

## **Scott Moe selected as Saskatchewan's New Premier**

### **Background Memo**

On January 27, 2018 the Saskatchewan party elected a new leader to replace outgoing Premier Brad Wall who announced his retirement in August 2017. Premier-designate Moe was elected on the fifth ballot, with 53.87% of the vote. Finishing the race second through fifth were Alanna Koch, Ken Cheveldayoff, Gord Wyant, and Tina Beaudry-Mellor.

Premier-designate Moe intends to focus on economic growth through balanced budgets and protecting Saskatchewan's resource and trade interests by establishing a new Ministry of International Trade and Exports to open and expand markets for the resources and trade goods that drive our economy.

Moe has also indicated he will increase education funding by \$30 million, work to increase the population to 1.5 million, and continue fighting against the federal carbon tax. Moe's other promises include retroactively reinstating PST exemptions on insurance, a landfill policy review, and a 5% reduction in executive government and Crown corporations through retirement and attrition.

Specific to construction, Moe has affirmed his support for Prompt Payment legislation ensuring local contractors are paid for their work without delays, support for Priority Saskatchewan's mandate of efficient and effective public procurement, and a willingness to revisit PST on construction services once the budget returns to balance.

The SCA will work with Premier-designate Moe and his government to achieve the growth and policies that will foster a positive business environment in the province.

#### Premier-designate Moe's campaign promises:

- **Will support Prompt Payment**
- **Supports Priority Saskatchewan goals, including ensuring Saskatchewan workers and businesses are afforded the opportunity to compete on government and Crown work**
- **Willing to revisit PST on Construction once budget back to balance on 3-year timetable**
- **Committed to balance the provincial budget by 2019.**
  - Moe's plan "starts with balanced budgets and a commitment to uphold Brad Wall's plan to balance the budget by 2019. [His] team is committed to this target to ensure we do not unload the spending of government on future generations, and a priority must be placed on not shocking the economy or valuable public services in Health, Social Services, and Education."

- Committed to bring back PST exemptions on crop, life and health insurance.
  - “The cost will be fully recovered through a 5% workforce reduction in Executive Government and Crown corporations, through retirement and attrition.”
- Fighting a Federally Imposed Carbon Tax.
  - “Brad Wall chose me as Environment Minister to fight the carbon tax — as next leader of the Saskatchewan Party, I'll keep fighting.”
- Will provide an additional \$30 million to education funding.
  - Add 400 Educational Assistants and other educational professionals to classrooms.
  - Issue a moratorium on school closures.
- Establishment of a Ministry of International Trade and Exports, which would replace the Ministry of Economy.
  - Invest in strategic efforts to grow and diversify export markets for Saskatchewan companies and producers.
  - The new Minister responsible for International Trade and Exports will be mandated with establishing Saskatchewan's presence in the countries that account for the largest share of Saskatchewan exports, while maintaining Saskatchewan's relationships with neighbouring jurisdictions in the United States.
  - Implementation of the new policy on international trade and exports will begin immediately after the Saskatchewan Party leadership race.
- Commitment to undertake a Landfill Review.
  - A fulsome review of waste management policies in the province, specifically landfills in rural communities and expansion of the mandate and responsibilities of the Landfill Advisory Committee resulting in better solutions for waste management in Saskatchewan communities.
- Key goal of raising the population of the province to 1.5 million by 2030.
- Moe feels the federal government has not given provinces enough time to meet the summer 2018 marijuana deadline.

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