



**Saskatchewan Liberal Party  
Convention 2010**

**Policy Resolutions**

May 8, 2010  
Sheraton Cavalier Hotel  
Saskatoon

## **First Nations and Métis Principles**

Whereas it is essential to develop a partnership with First Nations and Métis people of Saskatchewan, and

Whereas it is only through inclusion of Saskatchewan's First Nations and Métis Peoples in the social, economic, and political arenas that our Province will truly prosper, and

Whereas the Spirit and Intent of the Treaties is one of partnership, peaceful co-existence, prosperity and respect, and

Whereas the Saskatchewan Liberal Party is motivated by a desire to maximize freedom and the quality of life for the individual in society,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Liberal Party will apply the following principles of cooperation within the Saskatchewan Liberal Party and its future Saskatchewan Liberal Government:

1. Use of the Treaties as a blue print for the future
2. Implementation of a Representative Workforce at all levels of government.
3. Commitment of a Secretariat within the Premier's Office to directly address First Nation and Métis issues.

*Adopted at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, May 2010, Saskatoon*

## **"Value-for-Money" Audit**

WHEREAS the size of the Government of Saskatchewan has doubled in expenditures in the past decade, and

WHEREAS this doubling of spending by the Saskatchewan Government may or may not be entirely justified, and

WHEREAS Saskatchewan taxpayers have no way of knowing whether the \$10-billion plus now being spent to operate the Saskatchewan Government is being used efficiently,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in its first 100 days in office, a Saskatchewan Liberal Party Government would initiate a 'value-for-money' audit of the entire provincial government and all of its Crown Corporations and agencies, to determine if tax dollars are being used efficiently.

*Adopted at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, May 2010, Saskatoon*

## **Introduction of a Feed-In Tariff**

Whereas SaskPower that based on current projected supply, the crown corporation will have to rebuild, replace, or acquire 1,091 megawatts of power by 2014 and a further 1,017 megawatts of power by 2022, and

Whereas SaskPower's current power capacity is 3,641 megawatt, of which 161 megawatts are generated by wind, 0 by solar, 0 by biomass, constituting 4.5% from renewable sources not including hydro, and

Whereas Saskatchewan is naturally endowed with a huge land mass and great wind and solar resources, and

Whereas a global shift to renewable energy systems is inevitable, offering us a way to tap into our vast supply of sustainable resources and reduce our environmental impact while creating a long-term, secure energy supply, and

Whereas Feed-In Tariffs have been demonstrated to be the most effective policy mechanism that can be used to foster the rapid development of renewable energy systems, most notably in Germany, Denmark, and Spain, and

Whereas Feed-In Tariffs provide universal access to the power grid for producers of renewable energy, providing a market for investors and entrepreneurial producers, and

Whereas Saskatchewan Liberals believe that the role of the state is to foster a free market economy by cultivating conditions of fair competition and ensuring equal opportunity of citizens to participate, as stated in the *Declaration of the Principles of Prairie Liberalism*,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Saskatchewan Liberals openly advocate a Feed- In Tariff proposal for Saskatchewan, and that a future Saskatchewan Liberal Government would implement a Feed- In Tariff with the following components:

1. The opportunity to connect to the grid for anyone who wants to deliver renewable energy
2. Fair prices are set for each renewable energy technology that can result in a modest profit for operators with a decent business case
3. Prices are set to reflect the current cost of each renewable energy source at its proposed location
4. Premium prices and conditions may be set for specific projects to promote storage systems, First Nations, or other community power initiatives
5. Contractual long term premiums are implemented to give financiers a loud and clear signal from government that it is serious about renewable energy development

*Adopted at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, May 2010, Saskatoon*

## **Saskatchewan Future Fund**

WHEREAS the extraction of natural resources is an important part of the Saskatchewan economy and provides significant revenue to the government of Saskatchewan in the form of resource royalties.

WHEREAS these resource royalties, by their very nature are 'one-time' dollars, that is to say that a particular barrel of oil or tonne of potash can only be extracted and sold once.

WHEREAS it is unwise for the Saskatchewan Government to fund ongoing expenditures such as health care with volatile, one-time dollars that come from resource extraction. This leads to problems like the unexpected budget gap of 2009-10 due to miscalculated potash royalty revenue.

WHEREAS other countries and jurisdictions rich in similar natural resources have established 'Sovereign Wealth Funds' (like the Alberta Heritage Fund) in order to generate ongoing revenue for government in perpetuity so future generations can benefit from today's one-time resource extraction.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Saskatchewan Liberal Party supports the creation of a sovereign wealth fund (Saskatchewan Future Fund) for the province of Saskatchewan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a Saskatchewan Liberal Party Government will mandate that a minimum percentage of one-time resource dollars be committed to the Saskatchewan Future Fund for the benefit of Saskatchewan residents today and for generations to come.

*Adopted at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, May 2010, Saskatoon*

## **Reducing Student Debt**

WHEREAS in today's competitive society, ensuring that Saskatchewan students receive post secondary education is more important than ever.

WHEREAS many students rely on student loans to finance their post secondary education.

WHEREAS student debt is becoming an increasingly important issue, with students needing to take on more debt than ever before.

WHEREAS the Government of Saskatchewan's students loans program charges students a rate of interest that is above the cost of borrowing for the government.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Saskatchewan Liberal Party supports the reduction of the rate of interest for government student loans to the lowest rate of borrowing that the Government of Saskatchewan has access to.

*Adopted at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, May 2010, Saskatoon*