PREMIER OF MANITOBA

Room 204
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA
R3C 0V8

September 18, 2019

To All Ministers
Manitoba Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Dear Colleagues:

Congratulations on your election to the 42nd Legislature. Manitobans have bestowed on you and our government the great honour and responsibility to move Manitoba Forward.

As you know, we were elected with an ambitious agenda and a robust legislative plan. Over the next 100 days much progress is needed to deliver our commitments to Manitobans. In addition to reconvening the legislature and completing passage of the 2019 Budget, your departments are tasked with the following objectives:

Agriculture

1. Enact the auction system for Agriculture Crown Lands and hold the first auction;
2. Identify provincial regulatory barriers that unnecessarily restrict the ability of Manitoba farmers to produce food for local markets and limit the ability of consumers to connect directly with local producers; and
3. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund.

Civil Service Commission

4. Introduce legislation to replace the outdated *Civil Service Act* with a new statute, *The Public Service Act*, to reflect modern workplace standards and values;
5. Expand the highly successful Learning Fund into reporting entities across summary government;
6. Develop a plan to modernize the job classification process within central government and across summary government; and

7. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund; and
8. Release a progress report on the public service Transformation Strategy, to share how we are building a culture of outcomes and innovation inside the Manitoba public service.

Crown Services

9. Introduce legislation to streamline Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation's claims dispute process to vehicles to improve timeliness of service and reduce red tape;
10. Issue revised mandate letters for all Crown corporations, emphasizing the need for continuous progress on reducing administrative costs, integrating the Crowns into our budgeting process and finding ways to collaborate on procurement, accommodations, and other matters of mutual interest;
11. Commission a provincial gaming review to assess the structure and size of the industry and provide recommendations to guide oversight of the sector;
12. Ask Efficiency Manitoba to initiate a $25 million per year retrofit program to spur investment in energy-saving products for homes, commercial buildings and farms;
13. Develop legislative changes to allow restaurants to deliver liquor directly to customers.
14. Direct Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries to adjust VLT revenue sharing agreements to 30:70 with veterans organizations until the end of the provincial gaming review;
15. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund; and
16. Direct Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries to exempt Manitoba craft distillers, cideries, brewers from product mark-ups for craft products produced and sold on-premises.

Education

17. Continue planning for the construction of the 20 new schools as identified in our New Schools Guarantee;
18. Issue mandate letters to all post-secondary institutions receiving provincial operating funding to outline expected student outcomes and financial accountability requirements;
19. Initiate the Teachers Ideas Fund to support innovative solutions brought forth to streamline operations by teachers to streamline operations and improve educational outcomes of students with successful applicants announced in 2020;
20. Bring forward a mandate review for the Department of Education and Training, improving capacity to respond to the K-12 review and the phase-out of education taxes;
21. Re-introduce *The Minor Amendments and Corrections Act, 2019*; and
22. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund.

Families

23. Begin consultation and development of a new program to support Manitobans with disabilities that is distinct and separate from existing Employment Income Assistance program supports;
24. Work with the private sector to expand the number of child care spaces in Manitoba; and
25. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund from both the Department of Families and the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation (MHRC).

Finance

26. Bring forward legislation to begin implementation of the 2020 Tax Rollback Guarantee;
27. Start work on a specific plan to phase out education taxes on land over 10 years, starting once the budget is no longer in deficit;
28. Finalize and make public cabinet level Balanced Scorecard measures and begin development of departmental level measures;
29. Introduce legislation to enhance integration of summary government budgeting and financial reporting to Public Sector Accounting Board standards;
30. Bring forward changes to *The Pension Benefits Act* as recommended by the Pension Commission of Manitoba;
31. Introduce *The Crown Lands Dispositions Act*;
32. Reduce Manitoba's tax interest surcharge;
33. Work towards implementing recommendations from the 2019 *Review of Planning, Permitting and Zoning in Manitoba*;
34. Work collaboratively with the Legislative Assembly to support their efforts to repair the Manitoba Legislative Building and surrounding grounds;
35. Release the 2018-19 Statement of Public Accounts;
36. Commence work to explore the costs and benefits of the upcoming obsolescence of government's enterprise system software, applications and products with the goal a view to how this will support the consolidation of back office functions;
37. Continue the work to centralize procurement to find real value-for-money savings for Manitobans, and commence the centralization of procurement across other reporting entities across summary government;
38. Identify an inventory of land and property owned by the department that is no longer usable or required by government for the delivery of public services.
39. Restructure Investors Group Field arrangement to make it more transparent and sustainable for taxpayers and the Winnipeg Football Club;
40. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund; and
41. Continue efforts to restore the Fiscal Stabilization Account balance to its legislated target level of 5% of core government expenditures.

Growth, Enterprise & Trade

42. Host the inaugural Manitoba Jobs Summit on October 3, 2019 to begin implementation of the Manitoba Works 40,000 Job Plan;
43. Continue working with other provinces to remove inter-provincial trade barriers;
44. Re-introduce *The Workplace Safety and Health Amendment Act*, *The Labour Relations Amendment Act*, and *The Business Registration, Supervision and Ownership Transparency Act (Various Acts Amended);*
45. Introduce legislation to implement changes recommended by the Legislative Review Committee of *The Workers Compensation Act*;
46. Amend *The Employment Standards Code* to extend leave protections to all victims of sexual violence;

47. Bring forward legislation to eliminate Sunday and holiday shopping restrictions while preserving the right of municipalities to create local retail hour restrictions in their communities;
48. Establish the new Manitoba Mineral Development Fund;
49. Identify all regional and sector organizations for the Partners in Economic Growth (PEG) initiative and enter into accountability agreements with PEG partners;
50. Review the portfolio of abandoned and orphaned mines to ensure a more rapid pace of remediation efforts, while ensuring that all instances in which the private sector can be held accountable for remediation efforts are identified and actioned;
51. Bring forward a plan to manage the mineral resources owned by the Manitoba Potash Corporation;
52. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund; and
53. Create an action plan to address recommendations of the 2019 *Review of Planning, Permitting and Zoning in Manitoba* under the jurisdiction of Manitoba Finance.

Health, Seniors & Active Living

54. Re-introduce *The Health System Governance and Accountability Act* to reduce overall administration and provide enhanced service delivery of health services across Manitoba;
55. Initiate the Frontline Ideas Fund for healthcare workers to support innovative solutions to streamline and improve patient care with successful applicants announced in 2020;
56. Begin work with Shared Health to create 200 new nursing positions and fill them by 2023;
57. Begin work with the Regional Health Authorities and Shared Health to hire an additional 80 paramedics to achieve our customer service standard of 24-7 access to care within 30 minutes for 90% of Manitobans, 90% of the time;
58. Create a plan to make bulk purchases of medical equipment with other Canadian provinces;
59. Begin planning the reconstruction of the St. Boniface Emergency Department; and
60. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund.

Indigenous & Northern Relations

61. Conclude work associated with *Operation Return Home*;
62. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund; and
63. Begin public engagement on the implementation of comprehensive duty to consult framework.

Infrastructure

64. Re-introduce *The Public Sector Construction Projects (Tendering) Act;*
65. Bring forward new legislation to complete implementation of the Mandatory Entry-Level Training (MELT) program for Class 1 drivers;
66. Develop a plan in consultation with the federal government and Manitoba municipalities to build 150km of active living trails through the Investing in Canada Plan;
67. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund;

68. Engage the City of Winnipeg and the City of Brandon to develop an appropriate regulatory framework to introduce Next Generation 911 (NG911) services based on inter-operability with other levels of government and provinces;
69. Work with the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association and other private sector agencies to develop a plan to allow the private sector to assume a more meaningful role in service delivery with the outcome of lowering "soft costs";
70. Develop a dedicated fund for infrastructure projects that stimulates private sector investment and job creation for inclusion in Budget 2020; and
71. Accelerate the construction of Lake Manitoba Outlet.

Justice & Attorney General

72. Re-introduce *The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment Act (Cannabis Social Responsibility Fee)*;
73. Bring forward legislation to eliminate election expense subsidies for political parties;
74. Mandate the Manitoba Police Commission to provide recommendations to improve the safety of downtown Winnipeg;
75. Implement the remaining portions of the Family Law Reform initiative, to allow more families to benefit from the new processes for family law that are self guided, support children and reduce red tape;
76. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund;
77. Transition regulation of Manitoba's horse racing industry to the Liquor, Cannabis, and Gaming Authority of Manitoba prior to commencement of the 2021 racing season;
78. Begin a comprehensive review of the youth corrections system to provide recommendations to reduce recidivism and proactively addresses issues at an early age, including ensuring appropriate correctional facilities are in place to manage the system going forward; and
79. Advance transparency by proactively disclosing more government documents.

Municipal Relations

80. Partner with the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region to begin development of a capital region growth plan that will deliver better infrastructure at lower cost and improve planning;
81. Establish a collaborative process with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to strengthen provincial-municipal growth and partnership opportunities, with a balanced discussion of both revenues and expenditures without raising taxes;
82. Work with the Special Envoy for Military Affairs to introduce legislation to exempt all veterans organizations from municipal property taxes regardless of their location throughout the province;
83. Establish a Municipal Audit and Accountability Program to provide third party value-for-money audits for municipalities wanting to improve services without raising taxes;
84. Renew the existing partnership with The Winnipeg Foundation to create the Endow Manitoba fund and extend participation in the 24 Hour Giving Challenge until 2026;
85. Work to implement the recommendations of the 2019 *Review of Planning, Permitting and Zoning in Manitoba* related to areas of the department's jurisdiction; and
86. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund.

Sport, Culture & Heritage

87. Initiate call for proposals for the Manitoba Military Memorials Fund focusing on projects related to the 75th anniversary of end of World War II in 2020;
88. Launch a new heritage building preservation program using revenues from the Heritage Resources Fund;
89. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund;
90. Coordinate Manitoba 150 activities with all ministries and reporting entities to celebrate and commemorate the province's sesquicentennial; and
91. Develop a plan to integrate a province-wide system for cultural and heritage resources wayfinding; and
92. Launch a new public engagement portal, which will improve access to opportunities and information about public engagement for all Manitobans.

Sustainable Development

93. Continue to implement the Made in Manitoba Climate and Green Plan;
94. Proclaim additional sections of *The Sustainable Watersheds Act* to support development of a provincial water management strategy;
95. Announce with the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation the inaugural natural infrastructure projects funded by the GROW trust;
96. Consult with the private sector to eliminate the use of plastic bags in Manitoba;
97. Mandate the Climate and Green Plan Expert Advisory Committee to investigate and provide recommendations to electrify Manitoba's transportation infrastructure;
98. Increase enforcement and prosecution under *The Wildlife Act* against individuals who endanger public safety and wildlife populations by illegally night hunting;
99. Develop and submit at least 5 applications to access the Ideas Fund and
100. Move forward with the principles of Shared Management to ensure sustainable wildlife and fish populations.

I expect you to consult with your Deputy Minister and other senior department officials to ensure these actions and decisions are based on the best advice and facts available. The province's professional public servants are a rich resource that are to be respected under your leadership. In return, you should expect accurate and timely information to assist you in making the best decisions possible.

We have been entrusted with the rare privilege of serving our province. I know you are as grateful as I am for this opportunity. Let us work hard every day to fulfil that responsibility.

Sincerely,

Brian Pallister