



Lowering the Legal Drinking Age

WHEREAS at the age of eighteen, an individual is legally considered to be an adult under Canadian law; and

WHEREAS an adult, having reached the age of majority at eighteen, has the right to vote in elections, run for elected office, purchase tobacco products, enter into a binding contract, purchase stocks, and join the armed forces and ultimately go to war; and

WHEREAS the legal drinking age in the neighboring provinces of Alberta and Manitoba, as well as Quebec, is eighteen; and

WHEREAS the majority of young people that consume alcohol do not engage in harmful behaviors such as impaired driving; and

WHEREAS a higher legal drinking age may encourage and promote activities such as drinking in high-risk situations, and the use of other drugs as substitutes for alcohol; and

WHEREAS Saskatchewan Liberals believe in the principle of personal liberty;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Liberal Party support lowering the legal drinking age in the province of Saskatchewan to eighteen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Liberal Party support school and community programs that aim to educate young people about the responsible use of alcohol, and to consult with all stakeholders to develop effective prevention and harm reduction strategies for underage drinking.

Passed at the Saskatchewan Liberal Party Convention, February 2009, Regina