

# 2007 Manitoba Election Environment Commitments



*May 2007*

## Manitoba Progressive Conservative (PC) Party

### ***PC Announcement – May 18, 2007 – ‘COMMUNITY CENTRES TO GO GREEN’***

[http://www.pcmantoba.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=251&Itemid=196](http://www.pcmantoba.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=251&Itemid=196)

According to PC Leader Hugh McFadyen,

“My intention is to help them [arenas] clean up the air quality resulting from polluting zambonis, while offering to enhance incentives to help communities convert to geothermal energy.”

“In terms of air quality in arenas, McFadyen said he wants to provide matching grants to help rural communities phase out the use of harmful carbon monoxide, particulate emitting ice cleaning equipment in favor of cleaner alternatives, such as electrically powered Zambonis.”

### ***PC Announcement – May 17, 2007 – ‘FROM TALK TO ACTION ON LAKE WINNIPEG’***

[http://www.pcmantoba.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=243&Itemid=196](http://www.pcmantoba.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=243&Itemid=196)

Building on his plan to share 0.5% of PST revenue with municipalities, McFadyen said it’s time to enter into a new funding arrangement for major municipal environment projects. He said, “we would like to see the one-third project funding arrangement between federal, provincial and municipal governments changed to 40%, 35% and 25% respectively. It would reduce the financial commitment of municipalities by 8%, giving them much more flexibility in project planning, including improvements to Manitoba’s drinking water infrastructure.”

“Science strongly indicates that phosphorus removal is the key to controlling algae growth,” McFadyen said. “By starting with a plan to deal with phosphorus, we can reduce costs for sewage treatment upgrades by roughly \$175 million.”

“McFadyen said that nitrogen removal can be considered, if necessary, after phosphorus removal. “Our plan also includes ongoing research on the effects of nitrogen on water quality in the Lake Winnipeg watershed,” McFadyen said, noting his plan also includes establishing a science council focused on water quality impacts.”

***PC Announcement – May 12, 2007 – ‘EAST SIDE LINE OPENS  
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES’***

[http://www.pcmanitoba.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view  
&id=233&Itemid=196](http://www.pcmanitoba.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=233&Itemid=196)

“PC Leader Hugh McFadyen . . . reaffirmed his commitment to a BiPole transmission line along the east side of Lake Winnipeg within Manitoba.”

“the benefits of building a power line down the east side far outweigh those of building it down the west side or directly into Ontario from Conawapa because it:

- \* Would cost \$550 million less to construct than a west side line
- \* Is the only route that provides enhanced reliability
- \* Allows Manitoba to sell the power to a range of customers”

“The additional costs associated with the western route should be used to fund an East side road to connect east side residents with markets, economic opportunities and access to critical services such as healthcare facilities.”

***PC Commitments – 2007 Party Platform – ‘FIVE FOR THE FUTURE  
– Hugh McFayden’s Five Key Priorities for the Future’***

<http://www.pcmanitoba.com/TogetherWeCan.pdf>

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**Rejuvenate our communities**

**Northern Manitoba**

“A Progressive Conservative Government will:

. . .

- Accelerate consultations with east side communities towards decisions on land use within their traditional territory, including the development of an east side transmission line and all-weather road

. . .

- Pursue the development of both the Keeyask and Conawapa Generating Stations
- Move forward immediately on Bipole III to ensure the reliability of Manitoba’s transmission system”

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**Rejuvenate our communities**

**Aboriginal People**

“A Progressive Conservative Government will:

. . .

- Accelerate consultations with east side communities towards decisions on land use within their traditional territory, including the development of an east side transmission line and all-weather road”

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## **Refresh our environment**

### **Manitoba Hydro**

“A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Introduce "The Legacy Act", a Bill that amends the Manitoba Hydro Act to require unanimous consent of all Members of the Manitoba Legislature on any bill related to change in ownership of Manitoba Hydro
- Support the development of a transmission line on the east side of Lake Winnipeg
- Make Manitoba Hydro Canada's leading clean energy company
- Establish sustainable pricing policies that achieve environmental and economic objectives
- Build generation and transmission capacity to increase exports of hydro-electric energy, generating wealth for Manitobans and contributing to the global effort to move towards a lower carbon society
- Pursue the target of lowering the debt-to-equity ratio of Manitoba Hydro from its current 81:19 to 75:25
- Advance the development of other strategically important clean energy sources such as wind and hydrogen
- End the NDP raids on Hydro
- Protect the environment and save money by running transmission lines along the shortest possible routes
- Work in partnership with affected communities, particularly aboriginal communities, to ensure they receive benefits and appropriate opportunities
- End the NDP policy of encouraging natural gas use instead of clean hydro-electric power
- Change Manitoba Hydro's name to the Manitoba Clean Energy Company

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## **Refresh our environment**

### **Green House Gases and Clean Energy**

“A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Provide a 3% PST rebate on the purchase or lease of a fuel efficient vehicle, saving Manitobans on average \$1000 per vehicle
- To apply to all cars that meet a minimum fuel consumption rating of 6.5 litres per 100 kilometers and all minivans, sport utility vehicles and light trucks with a rating of 8.3 litres per 100 kilometers or better
- Establish an emissions testing station for older vehicles, at a cost of \$6 million”

## **Conservation Districts, Drainage and Water Management**

“A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Establish a science council focused on water quality impacts, with experts to help guide the development and implementation of long-term strategies for positive change in the health of Lake Winnipeg
- Enter into a new funding arrangement for major municipal environment projects
- Build on drainage management and wetland retention policy with a focus on municipal sewage as a contributor to the deterioration of Lake Winnipeg
- Work with producers to recognize the economic and social values of wetlands, by developing an incentive program for farmers and landowners that reflects the economic and social values of water management and retention of wetland areas
- Implement watershed-based planning for drainage and water resource management in the province
- Ensure there is no net loss of retention capacity in watersheds when developing drainage projects
- Coordinate the activities of provincial Conservation Districts with the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship
- Ensure that drainage licencing decisions by Conservation Districts are supported by appropriate enforcement from the provincial government”

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## **Refresh our environment**

### **Biofuels**

“A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Implement a plan to stimulate biofuel production in Manitoba by:
  - Encouraging the development of more cellulosic ethanol production in harmony with grain-based feedstocks
  - Committing to using biofuels for all government fleet vehicles
  - Providing low interest loans to assist in the development of biofuel production facilities
  - Developing an effective marketing strategy for biodiesel and ethanol by-products for the economic benefit of livestock producers
  - Consulting with business leaders to determine a means of providing financial incentives to encourage greater producer investment
  - Maintaining the fuel tax exemptions on biofuel to encourage further development of the sector in Manitoba”

### **Protected areas**

“A Progressive Conservative government will:

- Complete the network of protected areas in Manitoba’s natural regions

begun in the 1990s, and reconcile the needs of industry and rural communities with the establishment of new protected areas

- Act on the required consultation for the future of lands under park reserve status, including traditional lands nominated by First Nations”