

# Manitoba PC Caucus Review

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## PREMIER CALLS ON OTTAWA TO RESPECT MANITOBA'S CLIMATE AND GREEN PLAN

*September 14, 2018*



Following his meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau this week, Premier Brian Pallister issued the following statement with regards to Manitoba's Climate and Green Plan:

The prime minister and I had a positive meeting where we discussed a number of matters of mutual concern, including the need to work together to fight climate change.

During the meeting, I called on him to respect our *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* and flat carbon pricing approach, and to guarantee the federal government will not seek to double it over the next few years.

Manitoba continues to make economic progress, but a \$50-per-tonne federal carbon tax threatens our ability to create jobs and economic growth. Manitoba families, farms and businesses need stability – and an end to the uncertainty being caused by federal pressure.

Our *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* is the right plan for Manitoba. It will cost less for Manitoba families than Ottawa's one-size-fits-all model. In addition, our plan will ensure all carbon revenues collected by the province will be returned to Manitobans directly through lower taxes over the next four years.

Manitoba is Canada's greenest province and Manitobans will continue to lead and do our part to fight climate change. But these efforts should be respected by the federal government to allow Manitoba to continue growing our economy.

We will continue to take action to protect the interests of Manitobans.

## PROVINCE PARTNERS WITH PRIVATE SECTOR TO SUPPORT DOWNTOWN WINNIPEG

The Manitoba government will be using tax increment financing (TIF) to support the development of the True North Square Public Plaza and residential tower, surrounding streets, sidewalks and skywalks, as well as to support the residential tower at the Sutton Place Hotel and residential development, Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton announced this week.

“The Province of Manitoba is pleased to support these transformative private investments in downtown Winnipeg,” said Wharton. “Manitoba is once again open for business and is recognized as an attractive destination for private investment by companies from across the country and around the world. These projects bring significant economic benefit to our city and province, helping put Winnipeg at the forefront of mixed-use development designed for connectivity of people and buildings.”

Up to \$11.95 million in TIF will be provided to support the development of the True North Square public plaza, a dynamic area that will include green space, a water feature and programmable space. The project also includes enhancements to the surrounding public streets, sidewalks and skywalks.

The province will also be supporting the development of a 194 unit residential tower at 225 Carlton St. adjacent to the office and retail tower located at 242 Hargrave St.

“These projects support our commitment to the development of downtown Winnipeg,” said Wharton. “More Winnipeggers are choosing to live downtown and grants such as these keep the momentum of downtown revitalization going by stimulating private investment.”

## MANITOBA WELCOMES NEW CANADA GOOSE MANUFACTURING FACILITY

Premier Brian Pallister, Growth, Enterprise and Trade Minister Blaine Pedersen, and Education and Training Minister Kelvin Goertzen attended the official opening of the third Canada Goose manufacturing facility in Winnipeg.

“Canada Goose’s continued expansion in our province is proof we have the right conditions here in Manitoba for businesses to grow and compete in the global market,” said Pallister. “We are competing for investments and succeeding. With our talented workforce and abundant supply of clean, renewable energy, we are showing Canada and the world that Manitoba is once again open for business.”

The premier noted more than 700 jobs are being created because of the new facility, which is good news for Manitoba’s economy.

The province is contributing up to \$1.48 million from Manitoba Education and Training’s Industry and Labour Force Investment Fund toward the total project cost of \$15.8 million. The funding will support the onboarding and technical training of the new sewing machine operators over three years.



## **SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY INITIATIVE EXCEEDS FUNDRAISING GOAL**

Post-secondary institutions in Manitoba exceeded the province's \$20-million fundraising goal for the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative (MSBI) in the 2017-18 school year, Education and Training Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced this week.

"Last year, we announced formula changes to the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative that puts money directly into students' pockets to help them successfully complete their studies," said Goertzen. "The generosity of private donors and fundraising efforts of universities and colleges has exceeded our goal and allowed us to help more students with scholarships and bursaries in the province."

Participating post-secondary institutions raised more than \$16.7 million, which leveraged \$23 million in scholarships and bursaries that go directly to approximately 13,000 students.

In March 2017, the government changed the formula to match \$1 of public money for every \$2 in private funds raised by institutions and declared all funds must be provided directly to students, rather than invested in endowments. The province increased its MSBI funding to a total of \$6.75 million and expanded to an additional five institutions for a total of 12.

"While Manitoba continues to offer the third-lowest university tuition and second-lowest college tuition in Canada, we know it can be a challenge for students to balance their studies and finances in their busy lives," said Goertzen. "These investments continue to make Manitoba an attractive place to study."

Goertzen encouraged post-secondary students to visit their institutions' financial aid office to find out more about scholarships and bursaries available for 2018-19.

## **PROVINCE INVESTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES**

The Manitoba government is investing more than \$54 million in 83 infrastructure renewal projects at schools across the province, Education and Training Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced this week.

"These significant investments support the health and safety of students and staff, and have a positive impact on their success at school," said Goertzen.

The province is spending:

- \$14.3 million on roof replacements in the Division scolaire franco-manitobaine (DSFM) and Turtle Mountain, Seine River, Seven Oaks, Pembina Trails, Winnipeg, Western, Interlake, Hanover, St. James-Assiniboia, Parkwest, Brandon, Flin Flon, Portage la Prairie, Garden Valley, Louis Riel, River East Transcona and Lord Selkirk school divisions;
- \$16.3 million on mechanical systems replacements in DSFM and Garden Valley, Winnipeg, Seven Oaks, Hanover, Parkwest, Louis Riel, River East Transcona, Sunrise, Turtle Mountain, St. James-Assiniboia, Brandon, Pembina Trails, and Interlake school divisions;
- \$13.3 million on structural upgrades in DSFM and Interlake, Mystery Lake School District, Lord Selkirk, Pembina Trails, Seven Oaks, Winnipeg, St. James-Assiniboia, Southwest Horizon, Frontier, Portage la Prairie, Seine River and Turtle Mountain school divisions; and
- \$10.5 million on access projects in the Portage la Prairie, River East Transcona, Seven Oaks, Brandon, Rolling River, Winnipeg, St. James-Assiniboia, Pembina Trails, Louis Riel and Hanover school divisions. Projects include new elevators, lifts and link additions between building wings that create universal access.

## PROVINCE WELCOMES EXPLORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION AND YAMANA GOLD INC.

A partnership between the Red Sucker Lake First Nation and Yamana Gold Inc. has taken a significant step forward with the signing of an exploration agreement for mineral development activities within the traditional territory of the First Nation, Growth, Enterprise and Trade Minister Blaine Pedersen announced this week.

“It’s a pleasure to be here today to celebrate this historic agreement,” said Pedersen. “Strategic partnerships between First Nations and industry are a positive way of ensuring First Nations can be active partners in all phases of mineral development, to create and share in the benefits of growth.”

Pedersen noted the exploration agreement is for the Monument Bay gold-tungsten project. Recent operations including an on-site exploration camp and drilling program have confirmed high-grade gold mineralization, and further exploration is the next step in the process, he said.



## PTH 59 AT PERIMETER SET TO OPEN



The new interchange at PTH 59 and the North Perimeter Highway is in its final stages of construction and is set to reopen in stages, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced this week.

“We are opening the new interchange in stages to ensure safety and to effectively integrate the upgraded infrastructure back into use,” said Schuler. “Our government is committed to ensuring we have quality infrastructure in place at major intersections in the province.”

Approximately 70,000 vehicles a day pass through this complex intersection to get them to their destinations, Schuler noted. Construction over the past three years has resulted in:

- a new interchange at the intersection of PTH 59 and the Perimeter Highway, Winnipeg’s north Perimeter route;
- realigning the Perimeter Highway, with infrastructure in place to upgrade to six lanes in the future;
- an upgraded intersection at PTH 59 and PR 202 with a traffic signal and additional turn lanes;
- a new crossing at the Perimeter Highway at Raleigh Street / Gateway Street to accommodate an active transportation corridor and a dedicated emergency vehicle crossing; and
- redirecting Knowles Avenue traffic to the Headmaster Row extension.