



PREMIER OF MANITOBA

Room 204
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA
R3C 0V8

March 3, 2020

Honourable Reg Helwer
Minister of Central Services
343 – 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 Central Services and Minister responsible for the Civil Service Commission, you will lead the following actions:

- Continuing our efforts to save taxpayers' dollars by shopping smarter, working with your cabinet colleagues to expand our procurement strategy across the public sector including shopping with other provinces;
- Reviewing our current approach to risk-based vendor integrity to ensure Manitoba is protected from undue financial and/or reputational exposure;
- Ensuring predictable delivery of our commitment to an annual strategic infrastructure investment of no less than \$1 billion;
- Expediting capital planning and project delivery through innovative project delivery approaches including design-build and P3s;
- Improving the management of government-owned properties by implementing best practices including coordination of maintenance resources and use of asset management data;
- Modernizing our processes for disposing of surplus assets across government, including reduced backlogs at the Real Estate Division;
- Working with our federal and municipal partners to deliver funding for worthy infrastructure projects within the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and future bilateral programs;
- Working with the Government of Canada, the Canada Infrastructure Bank, and the City of Winnipeg explore the feasibility of utilizing a P3 delivery model and the Canada Infrastructure Bank to finance and deliver the necessary upgrades to the City of Winnipeg's North End Water Pollution Control Centre;
- Assessing options for renewal of our enterprise software to support further savings through the consolidation of administrative functions;
- Developing a provincial broadband strategy including expanded coverage;
- Working with the Legislative Assembly to repair the Legislative Building and Grounds, including Government House;
- Exploring opportunities for greater cost savings in both light and heavy fleet at our Vehicle and Equipment Management Agency including Crowns; and
- Working with your colleagues to continue the work of transforming our public service, including
 - Implementing the Public Service Act;
 - Simplifying job classifications within our public service;
 - Aligning compensation, and spans and layers across the public service;
 - Engaging with business, academic and NGO sectors to foster strong relationships that advance collaborative innovation -- a network-based approach that brings together diverse public and private actors enabling transformative learning and joint ownership over unique and bold solutions; and

- Allowing front line public servants to promote and realize innovation through the Ideas Fund.
- Enhancing access to mental health and wellness supports and resources for employees;
- Fostering workplaces that are built on safety respect, trust, and inclusion;
- Enhancing reconciliation, diversity and inclusion efforts; and
- Promoting a culture of learning and development through initiatives such as the Learning Fund.

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