

# LEADERSHIP CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you support the continued sale of our public lands? Would you support legislation that severely restricts the sale of any public lands in the future?

A: I support the sale of public lands, but with qualifications. The government should not resort to selling public lands as a first resort. There are a variety of ways to reconcile public and private interests in particular parcels and I believe the government should always explore them first. I also accept that some tracts should never be put on the market.

2. Do you support the elimination of the long gun registry?

A: Yes, I support doing away with the long gun registry. During my tenure as Alberta's Justice Minister, I repeatedly lobbied the federal government for its repeal and I will continue these efforts as Premier.

3. Would you support legislation that would eliminate game farming to better protect wildlife resources and their habitats from diseases such as chronic wasting disease? What action would you take to make the necessary changes?

A: I support the game farming industry as a sector that adds value to Alberta's economy. However, I would like to see more stringent standards and inspections to minimize the risks of farm-bred animals passing diseases to wildlife.

4. Do you support further restrictions on the use of fresh water by petro-chemical energy as needed to ensure instream flows for natural resources? What action would you take to make the necessary changes?

A: I strongly support water conservation and I believe that reducing the amount used by industry is vital for Alberta's future. Helping energy companies develop greener technology with less impact on the environment is a major part of my platform. I will create an organization modeled on the Lougheed-era Alberta Oil Sands Technology and Research Authority and endow it with stable, long-term funding isolated from the political cycle. This organization will partner with Alberta-based oil firms and collaborators around the world to design, test and implement innovative technology to make Alberta a world leader in sustainable hydrocarbon production and renewable energy.

6. Do you feel more money should go to the Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) budget or funds be re-assigned to SRD to enhance and improve management of our wildlife and fish resources?

A: At the moment, I do not support further funding. The province faces much more urgent spending priorities.

7. Do you believe hunting is a necessary tool to manage wildlife populations?

A: Yes. I consider hunting to be both a legitimate sport and (in most cases) a useful form of wildlife management.

8. Should Alberta re-instate the grizzly bear hunting season in areas where populations warrant as there is general agreement that regulated hunting does not have a detrimental effect on overall bear numbers?

A: No. Alberta's grizzly population remains too fragile to permit even limited hunting.

9. In the wake of the Interim Métis Harvesting Agreement and the charges laid against several individuals do you support a provincial agreement that extends Métis hunting and fishing rights?

A: No. I do not support such an agreement. Metis hunting rights are site-specific and it's often impossible to prove historical occupancy in a given area.

10. Are you aware of current OHV management process, and how do you feel it is succeeding?

A: I believe that the current process adequately balances OHV owners' rights with those of other outdoor enthusiasts and the need to protect wildlife from destructive intrusions.

11. Recent attempts to draft management plans for Wildland Parks (e.g.: Caribou Mountain) have precluded input from the hunting, trapping and motorized recreation sectors aimed at maintaining reasonable levels of these traditional activities. Do you agree the development of any new protected areas (e.g.: Andy Russell Wildland Park) should be suspended until these issues have been resolved?

A: No. I believe that protected areas must be established in the interests of local wildlife first and foremost. In some instances, protection may require restricting access for people.