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**PREMIER OF MANITOBA**

Room 204  
Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA  
R3C 0V8

March 3, 2020

Honourable Ralph Eichler  
Minister of Economic Development and Training  
358 – 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 Economic Development and Training, you will lead the following actions in partnership with your Cabinet colleagues to promote prosperity for all Manitobans:

- Advancing our Economic Growth Action Plan to create an environment that fosters private sector investment and generates 40,000 more jobs over this mandate;
- Continuing to improve alignment with our partners in a Team Manitoba approach to economic development - led by the new Economic Development Office - in collaboration with our Team Manitoba regional and strategic economic development partners, and our federal, municipal and indigenous partners;
- Championing Manitoba as an ideal location for business investment and expansion and capture new opportunities through a renewed trade strategy and leveraging our green energy and other elements of our Made in Manitoba Climate and Green Plan;
- Working with your colleague, the Minister of Crown Services, to ensure that our Crowns are aligned with our economic development strategy;
- With the goal of growth and innovation in Manitoba's key sectors, coordinating a suite of responsive economic development tools, tax incentives and financial programs such as the new Innovation Growth Program;
- Conducting a comprehensive analysis of the Manitoba capital market to determine current needs of the marketplace and to identify any gaps or barriers to achieving business growth in the province;
- Continue leading the national effort to remove inter-provincial trade barriers that impede the movement of goods, people and investment across our great country;
- Working with your colleague, the Minister of Infrastructure, to dedicate a portion of our infrastructure investments to support private sector job creation;
- Continuing to grow our tourism sector by phasing in the new 95-5 funding formula, developing a major event attraction strategy, expanding economic opportunities in our provincial parks and iconic natural areas and cultural attractions, enhancing our Francophone tourism industry and capitalizing on our existing and future networks of trails;
- Supporting your colleague, the Minister of Crown Services, in moving to an open retail market for cannabis to displace the black market;
- Working with your colleagues, the Ministers of Agriculture and Resource Development and Indigenous Northern & Relations, to develop partnerships with indigenous communities to develop natural resources and economic infrastructure such as northern airports;
- Working with your colleagues, the Ministers of Agriculture and Resource Development and Indigenous and Northern Relations, to continue progress on implementing our Look North Report and Action Plan, including:
  - Working closely with our indigenous and economic development partners to further respectful consultations and realize the potential of our rich natural resources;

- Fostering stronger connections between northern industry, communities and training and educational institutions; and
- Partnering with the Mining Liaison Committee to foster an environment that will attract greater investment in the North;
- Working collaboratively on planning a Manitoba Works: Enhancing Women's Entrepreneurship and Leadership Opportunities Roundtable;
- Developing a first of its kind skills, talent and knowledge strategy, with targeted actions to strengthen alignment between post-secondary institutions, immigration, training and employment services and our workforce skills needs; ensure a comprehensive approach to labour market data and intelligence; and expand opportunities for work integrated learning;
- Collaborating with post-secondary institutions and the business sector to:
  - Develop strategic mandates that focus on positive outcomes for students;
  - Design and implement a performance-based funding model that enhances integration between colleges and universities and builds the talent needed in our public and private workforce; and
  - Enhance their alignment with the business sector and our economic development strategies;
- Developing a new ACCESS framework that will enhance access for students facing barriers to post-secondary education by strengthening connections between industry, employers and apprenticeship and training providers to ensure the skills and talents of Manitobans across the province are aligned with labour market needs;
- Engaging with Indigenous communities, stakeholders, businesses and students to support positive post-secondary education outcomes for Indigenous students, increased participation in the economy and labour force;
- Building on the success of the enhanced Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative to provide record levels of financial supports for students;
- Ensuring that our research and innovation investments align with industry needs, and strengthen partnerships between industry and post-secondary institutions to facilitate getting innovative new products and services to market quickly;
- Reducing red tape and unnecessary administration in Manitoba's apprenticeship system, implement program changes to increase skilled labour in Manitoba, and strengthen opportunities for youth to connect to the skilled trades;
- Strengthening demand-led training opportunities, with focused projects to help employers and industry sectors meet their workforce needs, helping Manitobans not currently engaged in the labour market prepare for, access and keep good jobs;
- Conducting a comprehensive review of immigration processes to further streamline, simplify and leverage opportunities to meet employers' demand for skilled and talented workers, with a focus on economic growth and business expansion, including working with federal partners to improve Manitoba's Provincial Nominee Program;

- Attracting more international students through a new International Education Strategy that targets increased global competitiveness for students in areas of high labour force demand;
- Maximizing our partnerships with other levels of government, you will ensure that federal resources, especially labour market investments, are leveraged to create opportunities critical to our economic growth; and
- Enabling faster credential recognition and fair processes for assessment of skills and abilities for individuals trained abroad entering Manitoba's workforce.

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