I am pleased to present Budget 2000, the first annual financial plan of our new government, and the first of the new century. This plan fulfills many of our commitments to the people of Manitoba. It directs resources to our families, young people, and vital community services.

Stronger support and management for health care will help us keep hallway medicine down, reduce waiting lists, hire more nurses, and expand key programs.

Stronger and more stable funding for education will reduce tuition fees and provide more resources for school classrooms.

Responsible tax relief will help keep Manitoba one of the most affordable places in Canada to live and raise a family.

This plan also manages Manitoba’s finances wisely. It is a balanced budget, based on realistic forecasts and achievable goals. It presents Manitoba’s first comprehensive plan for debt repayment.

Budget 2000 is a budget for today’s families. To find out more, visit our Web site: www.gov.mb.ca/budget2000. Or write: Minister of Finance B-2000 Room 11, Legislative Building 450 Broadway Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Greg Selinger
Minister of Finance

On May 10, the Manitoba government presented Budget 2000: a balanced financial action plan to guide provincial programs in the year ahead. The plan addresses our needs and priorities today, while building greater opportunities for the future.

With major emphasis on education and training, Budget 2000 helps build promising futures.

- Public schools will receive $30 million more.
- A 10% reduction to college and university tuition fees will save Manitoba students $8 million.
- Community college enrollment is set to double over four years, beginning with $5.1 million more for college expansion alone.
- Scholarships and bursaries will increase by $16.9 million.
- Universities and colleges will gain $10.8 million more in operating grants.
- Internet-based training and expanded apprenticeship programs will provide better access to opportunities.

Stronger support for our children’s classrooms, with $30 million more in 2000.

For Today’s Families

Responsible • Balanced

University Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1999 tuitionA</th>
<th>$3,117*</th>
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<tr>
<td>less 10% reduction A</td>
<td>$312</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sample 2000 tuitionA</td>
<td>$2,805</td>
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* Based on average Arts & Science tuition fee, Manitoba 1999.

Hundreds of nurses will be trained and hired over the next few years.
Budget 2000 means tax savings for Manitoba households, particularly middle and low income families. Manitoba remains one of the most affordable places in Canada to raise children.

- Property taxes are lowered through a $75 increase to the Property Tax Credit for all Manitoba households, including renters.
- Income tax reductions will benefit all income groups, particularly families and persons living with disabilities.

The new, simplified income tax structure for 2001 eliminates the use of a Net Income Tax and Surtax.
- The Basic Personal Tax Credit is up from $578 to $802.
- The Child Tax Reduction is up from $250 per child to $300.
- 15,000 more low income Manitobans will pay no Provincial Income Tax at all.
- The tax credit for charitable donations increases.
- The small business tax rate will be reduced from 1% to 5% by 2002.

Responsibility for Tax Relief for Manitoba Families

These new personal income tax reductions will exceed $100 million annually by 2002.

Balancing the Books

Budget 2000 is a commitment to responsible management of government finances. This budget is balanced, despite the financial challenges inherited by the new government.

- Budget 2000 introduces the first long-term plan for comprehensive debt retirement, including unfunded pension liabilities.
- Less than half as much as last year will be drawn from the government’s Fiscal Stabilization Fund.
- The bottom line: Budget 2000 has a positive balance of $10 million.

Balancing Your Priorities

Budget 2000 directs more funding to the services we need most to build a better quality of life for all Manitobans.

- Health care funding is strengthened by 6%.
- Education and training funding is up 4.5%.
- Manitoba parents will gain better access to licensed child care through a $8.6 million increase.
- Family farms will get more support with stronger crop insurance and other assistance.
- Aboriginal Manitobans will have more opportunities with initiatives like the $1 million Aboriginal Economic and Resource Development Fund.
- Community safety and renewal will be stepped up with the new Neighbourhoods Alive! program and a 5.3% increase to the justice department.