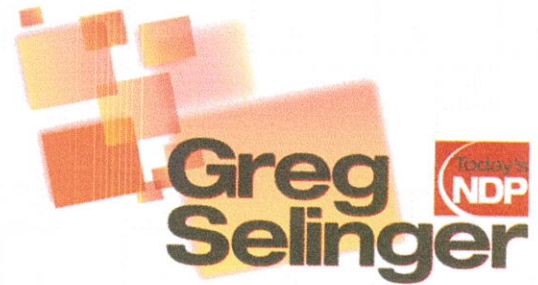


April 10, 2016

Anders Swanson  
[info@winnipegtrails.ca](mailto:info@winnipegtrails.ca)



Dear Anders,

**Thank you for engaging in the 2016 provincial election on behalf of the numerous organizations you represent. Please find answers to your questions below:**

- 1. Will your party commit to an ambitious province-wide strategy tasked with adopting policies, design standards, and roadway improvements that will make it safer and easier for more children to walk or bike to school?**

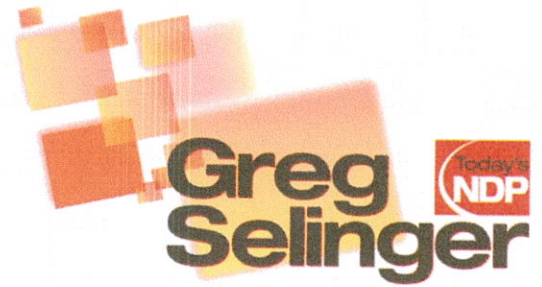
Yes - The NDP agree that the promotion of active transportation amongst children is a critical component to improving activity levels and increasing health. We have taken a number of steps to ensure that children are encouraged to walk or ride to school, including improved safety in school zones, free bicycle helmets, walking school buses and a number of other incentives to increase the number of children actively transporting themselves to school.

The NDP are committed to building on these improvements and will work with stakeholders to identify strategies that will continue to encourage and support active transportation to school. We have committed to a new capital fund of \$10M to improve school safety for the bus loops, signage, bike racks and other measures that would address the exact items you've raised.

- 2. Will your party commit to annual funding in the amount of \$17/person/year to be made available to municipalities to be used only for the planning, design, and construction of walking and cycling infrastructure?**

The NDP believe that active transportation is an important part of our \$10 billion infrastructure plan. That plan will make major investments in highways, flood protection and municipal infrastructure.

We have recently committed \$100 million from that plan exclusively towards active transportation. This will complement a recent policy change that requires active transportation to be considered and integrated with major projects like the interchange at Highway 59 and the Perimeter. That major project will include an at-grade through-pass for pedestrians and cyclists. Integration of active transportation components into major infrastructure improvements means that vehicle infrastructure won't become a barrier for those who wish to walk or ride.



As part of the commitment to ensure safe access across the perimeter from Raleigh, we are committed to completing the trail all the way from St. Norbert to Birds Hill Park.

Our infrastructure plan also includes \$2.5 billion for municipal infrastructure. We will work with municipalities from within our dedicated funding to ensure that active transportation infrastructure is expanded in our province including supporting the City of Winnipeg's 20 year active transportation plan.

**3. Will your party commit to dedicate resources and staff toward the development and implementation of a comprehensive provincial walking and cycling plan that would transform Manitoba into a walkable/bikeable province and an even greater place in which to live, work and raise a family?**

Yes. While we have worked hard to support active transportation and ensure it was incorporated into the major infrastructure renewal of our province, there is more to be done. Continued dialogue with active transportation organizations and other stakeholders will help us form a vision of a modern Winnipeg, a modern Manitoba that can transform the province into an even better place to live.

An example of this vision can be found in our recently released vision for Winnipeg, which includes rail relocation, an inner ring road, and bus rapid transit. The opportunities for improved, city wide, active transportation routes are exciting within this new vision of a more accessible and modern Winnipeg. As a re-elected NDP government moves forward on its vision for a better Manitoba, we hope to work with you to seize opportunities that will arise for enhanced active transportation as Winnipeg is transformed.

Sincerely,

Keith Bellamy  
NDP Provincial Secretary