

United Conservatives

Member Policy Declaration

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101. UNITED CONSERVATIVE PARTY'S 2020 POLICY DECLARATION

Since 2017, the United Conservative Party has made significant accomplishments. It was under a year where we went from the Unity Agreement to the formalization of the new United Conservative Party's first Policy Declaration in May 2018.

The policies passed by the membership gave the template for the platform our party ran under during the last provincial election, where we received a mandate of more than one million votes from Albertans.

This most up to date policy resolution saw the addition of 30 new ratified policy resolutions that look to address the emerging challenges Alberta faces.

102. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

As a party, we stand united on the following principles that guide our vision for a stronger Alberta:

- a.** A robust civil society made up of free individuals, strong families, and voluntary associations.
- b.** Freedom of speech, worship and assembly, without government or corporate censorship of mainstream or social media.
- c.** Affirm the family as the building block of society and the means by which citizens pass on their values and beliefs and ensure that families are protected from intrusion by government.
- d.** Economic freedom in a market economy which encourages the creation of wealth through free enterprise, and protection of the right to own, enjoy and exchange property.
- e.** Limited government, including low levels of taxation to help generate economic growth while allowing Albertans to enjoy the fruits of their own labour. Fiscal responsibility, including balanced budgets, debt reduction, and respect for taxpayers' money.
- f.** Protecting public safety as a primary responsibility of government.
- g.** Control spending and dramatically reduce the size of government and encourage municipal governments to do the same.
- h.** protect and defend the ownership rights of Alberta to utilize its natural resources for the benefit of Albertans.

201. COMMUNITY

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Recognizing that all Albertans have equal rights, privileges and responsibilities.
- b.** Promoting self-reliant citizenry, compassionate service, volunteerism, individual responsibility and care for those unable to care for themselves.
- c.** Supporting social responsibility within the framework of a free enterprise economic system.
- d.** Affirming the family as the foundation of society in Alberta and that decisions regarding children should reside solely with the parents, legal guardians, and caregivers.
- e.** Upholding and protecting parental rights and authority in health care and education.
- f.** Ensuring that parents , legal guardians and caregivers have the right and responsibility to oversee the healthcare and education of their own children, including but not limited to the

cultural, linguistic, religious, spiritual and moral upbringing and heritage of their children.

- g.** Increasing investment in and oversight of care facilities for seniors.

.2 FAMILIES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Ensure the protection and well-being of all children, alongside full respect for parents, legal guardians and caregivers, roles, responsibilities, rights, freedoms and authority.
- b.** Protect victims of abuse and provide effective supports to aid in their recovery.
- c.** Ensure foster parents have the necessary supports to manage the children in their care, including increased utilization of counselling, trauma treatment and other programs to help improve the care and placement of foster children.
- d.** Affirm the freedom of religion and conscience rights of adoptive and foster parents.
- e.** Uphold the best interests of children in cases where intervention in the family home occurs to ensure the least disruption to the child is achieved.
- f.** Affirm the freedom of religion and conscience rights of parents and their children, ensuring the government does not interfere with the teaching and training of their children as such, including in matters with respect to identity, sexuality and morality.
- g.** Uphold the rights of parents and caregivers so as not to require them to affirm or socially condition a child in a gender identity that is incongruent with the child's birth sex.
- h.** Protect exclusively female spaces and categories (such as washrooms, change rooms, shelters, dormitories, sports, awards etc.) for biological females who were female at conception and their young children.
- i.** Ensure that minors are protected from exposure to sexually explicit performances and events that receive public funding or are held in public venues.

.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND HOUSING

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Implement an effective and incentive-based social assistance program that will promote participation in the economy.
- b.** Provide social services through community and non-profit organizations rather than government whenever possible.
- c.** Ensure that social assistance support programs such as Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), seniors' benefits, and the Alberta Child and Family Benefit continue to be indexed to inflation.

.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Ensure that the safety of local communities is prioritized in decisions regarding supervised consumption sites.
- b.** End provincial funding for supervised consumption sites.

202. EDUCATION

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Affirming the right of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children.
- b.** Affirming, maintaining and protecting the existence and role of local, democratically elected school boards.
- c.** Supporting safe schools that protect students against discrimination and bullying without compromising the constitutional rights and safety of other students in the process.
- d.** Enabling students to achieve excellence by providing a diverse, results-oriented range of core, extracurricular, post-secondary, skilled trades, and other educational opportunities.
- e.** Maintaining Alberta's legacy of school choice by upholding the established right of parents to choose the education setting best suited for their children including: public, separate, charter, independent, alternative and home education programs
- f.** Protecting authentic school choice by respecting the freedom of association in independent schools and alternative programs by allowing them to determine their own policies and practices based on each school's unique character, values and beliefs.
- g.** Protecting parental choice in education, in both form and content.
- h.** Providing transparency and accountability to parents regarding student scholastic outcomes and performance.
- i.** Recognizing that parents and guardians are the major stakeholders in education.

.2 CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Benchmark the Alberta education system against leading global jurisdictions, on a continuous basis, on a wide set of educational outcomes, skills, and competencies demanded in the modern workplace.
- b.** Halt the implementation of the new curriculum and review it in order to increase emphasis on basic essentials such as literacy and numeracy, increase the focus on Albertan and Canadian life in terms of geography, the economy, and historical accuracy, increase the focus on the development of a work ethic, increase a focus on debate, critical thinking, and respect for dissenting views, and eliminate all political indoctrination from the curriculum.
- c.** Have open and transparent curriculum development for primary and secondary schools requiring public input. Incorporate financial literacy into the curriculum as this will help students manage their financial affairs and provide an understanding of financial markets.
- d.** Provide transparency and accountability to parents regarding student scholastic outcomes and performance, by developing a consistent standard with traditional letter or percentage grades for Grades 5-12 students and support the practice of teachers who give a grade of zero for incomplete work.

- e. Support parental rights in education by implementing the following:
 - i. Require teachers and school boards obtain opt-in informed written consent from the parent(s) of a student to any instance when a teacher provides, formal, informal, or incidental instruction or extracurricular activities on subject matter involving sexuality, sexual orientation, and gender identity. At the parent's written request, the teacher of the student shall permit the student to leave the classroom without academic penalty or other censure.
 - ii. Require that all third-party resource materials or presentations related to gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality available in Alberta classrooms be pre-approved by the Ministry of Education.
- f. Make financial literacy a priority by incorporating financial concepts into the curriculum from K-12.
- g. Support the following principles for framing Educational Policy so that ideological and political bias is not present in school curriculum. This Policy aims to modernize and reframe Alberta Educational Curriculum and requires:
 - i. that Alberta K-12 curriculum be objectively founded on principles of knowledge, scientific information and factual content and free from ideological or political bias. The curriculum should allow and encourage students and educators to adopt a multi-sided perspective to learning to allow students to make fully informed conclusions and decisions regarding local, national and global issues; and
 - ii. that Alberta K-12 curriculum be reviewed and revised to encourage the development of the necessary foundational skills, such as critical thinking and abstract reasoning, so students become informed, engaged and open-minded citizens in a democratic society and can compete in the local national and global economy. In particular, priority should be given to the development of an Alberta K to 12 curriculum that provides students the opportunity to develop financial and computer literacy skills and given Alberta's role in world energy supply, energy literacy (including historical, present and future perspectives), focusing on the global need for all forms of energy (renewable and non-renewable); and
 - iii. the exploration of public/private partnerships among students, parents, educators, business, government and community leaders to provide input to the development and delivery of any new curriculum with opportunities for innovative and 21st-century methodologies to encourage a multisided/multi viewpoint approach to teaching and learning.
- h. Ensure that teachers, schools, school boards, and third parties providing services to kindergarten to Grade 12 schools do not provide access to materials of a sexual, racist, or abusive nature, including, but not limited to: books, handouts, online materials, and live events that are not part of the Alberta Program of Studies.

.3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE SERVICES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Ensure students with educational needs are properly assessed and coded with the consultation of parents/guardians.

.4 POST-SECONDARY AND TRADES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Require publicly funded post-secondary institutions to implement a policy guaranteeing the freedom of speech and freedom of assembly of all students and staff that does not interfere with the functions of teaching, learning or access to the institution proper.
- b.** Work with employers, industry, schools, and post-secondary institutions to encourage and develop apprenticeship programs in trades and the technical sector.
- c.** Improve the ability of post-secondary students to transfer credits earned between post-secondary institutions in recognition of achievements already earned at an equivalent level.
- d.** Protect and guarantee the freedom of association of students by allowing individuals to choose, for themselves, whether to become a member of their students' association.
- e.** Ban post-secondary institutions from the use of race as a factor in any admissions program or procedure.
- f.** Ensure post-secondary institutions shall be places of free thought and learning of employable skills by eliminating all Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) offices at all public universities, colleges, technical institutes, and trades schools and all adult education institutions. They are not places for indoctrination of identity politics, reverse racism, or radicalization. Any post-secondary institution that maintains a DEI office, policy, or equivalent shall lose government financial support.
- g.** Advocate and champion, the skilled trades and professions by integrating the journey person and apprenticeship skilled trades education track within the grade 7-12 education system.
- h.** Work with Alberta faculties of medicine to increase the number of physicians trained in Alberta, particularly in rural areas, by increasing enrollment and acceptance into Alberta medical faculties to graduate more doctors each year without compromising our high standard of graduation criteria recognized worldwide.

.5 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Ensure equitable per-student funding in accordance with school choice—public, separate, charter, home, or private.
- b.** Implement an education 'voucher system' that will provide for equal per-student funding regardless of their school choice, free from caveats or conditions.
- c.** Provide additional per-student funding to schools for students with special needs, students in remote areas, or with other disadvantages, to ensure equitable access for all students.
- d.** Encourage schools and school boards to work together to find efficiencies and improve the delivery of education to Alberta students.
- e.** Encourage the expansion of charter schools as they allow teachers, parents and other experts in education to offer new and innovative curriculum and programs for students.

- f.** Be committed to supporting a model of school transportation funding which covers the actual costs of transporting all eligible students to school, taking into account variances in geographical distances, sparsity of population and school locations in rural and remote areas.
- g.** Require teachers, schools, and school boards to obtain the written consent of the parent/guardian of a student under the age of 16 prior to changing the name and/or pronouns used by the student.
- h.** Limit the use of cellphones and social media in our primary and secondary school systems by implementing the following:
 - i. Ban the use of cellphones in grades Kindergarten to 6 for all indoor and outdoor areas of the school.
 - ii. Ban the use of cellphones in classrooms for grades 7 to 12. Restrict usage of cellphones to hallways and common areas during non-instructional time for grades 7 to 12.
 - iii. Eliminate all social media apps and websites from School Authority IT networks.

.6 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Ensure school administrators are responsible to the elected school board trustees.
- b.** Support a teacher's professional responsibility to communicate with parents, respecting the importance of engaging parents, purposefully and meaningfully, in all aspects of teaching and learning in order to create and enhance partnerships among teachers, parents and students.
- c.** Divide the two main arms of the Alberta Teachers Association, union and professional body, into two separate and independent organizations.
- d.** Reintroduce vocational and technical training by including skilled trades people in the co-development and cooperative delivery of courses.
- e.** Develop a new vision for student learning and K-12 curriculum that includes:
 - i. mastery in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); and
 - ii. multiple literacies, skills, and knowledge of key subject content in language, mathematics, financial concepts, technology, critical thinking, problem solving, physical and mental health, and empathy for others; and
 - iii. an understanding of democratic rights and values, civic engagement, economic development and innovation, responsible environmental stewardship, diversity and Alberta's role in world energy.
- f.** Prohibit any professional body charged with regulating Teacher/Principal certification or professional conduct and practice from conducting activities related to:
 - i. collective bargaining;
 - ii. the administration of a collection agreement; or
 - iii. any matter under the jurisdiction of the Labour Relations Board;
- g.** Create a self-governing professional regulatory association for Alberta Teachers that is responsible for Teacher/Principal:
 - i. certification;

- ii. professional conduct and practice;
 - iii. professional qualifications, and
 - iv. continuing teacher competency.
- h.** Make membership in the Alberta Teachers Association optional for all teachers employed in public, separate, Francophone, charter, and independent schools in Alberta and ensure comparable supports, benefits, and pension opportunities are available for those who opt out.

203. ENERGY

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** facilitating market-oriented development of Alberta’s diverse, abundant, renewable and non-renewable energy resources as a key driver of economic prosperity ultimately benefiting all of Canada.
- b.** restoring the independence of our energy regulators from political interference.
- c.** review our electricity pricing system with the goal of reducing transmission and distribution costs.

.2 RESOURCE STRATEGY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Strengthen and promote Alberta’s global energy leadership in environmental practices and stewardship.
- b.** Expand national and international market access options and maximize the value of Alberta resources.
- c.** Facilitate private sector pipeline, energy corridor and infrastructure developments that maximize value and opportunities in the extraction, utilization, and export of Alberta’s energy products with a view to domestic sufficiency and global access.
- d.** Improve application review and approval time frames within the Alberta Energy Regulator and other regulatory bodies in a manner that does not interfere with the decisions themselves.
- e.** Develop a strategic petroleum reserve and expand existing storage capacity in Alberta.
- f.** Support Nuclear Small Modular Reactor development in Alberta.

.3 DIVERSIFICATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Explore a variety of energy strategies including nuclear energy and hydrogen fuel technologies as a possible future to meet both the province’s energy needs going forward.
- b.** Instruct the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) to not implement the federal government’s net-zero power grid plan.
- c.** Not support the establishment of solar farms in the areas of the agricultural Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Class 1, 2, or 3 soils.

.4 ELECTRICITY

The United Conservative Party believes the Government of Alberta should:

- a.** Support fair, efficient, open, and competitive consumer and industrial electricity markets and conduct a review to determine market competitiveness and whether there is excess market concentration resulting in high electricity prices and if so, determine methods to correct the excess market concentration.
- b.** Review our gas and electricity pricing system with the goal of reducing administrative fees to the actual cost to provide service and creating a sliding scale link between the transmission and distribution costs and customer usage. Prohibit the charge of local access fees paid to the municipality. Provide full transparency to the public on the costs of energy (gas and electricity).

204. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Developing environmental policy and legislation based on robust, scientific, evidence-based information, that safeguards the quality of our land, air, and water for the health, use and enjoyment of Albertans, for generations to come.
- b.** Ensuring environmental decisions are in Alberta's best interest; any interest group, lobbyist, or non-governmental organization who primarily receives foreign-funding shall not be recognized as a legitimate stakeholder within the province of Alberta.
- c.** Balancing environmental objectives with the need for economic growth, development and use of private land, and public enjoyment of public land.

.2 FISHERIES, WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Balance opportunities for hunters and anglers with best conservation practices in fish and wildlife population and habitat management.

.3 LAND AND WATER

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Monitor and encourage conservation of water taken from aquifers, lakes or rivers for agricultural or industrial use, prioritizing protection of water sources for domestic purposes.
- b.** Develop a proactive forest management model to reduce wildfire risk through community forest education prioritization, further investment in equipment and manpower for firefighting, development of new technology for intensive forest management practices, i.e., AI or satellite mapping for fire monitoring, prioritizing forest harvesting for the purpose of protecting communities, industry, and parks and controlling the expansion of pests like pine beetles.

.4 PARKS AND RECREATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Balance the need for provision of recreational opportunities with the need to protect provincial parks, viewsapes, heritage sites, and ecologically sensitive areas.

.5 EMISSIONS REDUCTION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Defend Alberta's economy and autonomy by opposing all attempts by the Federal government to impose net zero by 2035.
- b.** Recognize the importance of CO₂ to life and Alberta's prosperity by implementing the following measures:
 - i. Abandoning "Net-Zero" targets,
 - ii. Removing the designation of CO₂ as a pollutant, and
 - iii. Recognize that CO₂ is a foundational nutrient for all life on Earth.

205.FINANCE

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Fiscal prudence with a balanced annual operating and consolidated budget.
- b.** Limited government that manages costs and finds efficiencies.
- c.** Develop and communicate a plan to eliminate the provincial debt.
- d.** Striving to reduce the net interest cost on the provincial debt.

.2 BUDGETING

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Require all provincial budgets be reported according to clear and transparent accounting principles.
- b.** Operating within its means and reducing the size of the provincial debt.

.3 EXPENDITURE

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Prioritize front-line staffing positions over management and administration when having to make tough budget choices and minimize bureaucracy at all levels throughout government.
- b.** Examine and act upon all cost-effective opportunities to contract out delivery of non-essential (e.g. grounds keeping) and select ancillary services to the private sector.

.4 REVENUE

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Prohibit any consumer carbon tax or carbon pricing scheme or carbon cap and trade system from being implemented in Alberta.
- b.** Support any federal or interprovincial government efforts to "axe the tax" by eliminating the federal carbon pricing backstop being imposed on Albertans and Canadians.
- c.** Implement an 8% personal income tax bracket for middle income Albertans and restore the provincial tax rate of 10% as the highest personal income tax bracket.

- d. Restore the provincial corporate tax rate to a flat rate.
- e. Collect the taxes paid by all Albertans, rather than the Government of Canada.

.5 TRANSFER PAYMENTS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Continually advocate for a more equitable federal-provincial system and initiate discussions with provincial counterparts to start negotiations for a more equitable federal-provincial fiscal arrangement.
- b. Withdraw its share of funds from the existing Canada Pension Plan and start an Alberta Pension Plan.

.6 PROVINCIAL BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Protect Albertans' right to have access to goods and services using cash and the option to bank with provincially regulated institutions that supply cash instead of Digital Currency.

206. HEALTH

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a. A health care system that is universal and comprehensive, preventative rather than reactive, ethical and accountable, sustainable and cost-effective, accessible and portable, blends public, non-profit, and private sector provisions, and implements effective strategies that will lead to a world-class system with improved quality of life.

.2 GOVERNANCE, INTEGRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Support publicly-funded, privately-delivered health services where cost-effective, and give Albertans the choice of privately-funded, privately delivered health services to address excessive wait times and to make the publicly-funded system more accountable.
- b. Support the funding model where funds follow the patient for medically necessary services.
- c. Make options for medically necessary services transparent and accessible to patients.
- d. Foster and support the development of an Alberta-based pharmaceutical research, development, and production industry that will make Alberta a leader in North America.
- e. Ensure that all medications, treatments and surgeries attributable to health services for sex alteration practices are classified as elective cosmetic procedures costed solely to the requesting patient.

.3 PRIMARY CARE DELIVERY AND HUMAN RESOURCES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Improve access to palliative care services for all Albertans;

- b.** Ensure that the Alberta license to practice system requires the same standards and qualifying credentials for both domestically-trained and internationally-trained physicians;
- c.** Support publicly-funded, privately-delivered health services and to give Albertans the choice of privately-funded, privately-delivered health services where consistent with the Canada Health Act.
- d.** Ensure timely delivery of all publicly funded surgeries by removing caps placed on the number of such surgeries.

.4 REGIONAL AND RURAL HEALTH SERVICES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Improve Emergency Medical Services(EMS)by expanding their scope of practice to permit EMS to assess and treat non-emergency situations on site without needing to transfer to Emergency.
- b.** Develop triage processes that prioritize the hand-off from the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to Emergency Department staff without delay to release and return EMTs and ambulances back into service.

.5 SENIOR CARE, DISABILITY AND MINORITIES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Ensure that patients living at home in palliative or long-term care are entitled to the same pharmaceutical benefits they would have received in a hospital.
- b.** Ensure that all minor children are protected from harm by requiring the consent of a parent or legal guardian for all invasive medical procedures performed on a minor child, subject to established emergency medical protocols, legal emancipation, or judicial intervention.
- c.** Ensure that the quality of care for elderly and residents of public and private continuing care facilities follow best practices and that compliance is monitored and enforced.
- d.** Support seniors through enhancements to the elder care and care home system in Alberta by creating a Public-Private Partnership model care home facility and system with best-in-class standards.
- e.** Ensure adequate supply of affordable housing for seniors and effective support for seniors who remain in their own homes.
- f.** Adapt health care procedures to allow rural seniors and spouses to remain in their homes with adequate home care provided.
- g.** Oppose the federal expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) qualifying criteria to include those suffering solely from mental illness and oppose the future legalization of MAiD as a care option for minor children.
- h.** Establish protocols for provincial implementation of the federally legalized MAiD program, wherein:
 - i.** Healthcare workers in any facility shall not be allowed to present or promote MAiD to a patient as a care option. The procedure must be considered a tragic last resort and only be discussed with a patient of legal age upon request by said patient or their proxy.

- ii. Individual healthcare workers and private hospice facilities must have their rights to freedom of conscience honored when deciding to participate in administering MAiD.

.6 SUSTAINABILITY AND COST REDUCTION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Adopt proven best practices from both domestic and international jurisdictions that have higher performing and/or lower cost health systems than Alberta.
- b. Monitor and regularly publish key health care sector outcome measures for Alberta and top-performing international jurisdictions.

.7 HEALTH CARE WORKER'S RIGHTS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Protect the rights of health care workers to freedom of conscience.
- b. Enshrine the doctor-patient relationship by:
 - i. protecting Alberta physicians from undue third-party interference, to neither compel physicians to prescribe treatments nor prohibit them from prescribing treatments, and
 - ii. to include the right of physicians to prescribe off-label medications using their best discretion with the informed consent of the patient.
- c. Protect a medical practitioner's right to research, speak, and write; and protect Medical Doctors and all healthcare professionals from having their licenses to practice threatened for publicly expressing professional medical opinions in any public setting.

207. INDIGENOUS

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a. the ultimate goal of recognizing and treating all Albertans as equal under the law.

.2 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Collaborate with Indigenous communities to strengthen economic opportunities and entrepreneurship.
- b. Undertake and mandate accountability and transparency into all provincially funded indigenous programs.

208. INDUSTRY

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a. Achieving economic growth and diversification by adopting a streamlined legislative and fiscal framework that enables private sector investment and prosperity balanced with environmental responsibility;
- b. Recognizing and building upon the contribution of Alberta's existing industries to the provincial economy;

- c. Ensuring that the regulatory environment does not create barriers to investment, economic growth or innovation;
- d. Ensuring publicly funded organizations, institutions and services do not encroach upon the realm of free enterprise in Alberta;
- e. Supporting and protecting family and small business in all policy and regulations related to these businesses.

.2 AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Establish a set of predictable, stable land use and access rules for the agricultural industry.
- b. Protect agribusiness from Federal Regulations that are harmful to Agribusiness and the global food supply.
- c. support programs, eliminate red tape, and reduce taxes for the succession of the family farm to the next generation of farmers in our primary agricultural sector.
- d. Encourage increased nitrogen production in our petrochemical sector to reduce costs and improve the availability of fertilizer for Alberta farmers.
- e. Support food security and diversified, resilient local food systems in programs under provincial jurisdiction by:
 - i. Removing bureaucratic barriers that undermine the viability of small farms
 - ii. Restoring consumer freedom to purchase food without government oversight
 - iii. Incentivizing practices that prioritize long-term soil health and biological diversity.

.3 INNOVATION, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Promote the profound existing knowledge base of Alberta’s educated, entrepreneurial population as an unparalleled strategic resource for emerging and high-tech sector investment both in Alberta and globally;
- b. Strengthen Alberta’s position as a leader in artificial intelligence and seek to establish the province as a global hub for technological innovations.
- c. Expand the Alberta economy by encouraging new industry development and diversification, value-added processing and by revitalizing existing industries.

.4 FORESTRY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Permit only ecologically and economically sustainable forest management methods.

.5 RURAL AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a. Recognize the role that natural resource and agriculture sectors contribute to the resilience, livelihood, culture, long-term sustainability, and growth of rural communities.

.6 TOURISM

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Cooperate with industry to promote Alberta's vast and varied tourism-driven economic opportunities and improve Tourism in Alberta.

.7 PETROCHEMICAL AND DOWNSTREAM PRODUCTS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Use the abundance of Alberta's natural gas resources to encourage downstream growth in petrochemicals which could be used in the manufacturing of a vast array of plastics.

.8 INSURANCE

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Repeal the no-fault Insurance (also known as Direct Compensation for Property Damage) legislation in Alberta and return to tort-based (also known as at-fault based) insurance.

301. GOVERNMENT

.1 ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Streamline services, eliminating waste and unnecessary overlap between levels of government and within departments and agencies.
- b.** Strengthen the internal audit functions of government by ensuring that program delivery matches the intent of the program, spending is measured against objectives and cost overruns are brought to the immediate attention of the legislative assembly.
- c.** Ensure that the tender and bid process for all major government contracts and purchases is open and transparent.
- d.** Adopt a more comprehensive open data policy where government information and data, including all financial expenditure, is automatically released in digital formats by default, unless an explicit security, privacy, or legal concern is demonstrated.
- e.** Require all organizations receiving significant public funding to publish annual financial statements per accepted accounting principles and provide employee compensation information.
- f.** Reform the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act by minimizing financial charges, delays and eliminating partisan political interference in the release of information.
- g.** Establish an arms-length process to determine the compensation, pension, and severance packages of elected representatives and high-ranking government officials.
- h.** Ensure no government funding is being used to lobby the government for political purposes.
- i.** Ensure that all directors of Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo) hold appropriate qualifications for that position and are independent from the government.
- j.** Repeal Bill 10: Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020.
- k.** Adopt legislation that makes possible citizen initiated referendums.

- l.** Actively and transparently reduce overheads and accelerate the elimination of the layers of bureaucratic administration, to improve outcomes more costeffectively, and so conservative minded voters may see that it is happening.
- m.** Divide the roles and responsibilities of the Minister of Justice position into separate ministries of Attorney General and Solicitor General.
- n.** Ensure that all hiring practices within the Alberta Public Service and the Alberta Crown Corporations are based solely on merit, competency, and equality of all persons regardless of race, gender, or creed and that all professional development programs and other training in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within the Alberta Public Service and the Alberta Crown Corporations be eliminated.
- o.** Require disclosure of funding sources for all groups which are lobbying or protesting to influence the government of Alberta.
- p.** Acknowledge that there are only two biological sexes and accordingly provide male or female as the exclusive options on all official government documents.

.2 DEMOCRACY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Conduct genuine consultations with stakeholders and the public before enacting significant legislation.
- b.** Hold the Alberta Human Rights Commission accountable for the decisions that they make.
- c.** Ban government ministries and departments from conducting political advertising.
- d.** Require that all candidates in elections governed by Alberta prove their Canadian citizenship by providing documented proof like a birth certificate, passport, or citizenship certificate.
- e.** Require presentation of appropriate identification and proof of residency for a non-registered voter, or robust confirmation of identity for a registered voter, prior to issuing a ballot in all provincial and municipal elections, plebiscites, and referenda;
- f.** Implement a recall trigger requirement of 50% + 1 of the total number of votes most recently cast for the targeted office, applicable both to provincial and municipal elected officials, and to provide a timeframe of 120 days to gather the requisite signatures.
- g.** Prevent concerns about electoral fraud in Albertan elections by (at a minimum) banning, except by plebiscite, all use of any and all electronic machines for tabulation or counting of ballots for any provincial election.
- h.** Not allow unions to donate monies to political parties.
- i.** Strengthen conflict of interest laws for elected officials.
- j.** Eliminate the practice of election vouching for the identity of another elector.

.3 MUNICIPAL

- a.** Prohibit any provincial or municipal entity under Alberta Government jurisdiction from entering, amending, extending, or renewing an intergovernmental agreement with the Government of Canada or Non-governmental organizations and other international interests unless prior approval has been obtained from the province. An intergovernmental

agreement entered, amended, extended, or renewed by a provincial or municipal entity without prior approval from the Government of Alberta shall have no effect.

- b.** Require municipalities to hold a plebiscite vote for proposed land use changes that would significantly impact the entire municipality.

302. INTERGOVERNMENTAL

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Encouraging, promoting, and defending free trade across Canada and the world.
- b.** Respecting and defending the separation of constitutional powers between the federal and provincial governments in Canada.
- c.** Advocating for greater market access for Alberta exporters and producers.
- d.** Negotiating fairer treatment for Alberta taxpayers by the Canadian government.

.2 FEDERAL

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Oppose intrusions by the federal government into the property, legal, constitutional and democratic rights of Albertans. To that end, Alberta should hold a referendum to obtain approval from Alberta residents, for the Alberta government to demand and negotiate changes to the wording of the Canadian Constitution under Section 121 to grant Alberta a constitutional right to freely export its resources, products and services across other provinces and outside of Canada's borders, without restrictions;
- b.** Advocate for senate reform. The UCP supports having a provincial review on senate reform to balance the current imbalance in the senate. The review should consider all options and the UCP should support a future constitutional amendment on senate reform, with the senatorial selection process to be the dominion of each province.
- c.** Commit to working with the federal government to develop one- window regulatory approval processes to minimize regulatory delays and burdens imposed on projects, particularly regarding critical infrastructure.
- d.** Advocate to the federal government to collect carbon taxes on imported goods from foreign countries that do not have equivalent carbon tax/pricing schemes.
- e.** Continue to distance itself from the federal government in as many facets as possible as a productive member of Confederation. Furthermore, any right given to another province should be a right given to Alberta.

.3 INTERNATIONAL

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Advocate for recognition of Canadian credentials abroad, allowing Alberta workers to pursue opportunities abroad.
- b.** Maintain and defend its constitutionally mandated jurisdictional authority over all decisions affecting Albertans regarding provincial, national, or international emergencies, treaties or

other agreements. This includes but is not limited to medical, financial, economic, security, natural resources, education, safety, and social issues and circumstances. Provincial authority may include a variety of communications, actions, responses, treatments, procedures, rules, regulations, fees, taxes, policies, protocols, legislation, or mandates of any kind.

- c.** Protect Alberta Crown Lands from unlawful seizure by international or federal organizations through neocolonial interpretations of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Persons.

.4 INTERPROVINCIAL

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Work with the federal and provincial governments, professional trade organizations and regulatory bodies to ensure that residents of Canada who have recognized qualifications and credentials to practice a trade, skill or profession can carry out business anywhere in Canada.
- b.** Pressure other provinces to drop their own barriers to trade, and intervene in, and support, court cases that challenge unconstitutional trade barriers.
- c.** Eliminate all trade, tariff and non-tariff barriers to reduce cost to Alberta consumers, starting with the exemptions implemented in the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and the New West Partnership.
- d.** Facilitate a pre-approved energy corridor across Canada that will secure self-reliant domestic energy supply and tidal water access for international export.

.5 MUNICIPAL

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Create a clear separation of powers, duties, and obligations between the provincial and municipal levels of government to ensure clear lines of accountability and financial responsibility.
- b.** Not allow municipal governments to run budget deficits.
- c.** Achieve perceived and real transparency associated with lobbying the Alberta provincial government by requiring disclosure as lobbyists from the following:
 - i. members of a council or other statutory body charged with the administration of the civic or municipal affairs of a municipality, or individuals on the staff of any of those members; and
 - ii. officers or employees of municipalities.
- d.** Prohibit any land use or development planning initiatives that would restrict movement of residents as per Section 6 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

401. JUSTICE

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** A fair and innovative justice system and effective policing system that protects Albertans, prioritizes the victims of crimes, and facilitates the rehabilitation of criminals.

- b.** Create an Alberta provincial police force to augment or replace services currently offered by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

.2 CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Require young offenders to participate in crime prevention courses, community restitution, and other measures.
- b.** Protect inmates who were female at conception and are housed at correctional and remand centers for women operated by Alberta's Correctional Services by refusing to house any inmate who was male at conception at said correctional and remand centres.

.3 COURTS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Support the right of compensation from convicted persons to the victims of their crimes.
- b.** Support alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and provide additional funding to reduce wait times in the court system.
- c.** Strengthen the bail process to prevent repeat offenders from being put back on the streets the next day.
- d.** Support Alberta's justice system by providing adequate resources to our court system to ensure that charges are not being stayed as a result of R v. Jordan.
- e.** Establish a system of out-of-Court preliminary settlement authorities (preserving full due process, the presumption of innocence, the right to plead not guilty, and the right to appeal to Provincial Court) to address non-criminal traffic matters, so as to move such matters out of Alberta's criminal courts and free up court resources for more serious infractions.

.4 LEGAL REFORMS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** make the Alberta Human Rights Tribunal and all other administrative and regulatory body hearings subject to the same rules of evidence and burden of proof as followed by the courts.

.5 POLICING

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Improve monitoring of, and strengthen restrictions on, high-risk offenders.

402.LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Working with skilled trades, employers, educators, and unions to develop a strategy to ensure that we have a skilled workforce to meet the current and future needs of the job market to build our province.

.2 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Conduct a detailed review and consultation with Albertans to ensure that employment standards set by the government protect employees, are comparable to other jurisdictions, and help to make Alberta workplaces safe and competitive.
- b.** Eliminate retention bonuses for bureaucrats. All severance shall be in line with minimums set forward in Alberta Labor Standards. Bonus structures will be based on measurable and attainable goals (KPIs) designed by the Minister and department.

.3 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WORKERS COMPENSATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Repeal the “Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act (Bill6)” and engage in judicious consultation with agricultural stakeholders prior to re-introducing any legislation.
- b.** Repeal Bill 30 of 2017, “An Act to Protect the Health and Well-Being of Working Albertans”.

.4 IMMIGRATION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Negotiate with the federal government to create an accord with Alberta that grants our province greater control over immigration, including total numbers of temporary and permanent residents, and active participation in the selection and rejection of those being granted temporary or permanent settlement rights in Alberta through the immigration process.

.5 LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Extend to workers the democratic right to a secret ballot vote on labour organization certification and decertification under the Labour Relations Code.
- b.** Give individual members of labour organizations the right to determine whether or not their mandatory union dues are used to fund political activity and social advocacy.

.6 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND TRADES ORGANIZATIONS

- a.** Require all regulatory professional associations and trade organizations to limit investigations of their members for complaints regarding professional conduct of their members to instances of activities that occur while ‘on the job,’ and limit the application of any Code of Conduct to professional activities and exclude personal affairs.

403. RIGHTS

.1 INFRINGEMENT PROTECTION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Defend freedom of speech of all Albertans.
- b.** Amend any provincial law, and vigorously oppose any federal law, that contravenes the constitutionally protected rights and freedoms of Albertans.
- c.** Protect an individual’s right to free expression.

- d.** Support the establishment of a Digital Bill of Rights that outlines the following rights:
- i. The right to privacy, including the protection of personal data and the ability to control its use.
 - ii. The right to free expression and access to information without censorship or surveillance.
 - iii. The right to security, including protection against cyber-attacks and breaches.
 - iv. The right to transparency, including clear and understandable terms and conditions for digital services.
 - v. The right to access and ownership of personal data, including the ability to easily transfer it between services.
 - vi. The right to due process, including fair treatment and legal recourse in the event of digital violations.
- e.** Recognize that Albertans have many endangered God-given rights and freedoms that are not formally affirmed in The Canadian Constitution, its enactments or Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- f.** Support all forms of rights and freedoms including those protected by the Charter; those not formally affirmed in the Constitution, the Charter, the Canadian Bill of Rights or the Alberta Bill of Rights and in particular those called for throughout the Member Policy Declaration by collaborating with Albertans to define and affirm those rights and freedoms by:
- i. Expanding existing fundamental freedoms (conscience, religion, thought, belief, opinion and expression, freedom of the press, peaceful assembly, and association) and rights (democratic rights, mobility rights, legal rights, equality rights, official languages, minority language and minority language education rights).
 - ii. Adding the following rights: the right to keep arms, parents' rights, right to self-defence, right to privacy of personal information and access to government information, swift due process for criminal and civil matters, the right to marry and enter a civil union.
 - iii. Adding the following freedoms: freedom from over-taxation, freedom from unreasonable search and seizure, freedom to make personal healthcare choices.
 - iv. Securing rights and freedoms so that they: cannot be suspended by federal or provincial legislation, regulation, or Orders in Council; and irrevocable unless amended through referendum.
- g.** Support a Bill of Parental Rights which ensures that legislation will recognize, support, and:
- i. Acknowledge that a parent's prior right and responsibility to raise their children precedes government legislation and does not flow from it (*sui generis*).
 - ii. Provide legislative clarity for the courts to uphold and enforce the existing defined and legislated legal age limits of the province.
 - iii. Protect parents who are providing the necessities for the child's health, education and welfare as they exercise their parental custody and authority, and does not interfere based on religious, social, or fiscal grounds.

- iv. Include remedial provisions for unjustified interference by government, organizations or individuals, in order to limit overreach.
- v. Affirm that the ultimate responsibility for a legally defined minor child’s health, education, and welfare lies with the parents or legal guardians by legislating to regulate the practice of subjectively ascribing children “Mature Minor” status.
- h.** Always provide the option of non-digital forms of Government issued ID that can be used wherever government issued ID is required.
- i.** Strengthen the rights of all Albertans to be treated equally.

.2 PROPERTY

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Enshrine the right to property in the Constitution of Alberta.
- b.** Strengthen landowner rights.

.3 RIGHT-TO-WORK JURISDICTION

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Support every individual’s right to not join a union.

.4 MEDICAL

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Protect Albertans’ right to choose what is best for their own bodies.
- b.** Protect an individual’s right to informed consent decisions regarding their own body.
- c.** Protect an individual’s right to privacy and confidentiality of their health care information.

.5 HEALTH CARE

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Protect an individual’s right for their own healthcare choices and ensure individuals are not discriminated against for their personal healthcare choices.
- b.** ensure that licenses, certificates and the experience necessary for employment in a particular profession, occupation or trade are easily and efficiently reviewed and provided within a specific period of time.

404. TRANSPORTATION

.1 VISION

The United Conservative Party is committed to...

- a.** Recognizing the importance of transportation to Alberta's industry, economic development, tourism and recreation when expanding transportation infrastructure.

.2 INFRASTRUCTURE (ROADS, RAIL, AIR)

The United Conservative Party believes that the Government of Alberta should...

- a.** Expand existing transportation corridors and construct new transportation infrastructure to relieve pressure on current routes, when projects are fiscally feasible and meet a cost/benefit analysis.
- b.** Work with private industry to maintain existing infrastructure and construct new infrastructure projects in a more timely and cost-effective manner.
- c.** Work with the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories, and the States of Alaska and Montana, and all associated First Nations as partners, to secure one or more Transportation Utility Corridors (TUCs) to the Hudson Bay, the Mackenzie Delta region, and/or Alaska.
- d.** Fund and construct additional new reservoir(s) for water storage and work with industry to reinvest in existing privately developed water infrastructure to ensure a dependable supply of water for the growing population, agriculture, industry and communities and a reduction of flood risk for Albertans.