

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

get rid of the payroll tax. do NOT put in a carbon tax. lower taxes will make MB a haven for companies after the mess in Ontario and the NDP in Alberta.

Focus support on entrepreneurial/growth businesses rather than small lifestyle businesses. Remove payroll tax as it inhibits business growth. Ensure strong links for training on new business opportunities/entrepreneurship in the North.

Remove the payroll tax

I would continue to provide some support, but also reduce the amount of support offered. I would examine existing programs that have been extremely successful and are cost neutral, and invest in those. Any other program investment should be limited.

Small businesses, such as my own, pay a ridiculous amount in taxes. Offering small businesses grants and making them easier to access and receive would greatly increase the economy by making starting your own business a reality that is out of reach for a lot of people, and the money would be put right back into the city in a relatively short time with the taxes we generate and pay.

lower PST should encourage more spending and stronger businesses. Needed to make cuts somewhere... I maybe wouldnt completely cut the whole budget but it should be shrunk.

Small businesses are struggling now more than ever. We are in an entrepreneurial era right now... encouraging people to step out is important to stabilize our economy

That's the job of banks not government.

Make the port of Churchill a crown corp. and turn it into a money making endeavour, fns northern tourism so that the entire region does not rely so heavily on aid from southern MB and Winnipeg to prop them up sort of like Mexico did with Cancun. Northern tourism is on the up tick, the gov. should entice tourism to Churchill via tax breaks and the like to make it a tourist destination or build the infrastructure itself.

Need to create more state run enterprises. Increase small business tax.

Market forces will encourage them enough. by controlling spending and decreasing taxes it will make our province more attractive to private investment.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

I really believe we will be moving to other forms of energy in our lifetime and our children's time. Providing tax incentives to companies willing to build wind and solar farms in the north should be investigated.

The government should find different ways to encourage growth that cost less than the \$500,000,000 currently being spent.

Stop wasting money on ill-fated Hydro projects, northern infrastructure, and training northern residents for jobs that don't exist.

Reduce taxes and offer incentives to start up companies.

Trim the fat. Management.

Depends, most of the money I have seen spent was for non sustainable effort. There must be a long term (20 year+) strategy for any \$ spent, and the money should be allocated over a long term VS one time payment.

In the North, there should be more scrutiny and more careful selection before support is given. Far too much money goes into business in the North with very little success generated, and even those few successes seem to benefit only a very few people.

Lower business tax

Business must be able to make it on their own without any govt help.

Invest and support worker co-operatives. Give co-ops preference in government procurement contracts.

I own and operate a small business. I have never asked for or received any help from the government and don't want my tax dollars given to anyone else for this purpose. If you have an ability and the drive you will succeed without government funding.

Small business grows when there is demand and good ideas. We need more large businesses which employ more people to create that demand for the goods and services provided by small business.

again government shouldn't be in the business of funding business. if we are a free-market system let the businesses figure it out.

Highlight business successes. Get out of the way.

keep it but consider reducing payroll taxes down the road - these stifle growth and force business to consider expansions elsewhere.

ELIMINATE OR CUT IN HALF THE PAYROLL TAX

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Government doesn't grow businesses, businesses grow business. Government adds don't do that.

This government does not want to help small business. Soooo much red tape....it is unbelievable. Any small business [has] a story about how insane it is to do business here.

Businesses are supposed to make a profit on their own, not subsidised by other people's taxes.

Both small and large businesses should receive as much incentive (tax breaks, low interest/no interest loans, ect) as possible to encourage start up and expansion. Favorable tax rates allowed True North to rejuvenate downtown Winnipeg. Use that as a template.

As a small business owner I can tell you that it would take only 2 government agencies to start picking at every little detail before the doors would be locked for good. Doing business in Manitoba shouldn't be treated as illegal

Leverage capital / VC funding with federal funds to support the creation of strategic clusters.

removing income tax would help businesses grow.

Governments have a pretty poor track record as providers of capital. Right now, there is more capital available in the world more cheaply than ever before in history; capital holders are desperate to find profitable opportunities to invest. Yet the province of Manitoba is going to judge what appear to be promising businesses better than all private capital holders? Sounds like a way to throw money into failing business plans or cronies' pockets, actually.

\$500M doled out to small business? That's great if you can afford it but if you can't.... then you can't. How much bang for the buck have you gotten out of this expenditure in the past? Again, there can be customized approach to supporting small businesses but there has to be a significant benefit or a very solid justification with an expectation of return. The bar needs to be set high for applications of this nature. Private industry should be apart of this picture.

Verifyable tax incentives. If you want to spend my tax dollars on a private company let them prove they need it and attach conditions.

Make Manitoba competitive tax wise with other provinces to keep our best people in the province and want to grow their companies.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Provide the opportunity with an in depth review of regulations that may be hampering businesses.

The key is to maximize the potential of the Aboriginal population. As our baby boomers start to retire, there will be labor shortages. Rather than temporary foreign workers, lets get permanent residents working

sell off crown corporations and regulate them . Pay off debt.

lower/eliminate business taxes for businesses that create jobs/develop economy in the north. Participate with fed govt to get buy-in into a long-term plan for north.

investments in indigenous youth participation in the labour market. vanier institute projects a huge surge in workforce eligibility for ind. youth by 2020 and we should get them participating here at home.

If taxes were lower it would encourage growth.

Better infrastructure to the north. Diversify economic opportunities beyond mining.

You can't pay people to start & run business's. The government doesn't know how to choose which person or business to subsidize. Stop doling out money (our tax money)...Government has NEVER been able to run efficiently so how can it pick whom to give a grant or subsidy.

I am in support of this, but we need to reduce the spending here (not spend so much). As much as we should support local small business, if we want to be taken more seriously on the global stage and attract business and investment from that theatre, then we need to invest more at that level. I question how "balanced" we have been in this regard. Without knowing more of the detail, though, its hard to make a definitive judgement.

ongoing tax incentives for northern companies until they reach a competitive and independently audited profit margin (that eliminates questionable business decisions designed to affect profit margin to maintain the tax benefit) then scaling back of those incentives as profitability is reached.

I would reduce this

Resource MB's Mining dept & encourage gold, potash and diamond mining (potential nr Churchill)

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Sustainable economic development of tourism, natural resources and enhance connectivity to remote northern locations to allow engagement in e-commerce

Lower business tax make funding for new businesses more available and cost-effective

Lower business tax

Lower business taxes and red tape.

Some programs are intended to boost the knowledge and skills of small business owners; however, "capacity-building" can be a real, powerful phenomenon, or it can be window-dressing for a bunch of self-occupied, self-justifying departmental administrators. The success of such programs depends in large part on the competence, motivation and energy of both the administrators and the recipients. Hire only the best.

Capital in the form of business loans should be managed through banks, not government.

Tax breaks and infrastructure supports (such as those intended to create innovation parks) are time-honoured ways of supporting businesses both small and large.

The programs should not be putting more money in administrators' pockets than in small business's pockets. The outcomes need to be a lot better than break-even, Measure the results of these programs. If we spend more than we get back in employment, tax revenues and other measurable benefits, then find other ways to support small business.

private sector investment

I know of no small business that has benefited from such programs. Killing the East Side Road Authority was certainly not a step towards development in the north...

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Use the innovation funding.

Tax credits to stimulate growth. Look to increase revenues without increasing taxes

Help finance businesses in the green sector, with either technological or economic innovation for environmental sustainability, and less economic dependance on natural resources. For example, incentives towards organic farming.

Reduce red tape, have introductory lower tax levels.

support northerners, they are closest to the action

Significant expenditures benefiting a small percentage of the population, especially in remote regions, is NOT fiscally responsible.

Lower taxes will take care of this.

Financial responsibility for 5 years then lower taxes on working people. People will spend whatever they make, if you give them more to spend the economy will get better. As the economy recovers, lower the Governments take from the economy and again people will spend what they have.

Higher taxes on monolithic companies and tax breaks to smaller businesses.

Lower the small business tax rate, allow more generous tax deductions for small businesses, make capital available for small businesses in rural and northern areas that are struggling.

Not sure what you really do now, but I'd say it's working

Stop spending hundreds of millions of dollars building winter roads and use other technology such as airships year round. Build and maintain greenhouses up north for fresh produce and fruit because greenhouses have been up and running in the Antarctic for many years. Do a cost benefit analysis for northern projects such as all weather roads where a road will cost tens of thousands of dollars per person never mind maintenance costs.

The first thing the government needs to is set a vision of what MB wants to be when it grows up. We can't be all things to all people. It's important to define what centres of excellence MB can meaningfully support and then encourage the employment clusters to support them.

Small business that work hard don't need bribes to survive, even if they are unique and trendy hobbies and dreams.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Support our First Nation communities. Help rebuild First Nation communities flooded out that have been flooded out since 2011.

Finally eliminate the small business taxes requirement to pay a small business tax rate by reducing it to 0%!

.....why should the taxpayer support a dumb idea and investment?

Support workers cooperative development, cultural economy

Continue with the great work that the PC government has done so far this year, private sector growth has started to return.

Ensure unemployment rate is low. Offer incentives for northern Manitoba businesses both small and large, in particular Aboriginal businesses.

I wouldn't reduce all support to zero but I would partner with companies in exchange for a piece of the company.

With specific agreements. Ensure it is a growth sector, owners have experience in sector, and they have some skin in the game.

It may be time to put Crocus in the past and have a provincial labour sponsored investment fund once again.

Small businesses make up over 90% of the jobs in this province. Particularly by contracting out social programs, small businesses can be utilized even more.

If the business is viable, there are private investors and adequate financial institutions to finance such businesses. It seems that every time the government becomes involved in financing a project, it becomes a disaster and ends up hurting more people than being helpful.

Considering not raising minimum wage a "program" to support small business (which can be quite large and profitable while filing their taxes in such a way to be considered a small business), this is at a cost to employees who cannot keep up with the cost of living without a wage increase.

improve skilled labour force, encourage college education

Tax credits, hiring incentives

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

A 5-10 year corporate tax break for all new businesses starting or entering Manitoba would be a great way to encourage businesses to move here. The rate at which a business gets a break could be based on need of the area of the province for business investment. It wouldn't hinder revenue from taxes as the province was never receiving taxes from these businesses in the first place. All this investment from business would require new jobs which would increase the personal taxes base. Also basing the tax break on desired industry for the province or area of the province could be put into place to encourage the right investment.

Put on hold for a year or so, bet spending down a touch then re visit

Developed a Regional and provincial strategy how to grow together vs picking and choosing communities on popular or easy thing to do .we need an overall infrastructure strategy to ensure what ever goods we produce in the future we have to get them to market. This goes for digital infrastructure as well as hard infrastructure roads,schools and health care. We need to figure out how to do this in a more modern way leveraging our digital infrastructure to serve Manitobans

Reopen the Churchill port. Encourage businesses to establish northern or rural head offices.

Find out what their challenges are and then see if you can alleviate any of those barriers.

Pas seulement le secteur privé mais le secteur public (Hydro Manitoba par exemple). S'assurer la vitalité du port de Churchill. Manitoba, nous l'oubliions trop souvent, est une province maritime depuis 400 ans. Nous sommes la porte du Nord, surtout dans le contexte de changement climatique présent. Je préfère voir un déficit en 2017 afin d'investir dans notre bien être à long terme, plutôt que de balancer le budget de 2017 et de perdre tout le potentiel économique que pourrait se développer grâce à des investissements présents.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

With the advent of numerous tech companies popping up worldwide that have massively large server farms that need a lot of electricity, we should be doing more to promote their re-location to within our province to take advantage of our abundance of electrical power. It would be a real cu to have a company like google or facebook locate some of their server farms somewhere in the province, along with the accompanying high paid positions. Note in their financial reports that their number one expense is electricity..

decrease red tape would encourage private sector growth.

My husband and I just opened our own business and did not qualify for any assistance, can't get any smaller than us, so I don't think this department is all that helpful to Manitobans

Give a tax holiday to new small businesses, especially those in the north. Encourage tourism in the north and provide cooperative advertising to groups of small northern businesses. For example, pay for promoting all the fishing lodges in the north to US clients at various trade shows in the US.

Keep small business taxes reasonable yes

Increase pensions

Extend the Manitoba Small Business loan act to give small businesses to acquire/replace equipment and expansion. Advertize the availability of these loans.

I'm not sure all small businesses need help growing. Neither do large ones need tax breaks. There are so many entrepreneurs, instead of going it alone and making 100 small businesses, people should be banding together, formulating thorough plans for success. So many businesses fail, why support something that wasn't going to work in the first place.

Remove the red tape! There is no understanding of business in the North, in the South. There are different challenges to begin building a business in the North and increased costs. Making the rules/laws more user friendly (and easier to understand) would likely increase Manitoba Business. Work with the communities in the North, work with the local municipal leaders and the business community.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Angel investors. If you want a business then find the money. Bankruptcy is so easy and living from that.

Support immigration.

Fund initiatives that provide opportunities for private sector / entrepreneurs to work together with the public sector to address some of the 'wicked issues' through a social innovation framework (including northern economic growth). Address policy barriers that restrict innovative business model and products. Support entrepreneur / small business mentorship and training. Support seed funding without complex application processes typically found within Social Impact Bond.

we need to focus on helping large employers be successful here - we have lost too many head offices. It takes a lot of small businesses who pay lower wages to replace one big employer. Very few small businesses actually make it to larger successful businesses

Reduce the price disadvantage to do business in the north. The change in prices and opportunities for services in the north is severely lower than that in the south. People make multiple trips annually to the south to shop because its cheaper to drive for many hours, stay at a hotel, shop, and then drive back than it is to just shop locally. That or the service/goods are simply not available in the north to begin with.

In the short term, until our credit rating goes up, small businesses may have to depend on banks for funding... if you've got a good idea and a good business plan, then the funds should be available.. if you don't, then perhaps you should stick with working for someone else

low taxes, and get out of the way, the market will do the rest - read Adam Smith

Keep taxes and utility rates competitive, maintain good major road/highway network, available strong training (college/university)

Private sector need to borrow not get grants, Make it more available for them to borrow without giving up their first born and all personal assets. It is the Banks who suck and are pressuring the government to guarantee these business success then that is a problem.

Cut taxes

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Gut the darn tax rate and cut the PST. It's a no brainer. If we have more money to spend we will BUY STUFF...you will get the revenue from income tax

By lowering taxes and offering lower taxes during startup.

Cut red tape! Get rid of making small business owners the unpaid tax collectors - the GST.

free market. Stop subsidizing private business. Yes it helps new businesses start up, but sometimes it just delays the inevitability of failure for poor business management skills or bad ideas. governments shouldn't be doing this.

Yes, very important as they are the job creators. Keep business tax & payroll tax down.

Contribute to small businesses through lower tax rather than funding. This will encourage good businesses to thrive.

Make it easier with less Red tape and easier for unemployed workers with skills or those with experience in a designated field to start their own businesses - this generates revenue for govt/banks via business loans and encourage them to hire more unemployed persons via monetary incentives or tax breaks for such start-up businesses

Private enterprise is infinitely more knowledgeable in determining viable business initiatives and supplying appropriate capital.

Facilitate small business success by getting out of the way.

Encourage competition in the marketplace. Stop taxing to death the people who create the jobs so the employees who make money are also paying taxes. Allow private enterprises to compete in Liquor sales and Healthcare and Auto Insurance . Competition creates jobs and more jobs means more wages and wages are taxed.

Provide tax incentives for industries in the north as well as number of people employed.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Lower the PST and get rid of payroll tax. Stop the freebies to immigrants and Aboriginals. Make all pay their fair share of tax. Reduce loop holes for big corporations unless they have a long term commitment to good paying jobs. We need more industry and development of employment in rural areas to stop the exodus of youth leaving their communities.

Better training programs at schools and colleges more apprenticeship programs with less red tape.

No carbon tax.

At current minimum wages, I'm VERY hesitant to add new, unskilled staff. I simply cannot afford to bring an unskilled young person on-board and risk training them.

Low interest loans but not grants or bail outs. As a small business owner I work hard at running my business in as competitive and successful manner as I can without handouts. I don't feel like I should have to subsidize others.

Small business provides jobs and fuels economy.

A government without a deficit would likely be huge.

Reduce the regulatory burden on business. Instead of trying to dictate every little thing, make broad principal regulations and then focus on enforcing them.

Maybe get rid of the bracket creep taxes and the payroll tax that would sure help any business.

Lower income taxes will encourage private sector growth and incentive for workers to earn more.

Stop picking winners and losers by selecting crony capitalist partners. Create an even playing field in a true free market environment and stop subsidizing one widget maker over the next widget maker. Pretty hard to compete when your competition has a direct funnel from the taxpayers and you are locked out completely. Enough with the cronyism already.

Lower business taxes or provide incentives. Ensure that land deals are done fairly and transparently.

Improve support for training apprenticeships if done north of 50 latitude

Programs like "first jobs" that pays half the wage of youth at their first job for a short period of time.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Lower taxes for businesses and do not raise the minimum wage as this will cause business to cut back or pricing goes up for all.

As stated in my example above in the last statement of innovation! Anything a Province can do to lessen the expenses of a business owner in Manitoba helps that business become more competitive in his area of expertise! If you want to encourage new business to come to Manitoba and to stay in Manitoba - a Government must create a business environment whereby overhead costs are low for the Enterprise and Regulations and Red Tape are cut to a Minimal for both small and medium business! If you create conditions for a business haven, there will be more jobs available and those business will stay! If taxes and Red Tape start appearing - business moves out as fast as Taxation and Regulations are even in the discussing level! The days of Colonialism and Mercantile systems are long gone!

Teach entrepreneurship and leadership classes in high school to plant the seeds of business ownership. Also, fully digitize all business services, such as online business registration, etc. Make apps to assist owners to get up and running fast. This reduces the need for employees. Also, get rid of the red tape that makes it hard in the first place.

Make a commitment to growth and follow through. Explore possibility of expanding tourism especially in Churchill. I don't believe in government giving big payouts to companies that do not commit to Long term to Manitoba. Collaborate with citizens in the north to support private sector growth.

cut red tape

Special tax exemptions for 2-4 years then increase to normal rates over 2-3 years

Reinvest the VLTs lottery funds, the Thompson liquor commission profits, and INCO tax dollars in the north. A lot of money generated in Thompson, MB is spent on other geographical areas of Manitoba, if you reinvested these funds in the north you could enhance education in high schools and post-secondary education, allowing people to study closer to where they live.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Lower business taxes and remove costly regulations. Small business will thrive when they are out from under the yoke of an onerous social agenda. Put government back on what it should be doing: affordable infrastructure and education.

Cut out all the red tape that companies have to deal with to start up business here and lower the taxes that stop them from growing and being competitive. To much government control in another of area's. Get rid of the ndp philosophy where they thought Manitobans were to stupid to make wise decisions. They felt like only they knew how to run things which we all see now how that turned out. It's time for our government to believe in the people and let us become successful and in turn the province will prosper.

I would rather support the removal of burdensome regulations that hinder small business growth and help ensconce the market dominance of large companies. Overreach by Health and Safety is an area that applies. They are trying to achieve a utopian outcome that they themselves don't adhere to in their own practice.

more start up grants, easier access , better clarity

Provide tax incentives and grants for start up businesses.

Provide incentives for university graduate students to stay and work in the province.

Allow municipalities to set up venture capital programs for citizens to invest in their own community and new businesses.

Reduce stipends for directors on provincial boards and agencies.

Encourage business education and exports with tax breaks.

The private sector should be in business to grow (anyhow) not in business to accept handouts from government agencies to thrive.

It's important to support small businesses which are a big part of Manitoba's economy

I'd decrease it, not eliminate it.

I'd also retain support for non-profits. In general, they do great work to improve our community and natural environment, and their staff is making close to

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

minimum wage and/or are volunteers.

I'm not sure about this one. I think some strategic support is needed in northern Manitoba given the uncertainty around forestry (e.g. Tolko leaving), the inconsistent mining sector, the Port of Churchill closing etc. However, I'm not sure where business support would be most effective. I believe the interest of Indigenous communities to take over things like the railway to Churchill is very positive and would be an appropriate investment - but it should also receive Federal support, as having an Arctic port (and transportation to it) is in the entire country's interest. I would potentially reduce small business support, but would not cut it entirely.

Tie provincial infrastructure funding to local investments in regional economic development initiatives; if local municipalities refuse to invest in local economic development, why invest in them?

Support for small scale farming to provide for the food needs of northern communities locally instead of using costly imported foods. This could include conventional and green house growing which could use electricity generated in the north to improve yields. The government can encourage this through small grants for start up farms and by including local agriculture in the school curriculum.

Rather than allowing the money to be wasted hold the person accountable if the business fails the person would be on the hook for the money. The screening process should be more in-depth. The province needs to make good investments not bad ones.

no idea :)

Take ownership of northern industries and natural resources.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Put a leash on the PST people. All small business owners have a horror story to tell about PST audits.

Many businesses will not give farmers PST free goods as the auditors later refuse to honor this system, and fine the companies.

Allow a small amount of grace to new business as to workers comp, and taxes. Almost all big businesses were small once.

Workers Comp has gone crazy and is fining everyone that has an accident. We used to pay into it so we couldn't be sued, but now this solution is much worse than being sued,

Investors in a viable industry, business plan with a team of advisors, trades education training development

TAX BREAKS again. If you want big business to operate in this province you need to make it viable for them. If they can't see a profit they won't come. The government needs to get as many people working as possible and then rely on the increased income tax that would be produced.

Low taxes stimulate private sector spending and market growth.

As a former small business, help by making it easier to secure capital for growth. Right now there are community development corporations but they're almost as difficult as the banks to get a loan from.

Again, maximize program efficiency/ \$ spent. Many tools online for education, leverage them for the north. Work with Feds to create a pan Canadian even North American aboriginal awareness tool/ hub so communities can easily learn/ share with each other. Foster self esteem to create aborigines growth/ development/ pride. Technical jobs/ education.

Tax the larger, richer business at a higher rate. Do not give handouts to business such as hog farmers, bus manufacturers, etc. Make them work for their bottom line just like every other business owner.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Stay away from the government excuse of potentially anything "might be a UNESCO designated area" and the billion dollars that the Province of Manitoba saves could pay for programs, development costs and incentives to industry (diamond mine, etc.) may locate in the area. Also, reduce the rate of small business taxation.

Again get rid of the red tape., recreate funding modules similar to what the Filmon government had.

The market will fill itself, if there is money to be made, someone will do that, if not, that's what catalogue business is for, don't open up a store in a town that doesn't have enough people to staff it. Supply and demand, a business has to budget like the rest of us, not expect handouts...

Manitoba needs an identity, maybe part of a transit or energy corridor, maybe as low cost electricity. Then market and build to that identity.. who are we?

cut small business programming in half.

Forget the north as it's not economically self sustaining.

Small business biggest challenge is big ones. Which the government can not help with. All it does is slow down the inevitable.

By creating a well-educated and healthy workforce.

Maintain the existing Norther Healthy Foods Initiative budget and consider increases to scale up existing initiatives, expand into other Northern communities, and achieve new revenues through reductions in health costs and job creation.

Government can work with the private sector to offer tax incentives to attract and retain companies. This should be fully explored. Also we need a strong federal partner in the North. A plan that involves meaningful input and in a true partnership with First Nations and the federal government should be developed for Northern Manitoba.

Maintain the existing Norther Healthy Foods Initiative budget and consider increases to scale up existing initiatives, expand into other Northern communities, and achieve new revenues through reductions in health costs and job creation.

Business growth plans are terrible implemented. So this is wasted money

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Hire x amount of staff get a percentage of a tax break. Increases income tax revenue.

small capital stock market.

Like previously mentioned. Bio farms or other businesses for reserves and roads to connect them in the province would create income and cut costs for government. I would also cut small business taxes and slightly raise corporate ones. I would then give tax incentives for corporate business to pay for people to get better education and training so their businesses can grow on a country and global level.

If the business can employ many jobs like the mill at The Pas then yes. but if Joe Blow wants to have a small business than let them build it with their own credit. too many handouts to micro businesses and watch for small businesses that are just in created for tax right offs.

Instead of government subsidies, there should be efforts to reduce excessive regulations and lower taxes where it is possible and necessary.

I believe increased accessibility to higher education will promote novel and innovative ideas in industry.

De-regulate.

With federal small business taxes dropping, it would make sense to raise the small business tax from 0% to 1-2% to keep the small business tax flat while earning some tax revenue from businesses

Cut out layers of red tape.

Forums with govt and industry. Tax incentives. Tax increment financing.

Why invent so many dollars into the north, the bulk of the population is in the capital region.

Reduce restrictions on starting up a business and take away a lot of business regulations.

It is big corporations that hurts our private sector growth when they take their profits out of the local economy by not having offices or staff within Manitoba. Small business support is the best competitive advantage for Manitoba.

Provide adequate social services (health care, child care) for First Nations/northern peoples to innovate.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

The government can work with the federal government and local civic governments in developing an advertising initiative that describes the benefits of investing in the northern Manitoba economy.

No carbon tax. Do something about manitoba minerals being exported and not processed in the province as it was in the past.

I wouldn't cut this across the board, but I would reduce spending here.

Fournir de l'aide en matiere d'expert pour aider une compagnie mais la compagnie doit etre capable d'etre auto suffisante.

Decrease corporate tax rates and increase sales tax

\$500,000,000 is a huge amount to spend on businesses that should be spending more of their wealth. Moreover, it is likely that there has been inadequate monitoring of whether government incentives have actually been helping businesses to create jobs.

Through providing loans and some subsidies for 'green' projects such as greenhouses to market gardeners, broadband services across the north.

Should only be education focused. Online tools to teach people how to start up and run a business. People should invest their own money in their private business. Public money had no business in private accounts.

Economic development in all regions is obviously important, but accessibility to the growth even more so. The north is very inhospitable and there is an enormous amount of untapped natural resources etc. There used to be all sorts of work for many workers in the forestry and fishing industries.. Maybe more research needs to be done in these areas for all to benefit in the long term.. (Small business, small farms, hotelier, entertainment, tourism, food and beverage business etc.)

More non-cash programs can be used. Many programs to encourage economy in the North do not necessarily 'cost' money from the budget. Tax incentives in the form of corporate tax relief for new cite start ups encourage growth but do not take funds from existing budgets. For example: if a company is looking at locating in an urban area v. rural area or northern area, provide the incentive for choosing the rural or northern area. Budgets can also be redirected to areas in urgent need, such as the North. We have to be creative to use the existing money we have.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Create a tax reduction incentive program that is based on jobs created, localized spending, and provincial investment.

Encourage the private sector by reducing business taxes and red tape. Also, less regulation.

Ethical private sector growth

work on helping industry create jobs in the north. Deal with transportation issues to reduce the shipping costs if industries do come into the north. We are resource rich, lets exploit our advantages and make Manitoba great again.

Build on existing entrepreneurs, help them grow their existing businesses.

Lower tax rates and rebates for exploration(mining). Improve rail line, hiways.

privatize things and get your fingers out of your crown corps

Provide incentives only for sorts of businesses that benefit the public in significant ways.

Functions for similar companies within a sector to network & improve day to day operations with other local companies.

Good question. I don't know either.

Functions for Manitoba business to network in hopes of collaboration between Manitoba companies.

Subsidies so they can charge competitive prices.

Industry

Make sure start up \$ and incentives are spent wisely and that companies that receive grants stay in the province for a period of years based on the grant.

Entrepreneurship is difficult, but businesses should be self-sufficient.

Incentives for small businesses and larger taxes and or restrictions on larger corporations.

Use government procurement and Manitoba Hydro to continue supporting social enterprises such as BUILD, MGR and Aki Energy. Expand such initiatives into the North and work with more First Nations. Such initiatives can reduce greenhouse gases and provide training and jobs to people struggling to enter the labour market.

Eliminate unnecessary regulations.

10% cut

Construction of all season infrastructure using local human resources.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

reduce business taxes.

There needs to be more tax breaks that provide advantages for small businesses to grow. Minimum wage should NOT be increased as this hurts small businesses the most. By providing these for small businesses, we can create and grow the small business sector and by sheer quantity the government will also increase it's tax revenues. So rather than increasing taxes on a small quantity of small businesses, LOWER taxes to create MORE small businesses in turn it will balance and provide more tax revenue overall.

The government has never helped small businesses. Don't kid yourself, partner. Remain a powerhouse, and keep grants and bursaries and government loans - use these to battle the war on deficits. Afterward, you can shower anyone with money that you like. We don't have the cash-flow to litter the streets just yet.

Give small businesses tax breaks and make getting business loans more accessible.

Remove all the inefficient regulations and red tape that handcuff small business

keep small business tax low. lower minimum wage.

Reduce tax on small businesses. I say this as the spouse of a small-business owner. The amount of tax he has to pay is staggering. We're all in favour of taxation - we are middle-class and we should definitely pay our fair share - but the amount he is billed is really astonishing....

Use the Northwest Passage cruise line as a means to increase tourism in Hudson's Bay and as a delivery route to Churchill. Establish a route that includes Sir John Franklin's Ships.

Promote a Manitoba method of retail investing/lending in small businesses, as found at lendingloop.ca. That will keep money in Manitoba and allow it to grow. We can all help each other.

Subsidies?

Post-secondary incentives to pursue the required skills needed in these small businesses. Offer tax services and financial planning or advice to small business owners to help them be more financially responsible and successful.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

focus on social enterprise and alternative energy

Maintain the existing Northern Healthy Foods Initiative budget and consider increases to scale up existing initiatives, expand into other Northern communities, and achieve new revenues through reductions in health costs and job creation.

Small business is too broad a term. For the working class to lose income from these small business that aren't held accountable for labour laws is ridiculous. Government doesn't protect people from company's who take advantage of workers yet the government wants to give away our hard earned dollars to businesses that should be able to come up with their own incomes is ludicrous.

The resources available in this province do not make it lucrative enough for people to invest in and trickle down economics do not work, especially where there is no natural draw for private investment. You need to support growth by growing the government, especially in the North. There is so much need in this province, you should focus on social services and trades.

Reduce red tape to encourage business start ups. Partner with municipalities to provide tax incentives. BE BUSINESS FRIENDLY

PST must be competitive for businesses that compete with cross border shoppers going to Saskatchewan to shop. (8% MB--- 5% Sask)

Stop handouts to businesses

Provide a healthy economy and population with good education and skills

Mining industries

Reduce tax for small business.

Put an emphasis on the North - Southern (especially southeastern Manitoba) has had no problem with growing their economy. Provide incentives for those who work in the North (and by that, I mean north of Dauphin). So many people come into our communities and then leave after a short time.

Better access to services in the north is an essential first step. Increase tax incentives for businesses that work in remote locations.

Encourage smaller companies to hire new immigrants while providing them with incentives to do so. Offer English as second language to smaller companies to allow easier access to new employees.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Again, by prioritizing spending we will lower taxes which spurs growth.

reduce the requirement of employing only unionized contractors for health care projects. I think there is some opportunity for supporting small business but 500000 is too much.

A competitive tax structure, elimination of red tape, not having government services compete with the private sector. These don't require programs that incur costs.

Our small business is thriving extremely well and from the businesses that have started up I've spoken to, not a single one has accessed any program of this sort. You know what helps businesses thrive? People frequenting them and they can't do that because they're taxed too much. Cut the program, cut the deficit and then cut our taxes.

Need to leverage funding in areas where immediate impact can be seen. Some markets may be left behind in round 1 of investment. Results need to be a fundamental part of investment. No Free Money...

I had a small business and it was very hard to keep it going. I felt I couldn't improve anything without some tax I had to pay for. I think only medium size businesses have a chance in this province.

Tough times require difficult decisions and access to capital is currently limited until the deficit can be brought under control. Although would suggest utilizing any surplus towards this aspect.

reduce / remove the payroll tax

lower taxes, less red tape and bring back common sense for safety instead of banning the hammer that hits the thumb. On the job daycare when possible. Cheaper food for the north and roads. Good water and heat. Habitat for humanity type of home building.

Give tax discounts instead of grants.

Businesses need to stand up on their own.

Start up funds and grants.

Bribing failed niche boutique ventures with free cash will not make their bad ideas any better.

lower sales tax by 1% less paper work so the small business and farmers can get there word done and keep the wheels all rolling smooth,

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Create a 2 tier minimum wage. One rate for part time students and a higher rate for longterm full time adult employees.

Focus on employees. Cover wages for starting businesses and get rid of employee social contributions.

Large companies are killing the small business sector. Institute statute of limitations on profits and not be allowed to funnel the money to foreign countries, giving small companies the opportunity to grow. Access to capital is no place for a government in debt to step in. Population increases raise government revenues not hand outs with hopes.

The economy of Manitoba is extremely important, however in order to get the budget back on track without cutting major services, businesses will need to help. By reducing the provincial income tax, this allows consumers to take home more earnings which will enable them to spend more in our local businesses. The only way we can help businesses thrive is to put more money back into the hands of consumers via less income tax.

Relax requirements - let them compete. if there's an opportunity private sector will exploit it. If there's funding requirements make the business applicant market the business.

tax incentives

My husband and his family have owned and operated a small business for many years, and I have been self employed...I am not an expert, but suspect that some form of tax relief would be appreciated. I trust in the current provincial leadership to support this critical sector.

Reduce regulations and restrictions on small businesses.

Reduce Red tape no more free cash. Other priorities.

We do not need this program while attempting to rein in the deficit spending. This program can be introduced at a later time at much less than \$50 million. The economy will continue whether this program is continued or temporary discontinued.

As I mentioned previously. Teaching our first nations. Give them careers this will encourage private sector growth. Grant a subsidy for businesses who create growth in the north!

I suggest an incentive program for the development of total Battery powered Highway Tractors.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Increase business taxes to large corporations (especially banks). Only allowing them to lower their taxes by investing in Manitoba will spur large business to spend capital in our province. Incentivizing money to "trickle down" should be something our government can get behind.

Improved nature tourism and access to nature. Eg maintenance of boat launches and snowmobile trails etc.

tax incentives of some kind

Yes support but to a lesser percentage of the budget

Their credit should be good enough to access funds from a bank. Their portfolio should show income. If so, the government should hold banks accountable to help them.

Be an environmental leader. Show it can be done. Protect our water and trees. Work with agriculture to find more sustainable ways to feed the world. Make animal rights a priority. Showcase mb. As a province leading changes for a better world. Encourage wind technology. Carbon sequestering ,citizen involvement.

Lower consumption taxes and personal taxes to encourage spending and investment. People know how to spend their money better than the government.

Government can provide capital to small businesses, thus becomes a passive business partner in private businesses with the option to sell its share back to the private business owner in the future.

Maybe monies from lotteries should be re-evaluated .. could a portion of their surplus revenue be given to the funding for new small business startup. There seems to be a lot of renovation being done .. costly parking lots for people to deposit there money in gambling. Tons of revenue

By government spending in these areas.

There is too much abuse of power for government to be involved in large scale grants for small business, and a lot of it is wasted money. These endeavours should be handled in large part by the private sector.

I would cut some of this funding slightly from the 500 million to balance the remainder of my budget.

Cutting corporate tax rates to 4%

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

small business grants turn into jobs, even small business loans turn into jobs.. that is why Manitoba has been so successful.. diversify.. diversify.. diversify

Private sector growth is what got the north where it is to save the north take our port back invest in carbon capture technology for the mineral industry definitely don't give corporation three year tax breaks.

maybe at this point you have to wait, till you have the money to encourage growth in the north

Allow private sectors to invest at max 35% into public infrastructure.

Allow more European investors (after STRICT) screening to operate and import businesses.

Keep business taxes low, don't let unions scare new business away.

low interest loans; reward system put in place for successful small startup businesses; education and training options.

I agree that support is needed for the north and small business, I would focus the great amount of money on cooperative businesses and sustainable initiatives in the north, particularly those that address basic needs in a way that trains and employs local people.

More seed funding and actual expertise suppost that is not so difficult to access.

Reduce the amount of red tape and governance for small business especially including agricultural businesses related to food. For businesses receive large grants to overcome the financial burden related to health inspections would encourage more businesses. I'm thinking in particular charcuterie and dairy products. Make it easier for consumers to find what they want in the way of local food products that also contribute to local culture and diversity that make our province more interesting for tourists.

Yes, only with strict guidelines as if they will succeed or have shown a successful return over a period of time. More shouldn't be spent that can't be repaid within a set limit number of years. less years the better.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

I think the small business tax exemption is too much, although I don't know how it compares to other provinces (we want to stay competitive). I think that even having it at 1% or 2% would bring in a healthy amount of additional money, without being too big of an impact on these businesses. Or better yet, provide a subsidy for certain small businesses rather than not charging any taxes. Also refund WCB surpluses.

Instead, if you reduce taxes on Manitobans, it will stimulate the economic growth through increased consumer spending.

For proper SBVCC programs absolutely. Within reason yes I would support new startups.

Free or extremely cheap government money for so-called 'small' businesses has a pretty poor real track record in terms of actual results with a mind to the public good...Maybe invest instead in better and actually practically useful public education and training resources.

Encourage the arts and small business will follow.

Take away the school tax from the properties, we are killing our business especially small business. We have fairly low property taxes in our community and when you have a small 5000 sqft building that needs to pay approx \$6000 a year in school tax pretty hard to start something up. I realize it needs to be paid but take it our of general funds and let the commerçail people invest that money into their company instead creating jobs and revenue for the province. Taking it out of property taxes makes no sense....

Investments in sustainable business practices

Bring in SaskPower as an equity partner on the future Limestone hydro dam, can bipole 3 towers accommodate an HVDC connection to Sask? The route skirts the border.

Help with the private sector develop a business plan. If it is viable the private sector will fund it.

Taxes - particularly the punitive payroll tax on growth of small businesses. Don't provide subsidies to some, but tax everyone. Lower business taxes and payroll taxes to pave the way for growth.

Interest is low so banks or other private investors can do a better job than the government.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Tax breaks for new industries competitive in national and international markets. But in saying that if it ain't gonna turn a profit then the tax payers should not carry the burden as it becomes a vicious cycle

Lower taxes and provide incentives for businesses and new homes. More people, more taxes paid.

Growth is not always the answer when we can not maintain what we have

Provide/support education and training to aboriginal peoples living in their communities. Offer incentives for those returning to their communities to start/grow businesses.

Less meaningless government intrusion into small business under the guise of "consumer protection".

Promote Eco tourism. Encourage self governance for First Nations.

Might as well forget about the north except for natural resources

Immigration - with commitment to live and work in the north for a specified time

I have seen too many small businesses fail due to poor business planning.

The private industry and banks will fund winning businesses.

Provide tax incentives to companies that create sustainable employment

Engage with local stakeholders and government.

I'll give the new business, much lower taxes for the first 3 years under .5%. The following years 6% all the way back to small business taxes where they are now.

Let the banks and credit unions provide support to business. Let business be survival of the fittest. Reduce payroll tax is an area the govt can assist in, otherwise get out of the way. Business owners know how to operate, govt intervention just slows it all down and allows for the weak to prolong the inevitable. Plus cost us taxpayers more with ineffective programs

No idea

Wish I knew the answer but not my area of expertise.

I wish I had ideas. This is a huge struggle, especially for rural/northern communities. Need to get young people from those communities to return once they get their training so that businesses and opportunities continue to exist. It starts with good leadership.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Let private sector drive thisget govt out of the face of business

I wouldn't actually stop supporting small business, but I would reduce and rationalize the service menu. I personally know people who got small business grants...for absolutely ridiculous ideas that failed hard and quick. Make sure you're actually supporting small biz, not giant corps. Privatize liquor.

Lower taxes on companies and encourage them to build and develop here

Reduce business taxes in the north.....in the city, allow under 21 to operate a business without taxes. For 3 years (and maybe more) kids could run profitable companies and learn the ropes of entrepreneurship without the fear of CRA, the costs of lawyers and accountants etc. Let young adults get their hands dirty and work hard for themselves. This would help them pay for school, eliminate taxation redundancies again, and it would encourage the next generation to think more broadly than a mcJob. It would also improve the quality of their education should they run a company to save up for university, and help them spend their money wisely on schooling, having some life experience to draw from.

Stop giving tax breaks to big business.

There is so much money given out to businesses that have no chance of success, the programs to get these small businesses started is just a make work program and a waste of tax payers money

We obviously cant afford this.

Credits / funding should be tied to real growth in job creation and/or tax base growth. Not interested in subsidizing the wealthy to grow their own bottom lines

The government can encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north by eliminating all forms of taxes levied on businesses (small or large).

Fournir de l'aide en matiere d'expert pour aider une compagnie mais la compagnie doit etre capable d'etre auto suffisante.

Provide seed money to increase technology availability and provide stronger incentives to train and hire people of the north I tech fields.

Small business is essential for Manitobans, but they come and go.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

The next line says it all. Red tape is so thick, people give up because of the process to start new ideas

This is beyond me.

Our lending institutions can take on this role. The savings are too good to pass up when we need to pay off our debt.

Promote locally produced products. Develop or subsidize transportation routes to remote areas; winter roads are not sufficient.

tax breaks for new businesses that invest in manitoba and hiring at least 10 people full time. with no government money.

Money should be used to invest more in mining and oil discovery in the province.

Reducing tax when people want to begin a small business and increasing immigration

Provide incentives for clean and green innovation. Provide incentive for sustainable start up businesses and grass roots co-ops and things that support local economy.

Quit competing with the private sector. Privatize the sale of liquor. The government can still have a role as being the source where liquor is imported and purchased from by private sector retailers. Taxes can still be collected on the sales, but you do not need highly paid civil servants selling the products in retail outlets.

Solar/wind technology

Smart specialization see: <http://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/smartspecialisation.htm>

I believe that low sales tax rates are the only way to encourage small business growth and put money back in the hands of consumers

Do regular check ins on businesses that are receiving funding

Encouraging private sector growth does not always or often mean helping small businesses, and I'm because of this unclear what this category refers to. I don't want to spend much money on supporting the expansion of large global multinational corporations into our economy. The profits don't stay here.

Provide free and experience business management and accounting support

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Small and large businesses all need to pay their fair share of the taxes. Everyone from True North sports and ent to a local grocery store. Existing tax breaks should be taken back slowly to allow businesses to adjust.

Small enterprises to encourage sustainability in rural and isolated communities. It's too...expensive to ship everything by plane.

Small businesses will grow with or without provincial funding

I don't mind investing in small business but how effective is it? How much do we get back o our investment How many of the businesses helped are still around in 5 years?

If these "programs" actually helped small businesses grow, we would be leaders in small business growth, and they would have disappeared by now by natural attrition from actually fulfilling their mandate, but we're not and they don't; they're mostly an exercise in frustration for entrepreneurs and waste of time for small businesses. Get out of the way of development. Stop impeding progress with these PR programs that don't actually do any good. Invest the funds squandered on these programs, in actually directly assisting small businesses in areas where they're challenged most - funding; provide them with operating/startup capital and incubation/work centers. Be champions of small business and agriculture. Be champions of quality relevant education. Teach civics in schools... all of these things will help the citizenry understand their important role and place in society.

Take advantage of the renewable resources we have.

Government need to build infrastructure with private funds. Encourage pension funds to invest in North. Less tax on north may be beneficial too.

Less taxes - don't introduce the carbon tax! Resources are a huge part of our economy - allow them to be developed and maintain competitive royalty rates. Our northern/rural communities would benefit from good jobs, stable industry and community investment that comes with resource development.

Make businesses look to outside of MB for investment capital. Worst thing you can do is listen to local investors who only want to create funds so they can suck fees from.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

Review current economic development programs and ensure they are made available in rural and northern communities. Cut funding to the overabundance of third party incubators, accelerators, industry associations and venture capital organizations if they don't provide results.

Continue with tax breaks and support for those individuals who choose to expand to the north. Whether this be temporary employment (construction), or those going to open businesses to promote tourism or create grocery stores.

Increase minimum wage. Establish a living wage guideline.

Bailouts and freebies have to stop. Companies get free money for a business proposal, pay themselves, dont hire or pay anyone and only the top person pays themselves and where is that business now. Loans and hard work make a business work. Small towns get their supportive govt to dish out hard working mans cash and no follow ups, no paybacks, just a handout. The handout only lasts long enough to make it look good and then close up.

Get rid of the payroll tax

More tourism in the north.

Consider the silos, red tape involved.

So many departments, how many are aware of what the other does.

Let the market dictate a real economy and stop propping up losing ventures.

Needs to be more information available to people on what supports are out there, it is difficult to find the information, needs to be more awareness build around it. People need to know first off, what is available to them regarding financing.

The government should focus on removing barriers to entering the market and assess the provinces ability to attract investment. Northern economies are currently resource based, programs aimed at addressing any gaps in terms of skills or infrastructure need to be addressed to attract business and provide opportunity.

Provide an attractive-rate Bond series that people could invest in to raise capitol. Support and encourage senior mentorships not with salaries by out of pocket expenses. They will feel useful and productive and develop bonds for a more respectful society.

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

business needs to operate in a free market without government intervention

Offer potential incentives or subsidies on property for new and exciting business plans that will promote economic growth

There is already "Centre-Venture" for downtown Winnipeg. If I understand correctly, it was set up by the City, given control of development of bldgs that the ...If you're going to develop the Manitoba economy, you've got to go with your core strengths where investors can expect a payback. I would pick would be: Agriculture (research &) food processing; Lakes & Fisheries; "Centre Port" has potential but I fear we'd lose against one in Minneapolis. Tourism has potential. I think it's under-developed considering N. Dakota is a market the size of Wpg and could be developed

How can we give out money we don't have?

Greater coordination and collaboration across supports to entrepreneurs and SMEs.

People need to do things on their own

Better partnership with First Nations in the north.

taxing bigger companies and those who make more is ok with me.

better tax incentives, tackle high fees charges to businesses credit cards. This is a huge hit and a deterrent for small businesses. If they accept credit cards they pay high fees, if they don't, they lose customers.

Manitoba is a one city province, and it seems all the interest in business is based in that one city. If you are serious about growth in the North, we also have adequate health care, and educational opportunities....Trade schools, changes to trades training from red seal (interprovincial) to certified (completion of a Manitoba based training plan) would encourage native youth to train as tradespeople be removing the classroom portion and academic portion away from home and with incredible stress.

First off, I am not sure what you can do with regards to the economy in the north. The area does not have a high pop., it is not close to a urban centre, no one wants to move there, it is not attractive for tourism. The north is not economically sustainable, unless you force all future industrial plants to relocate!

Eleminate red tape

How can the government further encourage private sector growth and leadership in our province's economy and in the north?

Responses

low interest loans are a good idea. money should be paid back.

Social enterprises have the potential for significant growth. BUILD and Inner City Initiatives has trained and employed many marginalized people. Government investments in this area, as opposed to simply grants, can assist not-for-profit organizations and worker co-op enterprises to flourish, reduce their dependence on government, and add to Province's revenue base.

Build a toll road to Nunavut. Build toll roads for mine developments. Support oil shipments in Churchill.

Manitoba is blessed with an abundance of resources at hand. Resource development is a big opportunity to increase investment from business.

The one thing government can do to encourage private sector growth in Manitoba is to dramatically reduce the size of the Manitoba government, ridding its presence in the private-sector and decreasing its presence within the economy at large. In the end, it is the private-sector that grows the economy. In Manitoba, under the previous government the bureaucracy and government has grown to unsustainable levels that harm our competitiveness and growth. With inspiration from provinces that have dealt with big government such as post-NDP British Columbia and Saskatchewan, we can reduce the size of government without causing a big backlash from the public-sector employees.

Manitoba's entrance into the New West Trade Partnership marks the beginning of an era of tremendous opportunity in trade that will benefit the Manitoba private-sector undoubtedly. As a province, we need to seize every opportunity that can lead to private-sector growth and investment, something the previous administration has neglected in favor of oversized, out-of-shape dysfunctional government.

The province's North possess great opportunity for resource development that will diversify the economy and lead to job growth. It is also an encouragement to grow the north's private sector to create jobs.