world and offer a facilitated, deliberative, process, wherein citizens are invited to rise above their partisan inclinations by focusing on shared principles that protect the democratic process from political interference and manipulation and there is good evidence to indicate that this works: and,

Whereas Citizens' Assemblies can be used to discuss issues in which politicians are at an impasse and unable to agree with each other for political reasons;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a Manitoba Liberal government will commit to holding Citizens' Assemblies on complex issues of public concern in Manitoba, in order to:

1. Engage Manitobans in an open, transparent, and inclusive process,
2. Build public trust and confidence in government,
3. Find consensus on complex and divisive issues,
4. Develop innovative solutions to Manitoba's most pressing challenges.

Sponsored by Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

11.3 A Manitoba Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform

Whereas democracy is a fundamental part of Canadian Society; and,

Whereas the first-past-the-post electoral system produces seat counts that are often disproportionate to the popular support of political parties; and,

Whereas the most recent provincial or territorial referendum on the topic of Electoral Reform ended with a majority of voters in Prince Edward Island to vote for the adoption of a different voting system; and,

Whereas in a 2020 Léger poll, 80% of respondents endorsed striking a non-partisan, independent Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform where citizens learn and consult with more Canadians and experts and make recommendations to the government;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will convene a Citizens' Assembly to deliberate on a model of proportional representation; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will form this Citizens' Assembly of at least 27 willing, randomly selected citizens who are broadly representative of Manitoba's society as reflected in the Census, including age, gender, social class, and regional spread; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will ensure that the mandate of the Citizens' Assembly include proposing, in a report to the Legislative Assembly, a specific, detailed design for an electoral system that is tailored to Manitoba's needs, and which it believes would meet the approval of a majority of the province's public; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will ensure that the Citizens' Assembly will be fully funded through Elections Manitoba and that Elections Manitoba will provide public education and information programs relating to the Citizens' Assembly.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

11.4 Providing Local Government Electoral Choice

Whereas Canada is the only member of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that continues to use the First-Past-the-Post electoral system for all levels of government; and,

Whereas with the First-Past-the-Post electoral system, thousands of Municipal Council Members across Canada are serving without a definitive mandate. It is normal for a Mayor to win a race in Canada, with less than 50 per cent of the vote, or even less than 30 percent; and,

Whereas local elections suffer from the lowest levels of turnout and our elected councils are deeply unrepresentative of the diversity we see in Manitoba society; and,

Whereas in 2013, the Toronto City Council, which represents over 2.7 million people, voted to ask the province of Ontario to give permanent residents the right to participate in municipal elections and to allow the city to adopt ranked choice balloting, which would give voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference;

Be It Hereby Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will, in cooperation with Elections Manitoba, allow local municipalities in Manitoba the choice to implement a ranked ballot to their municipal elections; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government will not impede in municipalities choice to implement democratic reform at the local level by ensuring proper funding to Elections Manitoba; and,

Be It Hereby Further Resolved That a new Manitoba Liberal government would abstain from intervening in the process of choosing a new voting system in municipal elections.

Sponsored by the Manitoba Young Liberals

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

12.0 Cannabis Policy

12.1 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

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____