

2007 Manitoba Election Environment Commitments



May 2007

*June 15, 2007 Note: Links below no longer work.
Election website has been taken down. Request specific
election releases at info@manitobawildlands.org*

Manitoba New Democratic party (NDP)

***NDP Announcement – May 18, 2007 – ‘NDP to move forward on
Parklands provincial parks makeover’***

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=149>

“A re-elected NDP government will invest \$500,000 to modernize campgrounds at Asessippi Provincial Park to help increase access to our province’s many lakes, forests and rivers”

“Some of the improvements eligible for funding include:

- * New playgrounds for families.
- * Updated showers.
- * More yurts.
- * Modern washrooms.
- * New picnic tables.
- * Updated shelters.
- * More electrified sites.”

“The investment in provincial parks in the Parklands region builds on \$9.3 million in capital improvements to parks and a commitment to increase capital funding by an additional \$2 million annually by 2011.

In addition, another 1,000 lots will be made available to provide Manitobans with greater opportunity to realize their dream of owning a cottage.”

***NDP Announcement – May 17, 2007 – ‘1,500 scientists urge
saving Canada’s boreal forest’***

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=144>

“This week 1,500 scientists from around the world are pleading with Canada to save our boreal forest, underscoring the irresponsibility of Hugh McFadyen’s threat to force a new bipole transmission line through the pristine East Side of Lake Winnipeg.”

“The NDP has pledged that no hydro development will take place on the East Side and is working in partnership with First Nations to ensure Manitoba’s vast boreal forest is protected.”

NDP Announcement – May 15, 2007 – ‘Moving forward in partnership with Aboriginal Manitobans’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=128>

- “ Introduce legislation to create a new protected–areas designation, which would allow East Side First Nations like Poplar River to create and implement their land–use plans and ensure the area is protected in a way that is consistent with the establishment of a UNESCO World Heritage Site on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.
- Invest \$165 million over five years on vital roads in northern and remote communities, including \$15 million for Rice River Road, the first leg of an all–weather road up the East Side of Lake Winnipeg, as well as other key routes serving Aboriginal communities”

NDP Announcement – May 11, 2007 – ‘Today’s NDP moves forward with East Side protection’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=105>

“Today’s NDP will move forward to protect the East Side of Lake Winnipeg by introducing a new legislative tool for protecting designated areas and implementing land use plans”

“The proposed legislation will create a new protected areas designation, which would allow East Side First Nations to create and implement their land–use plans and ensure the area is protected in a way that is consistent with the establishment of a UNESCO World Heritage Site on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.”

“The new legislation will be drafted in consultation with First Nations and will encourage communities like Poplar River First Nation to implement their land–use plan and continue working toward the creation of a UNESCO world heritage site, while permanently protecting Poplar–Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve.”

NDP Announcement – May 9, 2007 – ‘Moving forward with downpayment on east–west power grid’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=100>

“Today’s NDP is pledging \$40 million for a downpayment towards building an east–west power grid”

“The funding will come from the (federal) ecoTrust fund and will support initial planning and development activities—the first steps in developing a grid”

NDP Announcement – May 7, 2007 – ‘New opportunities for young people to work, live and play in Manitoba’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=96>

“A re-elected NDP will invest just over \$12 million to lead the way on three key priorities:

...

Play

...

New recreation opportunities created by \$60 million recreation fund, investments in parks, camping and cottaging, and new protection for sensitive ecological treasures such as the proposed UNESCO heritage site on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.”

NDP Announcement – May 5, 2007 – ‘Moving forward with better summer living for Manitobans’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=92>

“Today’s NDP will offer 1,000 more cottage lots and further modernize Manitoba’s provincial parks and campgrounds to increase access to our province’s many lakes, forests and rivers”

“The party that made summer longer will:

Modernize parks and campgrounds

* Parks and campgrounds will be upgraded including better playground structures for kids, more electrical campsites, more yurts, extending 911 service to Duck Mountain and Hecla, and new picnic tables and other amenities. Buildings such as shower rooms will be renovated to be more energy and water efficient, including new design features such as solar-heated showers, low-flow water fixtures and green building materials.

Add more cottages

* Another 1,000 lots will be made available to provide Manitobans with greater opportunity to realize their dream of owning a cottage. The offering will double Manitoba’s successful cottage lot draw, which was completed in 2006.”

NDP Announcement – May 1, 2007 – ‘Doer off to national premiers’ meeting on climate change and energy’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=81>

“The premiers’ meeting comes a week after Doer released a plan to further deal with climate change and develop renewable energy.”

“Doer said a key part of the effort to deal with climate change is joining forces with others—just 10 days ago, the NDP took steps to set up a carbon credit registry in Manitoba, signing an agreement with officials from the Canadian Climate Exchange and the Canadian Standards Association.”

NDP Announcement – April 26, 2007 – “Water Smart” to save more than one billion litres of water annually’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=71>

“A bold new program called Water Smart will help Manitobans save money on their water bills while conserving our precious water resources for the future”

“Water Smart will be modeled after Manitoba Hydro’s highly-successful Power Smart program, an energy conservation strategy”

“Water Smart will move Manitoba forward by providing:

- * No PST on the purchase of any Energy Star water saving appliance.
- * Rebates for consumers who buy low-flow bathroom fixtures.
- * Water Smart loans for Manitobans to improve private water or waste water systems.
- * Rebates for Energy Star dishwashers and front-load washers, as well as tank-less hot water tanks.
- * Tools to help Manitobans save money and the environment through water conservation.”

NDP Announcement – April 23, 2007 – ‘New seven-point action plan builds on a record of leadership and progress’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=52>

“Today’s NDP will move forward with seven key priorities.

...

2. *Ensure a cleaner, healthier environment.*

- * Building on hydro and clean energy advantage; water protection.

...

7. *Protect Manitoba Hydro for the benefit of all.*

- * Keeping Manitoba Hydro for the benefit of all Manitobans.”

NDP Announcement – April 23, 2007 – ‘David Suzuki applauds NDP climate change plan’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=54>

“Doer announced yesterday that under the NDP Manitoba will become the first province in Canada to enshrine Kyoto targets in legislation.”

“The announcement is part of the NDP’s bold new efforts to move Manitoba forward, and includes establishing a recognized carbon credit registry”

NDP Announcement – April 22, 2007 – ‘Moving forward on climate change and building a green economy’

<http://www.mb.ndp.ca/index.php?q=newsArticle&articlePageID=49>

“Premier Gary Doer, joined today by Lloyd Axworthy, celebrated Earth Day by outlining new steps in the NDP action plan on climate change, including becoming the first province in Canada to enshrine Kyoto targets in legislation.

Doer said with today’s announcement, Manitoba will have acted on the recommendations of the 2001 climate change task force, which was chaired by Axworthy.”

“Today’s announcement is part of the NDP’s bold new efforts to move Manitoba forward, and includes establishing a recognized carbon credit registry – the first of its kind in Canada. An agreement to begin designing the registry was signed Apr. 20 with officials from the Canadian Climate Exchange and the Canadian Standards Association.

Our vision announced today includes:

- * Continuing to grow our green economy by building hydro, increasing wind power, producing biofuels and working with private sector partners like New Flyer Industries on the low-and no-emission technologies of the future.

- * Introducing legislation that will ensure Manitoba meets its Kyoto targets by 2012.

- * Reducing Manitoba Hydro’s use of coal—building on Hydro actions to date including closing the Selkirk coal plant and reducing the use of the coal plant in Brandon and working with employees on a plan for this.

- * Creating a “Made-in-Manitoba” vehicle efficiency standard, to be recommended by a vehicle advisory board, which includes incentives to deal with older vehicles.

- * Requiring the capture of emissions from large landfills.

- * Investing in education programs like the new science complex at the University of Winnipeg.

- * Increasing the energy efficiency of new buildings by establishing a new code for efficiency.

- * Developing a plan to switch off-grid communities to renewable energy.

- * Legislating the province’s Green Building and Green Fleet Vehicle policies to further address government emissions.

* Providing incentives for farmers to undertake projects that reduce emissions.

* Reporting publicly on climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation.”