

## Economy, infrastructure & Highways – NDP commitments 2023

NDP campaign platform – economy and infrastructure  
and

NDP response to MHCA survey – economy and infrastructure, highways capital

***“Economic horse pulls the social cart”***

### **Infrastructure/Highways**

Highways Cap budget:

- work with industry to plan for the short, medium, and long-term
- build on existing \$500-million annual commitments (re-invest the annual shortfalls in program expenditures)
- provide timely information on upcoming projects
- organize a blue-ribbon panel to identify important infrastructure needs with industry and municipalities, prioritizing economic goals

### Trade/highways

- trade is foundational to economy. “Trade can only take place when we have a reliable transportation system that allows companies and producers to access markets in Canada, in the United States and around the world.”
- “To expand and maintain our transportation system, the Manitoba NDP will provide consistent, reliable investment in highways, roads and bridges to restore, maintain and grow the province’s transportation infrastructure. After years of cuts, we need a strategic focus to restore Manitoba’s ability to achieve strong economic growth.”

On CTIP – committed to working with the feds and provinces to ensure there is “long-term funding plan that prioritizes and coordinates investments in trade infrastructure”

On MTI and economic policy – “align planning for transportation and infrastructure, not only with the movement of people and goods across the province but also with the goal of supporting and spurring economic growth. We will support infrastructure funding for trade corridors and gateways across the province.”

Annual and five-year highways capital budgets – “work with the heavy construction industry to provide timely information on upcoming projects to permit more efficient multi-year planning”

New funding deal for municipalities – NDP will “introduce a predictable multi-year funding model and work to ensure local governments have the resources they need to serve Manitobans.”

### Jobs --

- Manitoba Jobs for Manitobans Strategy:
  - “community benefits for big projects so Manitobans get to work” (specifically NEWPCC)
- Blue Ribbon Infrastructure Panel:
  - “ensuring communities get the roads and highways they need”

- “reverse the PCs’ cuts to roads and maintenance and invest in snow clearing, gravel roads, ditches and culverts to keep families safe, protect communities from flooding, and create good Manitoba jobs.”
- Premier’s Business and Jobs Council
- Better health and safety standards
- More apprenticeships and training (restoring 1-1 apprenticeship ratio)
- Critical minerals strategy
- Advisor for US Trade

Cost-of-living:

- 1-year hydro rate freeze
- cut the 14-cent/litre gas tax while inflation is high (\$165m)
- stronger rent control; \$700 tax credit for new renters
- broad middle-class tax cut through indexing tax brackets
- keep 50% education tax cut but take it off the bills (no cheques)
- cut the PST on new rental builds.

Other notables:

- Making Orange Shirt Day a statutory holiday
- bring back 24-hour maintenance on highways to get the job done.
- roadmap to meet net-zero targets by 2050 by working with all levels of government. And we will make our energy grid net-zero by 2035
- review Bill 37, speed up approval timelines, ensure local voices at the decision-making table.