



PREMIER OF MANITOBA

Room 204
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA
R3C 0V8

March 3, 2020

Honourable Kelvin Goertzen
Minister of Education
168 – 450 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Dear Colleague:

The people of Manitoba have given us the honour of a second mandate to move Manitoba forward. Our commitments are clear and ambitious.

All Ministers will work as a team to achieve the Five Point Guarantee as set out in our 2019 platform. We will work hard to create 40,000 new jobs, reduce taxes and invest in a health care system that delivers better care sooner. We will complete the construction of 20 new schools to provide better environments for our children to learn. We will deliver our Made in Manitoba Climate and Green Plan to achieve our vision of the cleanest, greenest and most climate resilient province.

We will build a better, more efficient, responsive and open government that provides quality services to communities throughout Manitoba.

Manitobans deserve a government that reflects their values: honesty, integrity and a commitment to hard work. I expect all ministers to work as a team to achieve our platform commitments and to hold themselves to the highest ethical standards. Manitoba became the most improved province in Canada in our first term. That record of achievement and success will provide a strong foundation for an equally ambitious second mandate. We are a government that keeps its word. We have a record of public trust that cannot be compromised by conflicts of interest, complacency or entitlement.

As Minister of Education, you will lead the following actions to enhance the education of our children:

- Preparing your department to lead the transformation of our education system in response to the forthcoming recommendations from the Manitoba Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education;
- Deploying a \$25 million “Teachers’ Idea Fund” to support front line teachers who propose innovative projects that improve literacy and numeracy outcomes, enhance teacher practices and increase student engagement and well-being;
- Building twenty new schools;
- Working with your colleague, the Minister of Economic Development and Training, expand our High School Apprenticeship Program by increasing the number of high school apprenticeship program participants in areas with unmet demand for training and offering more opportunities for increased access to hands-on skilled trades programming for young people between the ages of 13-16;
- Working with your colleague, the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Relations, to expand Treaty Education across the province to ensure that more students and teachers learn about treaties and the treaty relationship to advance reconciliation;
- Implementing province wide bargaining for teachers to reduce bargaining costs and give teachers more time to teach;
- Renewing our International Education Strategy to improve Manitoba’s global competitiveness as a destination for international students;
- Enhancing on-line learning options; and
- Supporting your colleague, the Minister of Finance, in preparing to relieve property owners of the burden of education property taxes once we achieve balance.

As House Leader, you will lead the following actions to promote a collegial and productive Legislature:

- Working with the Legislative Affairs Management Committee to ensure Manitoba’s Independent Officers operate efficiently with transparent and effective outcomes;
- Eliminating the election campaign rebate program for political parties and reform the rebate program to provide local candidates a level playing field; and
- Restructuring government advertising rules in pre-writ periods to ensure Manitobans have access to government information while maintaining transparent and simpler rules related to use of government resources surrounding elections.

You will work collaboratively with the public service, stakeholders and citizens to keep our promises. We are committed to ensuring all employees are treated with dignity and respect. There is no place for harassment of any kind in the civil service or any workplace, you must remain

vigilant in ensuring there is no wrong door and not sit silent if you see others around you falling short of these standards.

We have established Ideas Funds across summary government to encourage front line service providers to come forward with innovative proposals to modernize and improve the way we deliver services Manitobans need. You will encourage your front line service providers to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Both with your department and the entities that receive our financial support, you will emphasize the need for continuous progress on spending within our budgets, reducing administrative costs and finding ways to ensure value for taxpayers' money.

As a member of Executive Council, you will continue to support our work to transform the public service, including the deployment of balanced scorecards to report on our progress and ensure Manitobans understand what we are doing and why we are doing it. As elected representatives of the people, we must always ensure that we remain transparent and accountable for our actions. Manitobans expect nothing less.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Brian Pallister