

Wage Freeze Puts Services for Albertans on Thin Ice

Broken election promise: thousands of jobs already cut

The Redford government has cut thousands of public-sector jobs despite making a promise in the last election that she wouldn't. At least 2,888 direct full-time jobs in government, schools, hospitals, and universities and colleges have been cut in the last year alone.

Redford's youth engagement strategy: Tossing 2,000 young people out of work

No wonder young people are cynical about the political process. One of Premier Redford's flagship employment strategies was to cut \$100 million from training and employment budgets, including programs that put young people to work. The highly successful and affordable STEP program put 2,000 young people out of work this year alone.

Broad economic consequences: 10,800 public sector jobs lost in Alberta already in 2013

According to StatsCan, Alberta dropped 10,800 public sector jobs in 2013, including jobs lost because of federal cuts and Redford's cuts to cities' and towns' budgets.

Alberta's incredible shrinking public service

The government had 5,000 fewer workers on its 2012 payroll compared to 1989, despite our province's population growing by 1.3 million people. That's more Albertans who rely on the services that the government provides and more people who pay taxes.

Consequences in Health Care Services: Reduction in Nursing Hours

Internal documents from Alberta Health Services show the province plans to cut about 200 hospital nursing jobs.

That is on top of the 2,400 jobs already lost in health care and social assistance occupations in 2013, according to Statistics Canada.

Class Sizes Out of Control And No Help for Teachers Managing Diverse Needs

There are 11,000 more students this fall, yet \$14.5 million has been cut from school board budgets.

At least 75 per cent of school boards are not meeting the K-3 average class size recommendations.

According to Statistics Canada, 4,400 jobs have been lost in education services in Alberta in 2013.

Pensions Under Siege: Imposing Changes to Pensions that Force Public Service to Work Longer to Get Less

Not content to lay people off, freeze wages unlawfully, and destroy morale for public sector workers, the Redford government is undermining what is left of public sector workers' pensions. If the Redford government rams through their promised changes to pension plans, hundreds of thousands of firefighters, nurses, paramedics, health and safety officers, environmental inspectors, college instructors, health professionals and government workers will have to work longer to get less.

Redford's Bill 46 is disrespectful, demeaning, and insulting.

The latest attack on public sector workers breaks the law and breaks a promise to Alberta's hard-working public servants.

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