

5 things to expect from an NDP or UCP government ^[1]

Here are the top promises from each party's platform

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EXCERPTS

NDP Leader Rachel Notley is promising a better province with more signature bills if Albertans chose to re-elect her party.

Her platform makes it clear that she feels the NDP has more shared values with the average Albertan than the UCP does.

And United Conservative Party Leader Jason Kenney also has announced a plethora of policies, saying the UCP is the clear choice over the NDP if Albertans want to get their economy back on track.

Here are five of the biggest promises made by the two front-runner's platforms for a glimpse of what we can likely expect from the next four years.

For a more fulsome and up-to-date list of promises made by all the major Alberta parties, check out our Promise Tracker.

1. Roll out \$25-a-day child care: NDP

Right now, it's just a pilot project that subsidizes 7,300 spaces across the province. But the NDP plans to build on that and phase-in \$25-a-day child care across the province, and add 13,000 new spaces over the next five years.

Notley has said making child care affordable (saving families with children under five an average of \$300 per month) will help the economy by both bringing up labour force participation and closing the largest workforce participation gender gap in Canada.

The party estimates it will increase employment by 43,000 people and add nearly \$6 billion each year to the GDP.

It's a plan that's expected to cost \$1.5 billion over the next five years, the most expensive commitment in the party's platform.

2. Build new schools: NDP

The NDP platform says instead of cutting spending, it plans to keep it in line with population growth. And its education plan is in line with that. The party says it will reduce overcrowding, with 15,000 new students expected to start school this year, by providing \$1.3 billion to build or modernize 70 schools across the province.

Notley says the party will also hire nearly 1,000 more teachers and spend \$5 million each year to replace 100 aging and outdated playgrounds.

And it will cut tuition fees for high school upgrading and English language classes.

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