

Manitoba PC Caucus Review

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PREMIER MAKES CHANGES TO CABINET

August 3, 2018

Premier Brian Pallister announced changes to the provincial cabinet this week and welcomed one new member to cabinet.

“Since our election in April of 2016, our government has focused on fixing the finances, repairing the services and rebuilding the economy of our province,” said Pallister. “Our team has made great progress. Taxes have been lowered, the deficit has come down, we are seeing record private investment in our province, bond rating agencies are giving Manitoba a vote of confidence and emergency room wait times have come down.

“We have achieved this through a strong team. But there is much left to do. I’m announcing some key changes and additions to the team that build on the significant progress achieved over the first two years and position us for further improvements in our finances, services and economy over the second half of our mandate.”

Pallister welcomed Colleen Mayer, MLA for St. Vital, as the new minister of Crown Services.

He also announced new portfolios for the following ministers:

- Heather Stefanson (MLA for Tuxedo) becomes Minister of Families and will continue to serve as Deputy Premier;
- Cameron Friesen (MLA for Morden-Winkler) becomes Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living;
- Kelvin Goertzen (MLA for Steinbach) becomes Minister of Education and Training, and government house leader;
- Cliff Cullen (MLA for Spruce Woods) becomes Minister of Justice and attorney general; and
- Scott Fielding (MLA for Kirkfield Park) becomes Minister of Finance and minister responsible for the civil service.



PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE MLAS TAKE ON NEW ROLES IN THE LEGISLATURE

In addition to changes made to the provincial cabinet this week, Premier Brian Pallister announced a number of changes to the legislative and caucus roles served by Progressive Conservative MLAs

Three MLAs are assuming new duties as Legislative Assistants, including:

- Reg Helwer, MLA for Brandon West, who becomes Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Finance;
- Greg Nesbitt, MLA for Riding Mountain, who becomes Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living; and
- Ian Wishart, MLA for Portage la Prairie, who becomes Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Education and Training with specific responsibilities to lead our government's comprehensive review of the K-12 education system in Manitoba.

Two MLAs are also taking on new roles within the Progressive Conservative caucus, including:

- Derek Johnson, MLA for Interlake, who becomes government whip; and
- Shannon Martin, MLA for Morris, who becomes deputy government whip.

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PROVINCE MOVING FORWARD ON OUTPUT-BASED PRICING SYSTEM FOR CARBON REDUCTIONS

The province has released a discussion paper for a made-in-Manitoba output-based pricing system (OBPS) that will generate meaningful carbon reductions for emission-intensive industries while preserving local jobs, business investment and economic growth, Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires announced this week.

“The environment and economy go hand in hand. Our *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* set us on the path to make Manitoba the cleanest, greenest, most climate-resilient province in Canada,” Squires said. “We are continuing along that path now by launching consultations on options for our regulatory framework and want to engage with affected stakeholders, companies and sectors.”

Alberta and Saskatchewan are establishing their own output-based pricing systems as well, while the federal government is working on a ‘backstop’, the minister said. Manitoba is developing its own system that will be reflective of the province’s unique emissions profile, and environmental and economic goals.

“The *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* will result in more emissions reductions with a lower carbon tax than the federal government’s plan,” said Squires.

The regulatory framework for output-based pricing system is available online by visiting www.manitobaclimategreenplan.ca