

Part 1 - Honouring the Treaties, First Nations' Rights and Social Justice

Honouring and Implementation Treaties

1. What concrete actions will your party take to ensure the full implementation of outstanding Treaty obligations in Manitoba, including land transfers, resource revenue sharing and jurisdictional recognition?
2. Will you commit to a Cabinet Directive mandating the resolution of outstanding treaty obligations, including pre-1975 Treaties, and a convening of First Ministers to ensure their full implementation before Modern Day Treaties are pursued?
3. How will your party accelerate the resolution of outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) claims and ensure that all promised lands are transferred to reserve status without further delay?
4. What measures will your party take to resolve jurisdictional conflicts between federal and provincial governments and their various departments to ensure First Nations' full governance over Treaty lands and resources, including protection from unauthorized extraction activities?

We recognize the foundational nature of Treaties for First Nation Peoples and that they represent fundamental obligation to First Nations.

The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to working with First Nation communities to advance reconciliation. While we have made significant progress - we recognize that there is still more to do in terms of advancing reconciliation and ensuring that Indigenous Peoples.

Since forming government in 2015, 171 additions to the reserve in Manitoba have been approved- this represents over 109,000 acres of land returned to First Nation communities. The Liberal Party remains committed to working in partnership with First Nations to remove systemic barriers and to develop transformative changes to the additions to reserve policy with the intent to reduce the wait time for their land to be returned back to them.

The Liberal Party of Canada understands the importance of Treaty Land Entitlements (TLE) and an expedited resolution - that is why the previous government made advance payments of \$210 million. First Nation Peoples have waited too long. While we recognize that progress has been made, we know that the work on advancing TLEs is far from over. We will continue to advance the implementation process.

A Mark Carney-led government will work in full partnership with First Nation, Inuit, and Métis to advance and realize the rights of Indigenous Peoples through a distinctions-based approach.

We will increase lands added to reserves within the next four years and work with First Nations to accelerate additions to reserve.

We will work in partnership on the implementation of treaties, land claims, and self-government agreements.

Implementation of UNDRIP

Liberal Party Responses to *Manitoba First Nations Federal Election Priorities Document*

1. If elected, how would your government plan to address the lack of clarity on First Nations' jurisdiction in the UNDA Action Plan and ensure First Nations' governance over lands and resources?
2. If elected, how will your government ensure adequate financial resources and ongoing engagement with First Nations to support the successful implementation of the UNDA Action Plan?
3. If elected, how would your government uphold the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) to ensure that First nations have a real say in decisions affecting their lands and resources?

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) is about recognizing and respecting the human rights of Indigenous Peoples. Implementing UNDRIP is essential to creating a fair, inclusive and equitable society. The Liberal government passed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (the Act), which became law on June 21, 2021. We are working, consistent with the requirements of the Act and in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, to take all measures necessary to ensure the laws of Canada are consistent with UNDRIP.

A future government led by Mark Carney would establish a Major Federal Project Office to advance a One Project, One Review approach which will provide efficiency and certainty. This office will have a strong new mandate to issue decisions on major projects within two years instead of five - including additional approvals outside of the Impact Assessment Act - while fully upholding environmental integrity and Indigenous rights.

A Mark Carney-led government will implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Action Plan.

We will double capacity support so more Indigenous communities can take an active role in project decisions at various stages, and to improve meaningful and immediate participation.

We will also double the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program from \$5 to \$10 billion and expand it to support more Indigenous-led infrastructure, transportation, and trade projects across the country. This will make it easier for more Indigenous communities to become owners of major resource projects.

Implementation of Aboriginal Justice Inquiry

1. If elected, how would your government commit to supporting a tripartite approach to implement the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry?
2. If elected, how would your government support regionally developed First Nations-led approach to justice and public safety?
3. If elected, how would your government commit to co-development legislation with First Nations in Manitoba to recognize and fund First nations policing as an essential service and not a program to ensure that First nations policing services meet, if not exceed, the same standards applied to police services off-reserve.

The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to working with all levels of government to address issues raised in the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry.

The Liberal Party will always listen to and take guidance from Indigenous Peoples on how best to ensure their safety from coast to coast to coast. We will continue to advance this work together.

Through the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program (FNIPP), the previous government provided:

- Over \$150 million in 2019-2020 to support over 1,350 police officer positions in over 425 First Nation and Inuit communities in Canada.
- \$540.3 million over five years, beginning in 2021-22, and \$126.8 million ongoing, to support First Nations and Inuit communities currently served under the FNIPP and expand the program to new First Nations and Inuit communities.

We know this is not enough - but making systemic changes to the way we do law enforcement, to protect, rather than harm our communities - is a path we must continue to walk.

A Mark Carney-led government will support Indigenous-led processes for advancing self-determination and the exercise of jurisdiction in priority areas such as education, health, child and family services as well as community safety and policing.

MMIWG2S+

1. Given the AMC's advocacy for searching the Prairie Green and Brady Road Landfills to recover the remains of missing Indigenous women, what measures will your party implement to ensure the government provides adequate resources and support for these comprehensive searches while maintaining a transparent and respectful process for the impacted families and First Nations.
2. Considering the AMC's call for a First Nation-developed Red Dress Alert system to address the crisis of MMIWG2S+, what steps will your party take to implement and support a regional First-Nations-led approach to this alert system, ensuring its full integration into local and regional frameworks to raise awareness and facilitate timely responses?
3. Recognizing AMC's emphasis on the urgent need for sustainable, long-term funding and accountability to combat the MMIWG2S+ crisis, what concrete actions will your party undertake to address systemic violence against First nations women, girls, and Two-Spirit individuals, and how will you ensure these initiatives are sustained by funding for community-driven solutions?
4. If elected, what actions will your party take to work in partnership with First Nations Peoples to ensure all 231 Calls to Justice are implemented in a timely manner through a transparent and accountable process?

Violence against Indigenous women, girls, two-spirit, and gender-diverse people must be put to an end. After the previous Conservative government dragged their feet for years, the previous government called a National Inquiry. The previous government made progress in advancing two thirds of the Calls for Justice - such as building new shelters for indigenous women, supporting frontline Indigenous victim services, building 12 new cell towers along the Highway of Tears in

British Columbia, and much more. While we have made progress - we know there is much more to do and we are committed to advancing that work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples.

Supporting Survivors, victims, their families, and communities is always the right course of action to take, and it requires the full support of all levels of government.

The Liberal government partnered with the Manitoba Government to support the search at every stage - with an irrefutable commitment that the families were right, and the search was the right thing to do. We would like to acknowledge the leadership and advocacy of the families, Premier Wab Kinew, the late Grand Chief Merrick and Grand Chief Wilson as the former Chief of Long Plain First Nation in doing this important work.

We invested \$1.3M into a red dress pilot right here in Manitoba.

A Mark Carney-led government will move forward on the implementation of the National inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice and the National Action plan.

Part 2: Creating Thriving Economies and Closing the Infrastructure Gap

Equitable Access to Capital for First Nations Economic Development

1. If elected, what concrete steps will your party take to improve First Nations' access to capital so they can fully participate in economic opportunities and overcome barriers imposed by systemic discrimination and outdated policies?
2. If elected, how will your government ensure that First Nations have meaningful partnerships and equitable access to federal programs that support economic self-sufficiency and long-term prosperity?
3. Given the economic uncertainty stemming from US trade policies and their potential impact on Manitoba's economy, how will your party guarantee that First Nations Leaders are actively included in economic decision-making processes at all levels and see them as rights holders vs stakeholders? What measures will you take to support First Nation-led economic resilience?

In the first week of being Prime Minister, Prime Minister Carney met with the leaders of the National Indigenous Organizations where he shared his vision for building one strong Canadian economy – the strongest in the G7, built in partnership with Indigenous Peoples. The Prime Minister is committed to meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous communities, ensuring that your leadership and perspectives are integral to building a thriving, inclusive economy.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the federal government will seek partnership and input from Indigenous leaders on how to build our economy together, including opportunities for Indigenous participation in major projects and respect for Indigenous rights. Prime Minister Carney highlighted that the Government of Canada will be doubling the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program from \$5 billion to \$10 billion and opening it to sectors outside of energy and natural resources to support more Indigenous-led infrastructure, transportation, and trade projects across the country. This will ensure that rights-holders are a part of Canada's accelerated push to build.

At that first meeting the Prime Minister also reiterated his commitment to advancing reconciliation, upholding the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and taking a distinctions-based approach with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

A Mark Carney-led government will build together with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities the critical infrastructure needed all across the country. Predictable funding cycles and getting priority setting closer to community needs is critical to increasing the pace of work and the effectiveness of infrastructure funding. To accelerate this work, we will:

- Expand the kinds of projects the Canada Infrastructure Bank can support to be more in line with First Nation, Inuit, and Métis priorities.
- Explore options for an Indigenous Infrastructure Bank to address access to capital.
- Determine the best path forward towards First Nations 10-year infrastructure plans.
- Realize First Nations control over First Nations infrastructure wherever possible through models like the First Nations Atlantic Water Authority.
- Work in partnership with Indigenous communities and Indigenous housing providers to directly support building housing including in urban, rural, and northern Indigenous communities.

Rural High-Speed Internet Connectivity

1. If elected, what concrete steps will your government take to ensure that all First Nations have equal and affordable access to internet and mobile connectivity, considering there are First Nations in Manitoba, especially those in remote and isolated regions, who do not have access to these platforms? How will you ensure that these projects prioritize First Nations-led solutions rather than top-down government approaches that have historically overlooked First Nations' needs and governance?

Last November the Liberal government announced over \$38 million in federal funding to bring high-speed Internet access to communities in Manitoba. This includes 3,135 Indigenous households.

We know there is much more to do and a future Liberal government is committed to working in partnership with First Nations communities in Manitoba to make sure everyone has access to this critical service.

Constraints on Housing Availability and Funding

1. What steps will your government take to address the critical housing needs of First Nations, both on and off reserve, and ensure the adequate funding for new housing units and repairs, including addressing the roles of CMHC and ISC in delays and challenges?
2. How will your government support First Nations in gaining more control over housing design and delivery, ensuring that solutions meet the unique needs of First nations while addressing the challenges posed by CMHC and ISC's policies and processes?

Since 2015, the federal government has committed more than \$6.7 billion for housing in Indigenous communities and a further \$4.3 billion to advance an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing strategy to improve and expand Indigenous housing in Canada.

We know there is much more work to do and a future Liberal government would work in partnership with First Nations communities and Indigenous housing providers here in Manitoba to close the housing gap, including in urban, rural and northern First Nations communities.

Emergency and Disaster Management

1. If elected, how will your party ensure that First Nations' jurisdiction is respected and integrated into emergency management strategies and planning going forward?
2. How will your party support the development of First Nations-led emergency management frameworks, including capacity building and funding, to ensure that First Nations are equipped to respond and manage disasters within their First Nation?

The Liberal Party of Canada recognizes that First Nation communities across the country are disproportionately impacted by climate change. This is top of mind across northern Manitoba, notably the evacuations from Bunibonibee Cree Nation last summer due to wildfires.

The previous government announced a \$260M investment in FES 2023, and an additional \$166M in Budget 2024 to make sure First Nations communities have the tools and support they need to respond to crises like wildfires.

We will continue to be a partner to provide the support that First Nation communities need - while ensuring they have control over protecting their territory.

Part 3: Protecting our Environment and Addressing Climate Change Together

Protecting our Environment and Addressing Climate Change Together

1. How does your party plan to support the contributions First nations make to environmental stewardship and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs)?
2. If elected, what steps would you and your government take to meaningfully co-develop and engage title and rights holders on climate policy and legislation and advance First Nation-led climate action and leadership?
3. In what ways have you supported efforts toward achieving a just transition away from fossil fuels toward renewable energy sources (i.e. solar, wind, geothermal)? How would you ensure that First nations inherent and treaty rights are acknowledged and upheld in this process and what steps would you take to ensure First Nations are equity partners in this transition?

Indigenous Peoples are at the forefront of the fight against biodiversity loss and climate change. Across the country, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis are on the ground managing land, water, and helping communities thrive while safeguarding the natural spaces we all depend on for current and future generations.

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We will bolster Indigenous stewardship, including by establishing a new Arctic Indigenous Guardians program, and funding Indigenous-led conservation and protection projects.

The Liberal Party will also introduce and pass legislation affirming that First Nations have a human right to clean drinking water.

Mark Carney has committed to making major future investments to become a clean energy superpower. A future Liberal government would directly support clean energy and critical minerals projects via the First and Last Mile Fund, reducing our reliance on other countries and protecting Canadian jobs.

A Mark Carney-led government will Establish a new Indigenous Climate Readiness and Adaptation Fund and support Indigenous led conservation initiatives to safeguard forests, waterways, oceans and wildlife and to bolster disaster response activities. This ensures invaluable traditional knowledge is incorporated into how we protect nature and advances reconciliation.

Mining and Critical Minerals Development

1. How will your party ensure meaningful consultation with First Nations on mining projects?
2. What steps will your party take to ensure that Free, Prior and Informed Consent is respected in all mining activities on First Nations treaty and ancestral lands?
3. How will your party address the environmental impacts of mining, particularly water pollution and destruction of lands, in the context of critical mineral extraction?
4. What measures will your party put in place to ensure that result in equitable, long-term benefits for First Nations?
5. How will your party work with First Nations to ensure that their sovereignty and treaty rights are respected in the development of critical mineral strategies and future resource extraction projects?

A Mark Carney-led Liberal government will kickstart the clean energy supply chain by investing in critical minerals, to get the vital components needed to build Canada strong. We would sign Cooperation and Substitution Agreements with all willing provinces, territories, and Indigenous Governing Bodies within six months, ensuring that projects only go through one review that uphold environmental standards and Indigenous Consultation. This will include upholding Canada's world class environmental protections and Indigenous People's constitutional rights.

We will double capacity support so more Indigenous communities can take an active role in project decisions at various stages, and to improve meaningful and immediate participation.

It would also double the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program from \$5 to \$10 billion and expand it to support more Indigenous-led infrastructure, transportation, and trade projects across the country. This will make it easier for more Indigenous communities to become owners of major resource projects.

A Mark Carney led government would also work with Indigenous partners, project proponents, provinces and territories to do proactive remediation and rehabilitation work at project sites.

Part 4: Building Resilient and Healthy Communities

Children and Families

1. If elected, what concrete steps will your party take to ensure a long-term, sustainable funding model that upholds the principles of substantive equality and allows First Nations in Manitoba to fully implement their laws under Bill C-92?
2. Given the overrepresentation of First Nations children in care and their increased likelihood of later being involved in the criminal justice system, what specific policies and investments will your party implement to prevent child apprehension, support First Nations-led child welfare solutions, and break the cycle of systemic harm?

The Liberal Party of Canada recognizes that for generations, government policies devastated communities by separating children from their families, culture, and language. It was a Liberal government that made C-92 law - affirming what Indigenous Peoples have known since time immemorial - that they have the right to decide what is best for their children, their families, and their communities.

We will continue to work in partnership with communities to advance their priorities - including their coordination agreements for child and family services. This is a critical step on our path towards reconciliation and a future where kids can grow up surrounded by love, language, and culture.

Jordans Principle

1. What is your party's position on the current state of Jordan's Principle initiative, and what specific actions will your government take to address the backlog of requests, ensuring that true needs based regional funding models are identified and allocated?
2. How will your government strengthen the enforcement and accessibility of Jordan's Principle, ensuring that all First Nations children - whether on or off reserve - receive equitable access to services without delay or bureaucratic barriers?

One of the first things the Liberals did as a government was to implement Jordan's Principle in 2016, making sure First Nations children can access the care they need, when they need it.

Since 2016, the previous government has invested over \$8.8 billion to meet health, social, and education needs of First Nations children through Jordan's Principle

Last year, a milestone agreement was reached, co-developed with First Nations partners, that will provide \$23 billion to victims and survivors to compensate for the harms they faced from generations of discriminatory funding and programs.

The Liberal Party recognizes that First Nations children thrive when they can stay with their families, in their communities, surrounded by their culture. We will always take guidance from Indigenous leadership on how to move forward together. A Mark Carney-led government would continue to fund Jordan's Principle and continue to work with Indigenous leadership and communities on child welfare reform.

Canada Early Learning and Childcare Act

1. If elected, would your government uphold the Canada Early Learning and Child Care Act?
2. If elected, would your government maintain the ongoing federal investments for the Early Learning and Child Care Act?

All families in Canada should have access to high-quality, affordable, flexible and inclusive early learning and child care no matter where they live. That is why we are building a Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care system with provinces, territories and Indigenous partners.

The previous Liberal government has supported 35,000 affordable spaces across nearly 1,000 Indigenous early learning and child care sites, with several more planned to open over the next 2 years.

A Mark Carney led government would remain committed to the Canada Early Learning and Child Care Act, including ongoing sustained funding.

A Mark Carney-led government would work with the AMC and rights holders here in Manitoba on the best ways to provide these early learning and childcare spaces for Indigenous children and their families.

A Mark Carney-led government will support Indigenous-led processes for advancing self-determination and the exercise of jurisdiction in priority areas such as education, health, child and family services as well as community safety and policing.

K-12 Education

1. How will your government ensure that First Nations have equitable access to education that supports economic development and social well-being?
2. What measures will your party implement to improve and expand First Nations' access to financial resources alongside education initiatives?

Every child deserves access to quality education in spaces that celebrate their culture and identity. In the last Budget alone, the Liberal government invested \$649.4 million over two years to improve elementary and secondary education on reserve, and \$545.1 million over three years for K-12 infrastructure for First Nations students.

A Mark Carney-led government will protect K-12 education on-reserve so that more First Nations kids can go to school surrounded by their language, culture, and communities. We are also committed to working in partnership with the AMC and Manitoba First Nation communities on how to move forward together.

Closing the First Nations Health Gap

1. If elected, what steps would you take to address the mental health and substance abuse crisis in First Nations?
2. What steps will your party take to close the health disparity gap between First Nations and non-Indigenous populations?

3. Will your party support long-term, sustainable funding for First Nation-led healthcare initiatives?

A Mark Carney-led government will increase investments for Indigenous mental health, healing and wellness and friendship centres. We will also provide urgent and immediate support to address the overdose crisis by adding \$500 million to the Emergency Treatment Fund to support municipalities, Indigenous communities, and community health care organizations to confront the toxic drug and overdose crisis and connect more people to treatment and vital services, faster.

We will continue to work with First Nations, provinces and territories to co-develop a plan for the future of healthcare delivery that meets the health needs of First Nations in Manitoba.

Funding for First Nations Public Service

1. If elected, how will your party ensure that First Nations governments receive stable and equitable core funding to support long-term sustainability, strengthen governance, and build the capacity of other administrations?

Homelessness

2. What specific actions will your government take to address the overrepresentation of First Nations people in homelessness statistics and ensure that housing benefits, support services and culturally relevant programs are available to First Nations?

We know Indigenous people in urban areas face unique challenges to accessing the services and cultural support they need. We will continue to work with Indigenous communities to provide much-needed support and services to members of their communities across a range of areas including health, housing, education, recreation, language, justice, employment, economic development, culture, and community wellness.

A Mark Carney-led government will increase investments for Indigenous mental health, healing and wellness centres, and friendship centres.

Residential Schools

1. If elected, how will your government collaborate with First Nations governments and residential school survivors to co-develop a comprehensive framework that ensures the identification, preservation and investigation of unmarked mass burial sites occur in accordance with human rights standards, with proper legal protection, documentation, and accountability? Furthermore, how will your government address the recent funding reductions to ensure that First Nations have the necessary resources to undertake this vital work?

The Liberal Party of Canada will always stand with Survivors and will continue to work with Indigenous communities to advance this important work.

Following an announcement from Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, that a radar survey near the former Kamloops Indian Residential School had detected 215 anomalies, we established the Residential Schools Missing Children Community Support Fund in 2021.

We are committed to working with Indigenous communities and organizations to support community-led and Survivor-centric initiatives to document, locate and commemorate the children that did not return home and unmarked burial sites associated with former residential schools.

A Mark Carney-led government will move forward on the important work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and support Indigenous communities to uncover unmarked and undocumented graves and burial sites at residential schools.

Culture and Languages

1. Given the critical need to preserve and revitalize First nations languages and cultural heritage in Manitoba, how will your government collaborate with First Nations leadership, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals to ensure sustainable funding and support for initiatives led by organizations like the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs? Specifically, what measures will you implement to recognize and uphold First nations concepts of heritage, ensuring equitable support compared to non-Indigenous heritage programs?

The Liberal Party of Canada understands the importance of languages and Indigenous language preservation. That is why we passed the Indigenous Languages Act on June 21, 2019, to reclaim, revitalize, strengthen and maintain Indigenous languages in Canada.

To ensure the vibrancy of Indigenous cultures and languages for generations to come, Budget 2024 invested \$225 million over five years, starting last year, with \$45 million per year ongoing, for Indigenous languages and cultures programs.

A Mark Carney-led government will revitalize Indigenous languages by supporting community-driven projects that restore, protect, and promote this important part of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis cultures and histories.

We are committed to working in partnership with the AMC and First Nations communities in Manitoba to continue to protect and revitalize Indigenous languages.

Protecting 2SLGBTQIA+

1. If elected, how will your government ensure that no province or territory can pass legislation that violates the rights of Two-Spirit and transgender First Nations children, and what concrete measures will you implement to protect their access to gender-affirming care and safe, inclusive environments?

One of this country's greatest strengths is recognizing that people can be who they are, love who they love, and live where they choose.

The Liberal Party will always be a defender of those rights and a defender of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Fighting the Addictions Crisis in First Nations

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1. If elected, what steps would your government take to work with First Nations' communities to ensure access to culturally appropriate mental health and addiction treatment is available to First Nations living in their communities?

Last year the Liberal government invested \$630.2 million over two years through Budget 2024 to support Indigenous people's access to mental health services, including through distinctions-based mental wellness strategies.

We know that supporting Indigenous people's access to mental health and addiction supports doesn't just mean increasing access to care, it also means ensuring services respect, value, and use cultural knowledge, approaches, languages, and ways of knowing.

We are also committed to working in partnership with the AMC and First Nation communities here in Manitoba on further measures we can implement to deal with these critical issues.