



Dear Parents for Choice in Education,

Thank you for taking the time to reach out to the Alberta NDP during this critical election. Please accept this letter on behalf of our Alberta NDP team of candidates.

The Alberta NDP is committed to providing top-quality education to all students across the province.

We will provide schools with stable and predictable funding so that they can support students and staff.

At the beginning of the pandemic, when students, teachers, and parents most needed support, the UCP laid off 20,000 educational assistants and support staff. They also slashed Program Unit Funding (PUF), which provided vital support for students with medical needs, learning, and cognitive disabilities. These cuts have caused undue stress and hardship on teachers, support staff, and the education system more broadly.

Since 2019, enrollment in Alberta schools has grown by 36,000 new students, yet student-teacher ratios have not kept up. Troublingly, the UCP has refused to increase funding to match this increase in enrollment. We will hire 4,000 teachers and 3,000 EAs and support staff to improve student-to-teacher ratios and ensure students don't fall behind due to overcrowded classrooms. We will not only restore PUF but we will increase it!

The Alberta NDP commits to building and modernizing 125 new, desperately needed schools to meet the growing needs of our communities. This will help address overcrowding, cut travel times, and provide students across Alberta with access to high-quality education within their communities and within safe well-constructed schools.



Student Success

We are committed to ensuring students across the province have the tools and support they need to succeed. To do this, we will:

- Support student assessments, catch-up learning, speech-language therapists and pathologists, and other allied health professionals
- Restore and expand PUF
- Expand the school nutrition program
- Address student mental health challenges by making sure counselling is available in Alberta schools
- Ensuring that all Albertans have access to five free insured mental health sessions annually, so that students can access mental supports throughout the year.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Alberta NDP