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February 6, 2018

Sent by Email

Ken Francis
Sask Party Candidate for Kindersley by-election

Dear Candidate:

RE: Identified Priorities for constituents in the Kindersley riding

SEIU-West has a whole host of members that reside in the Kindersley riding. Most work as health services providers, however, some work in the Community Based Organization (CBO) sector. We trust our members have an interest in participating in the upcoming by-election in an informed manner. Therefore, our Political Action & Awareness Committee within SEIU-West, is seeking a clear understanding of your priorities in your campaign to become the next MLA for the Kindersley riding.

Please see the questions below that they seek your response to:

1. Many members of SEIU-West work in health care and experience chronic short staffing due to ongoing and growing recruitment and retention challenges. Now, public sector workers are being asked to take a 3.5% rollback. We're concerned that this creates an unsafe care environment and that these cuts will create loss of health care services, and/or bed or facility closures in rural Saskatchewan. Where do you stand on public sector wage roll backs? What is your plan to address growing recruitment and retention challenges in health care? Will you be the voice for improved and continued rural health care?
2. Saskatchewan has experienced a growth of population and with that comes increased student needs however, Educational Assistants and other school support positions have been cut across the province due to inadequate funding. What is your plan to address our growing classroom needs?
3. We're experiencing a rise in precarious work in this province – it's becoming more difficult to find a full-time job with a good wages, benefits and job security. Our province's young workers suffer from a lack of stability in their career options and often face the burden of increased debt due to student loans as tuition costs are soaring.

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4. What is your plan to address precarious work? Will you commit to a plan to get to \$15 per hour minimum wage?
5. What is your plan to support women's issues in the riding and in Saskatchewan? Do you have a plan to support greater access to affordable child care? Would you support legislated provision for paid leave from employment in circumstances of domestic violence?
6. We're highly concerned about our very future on this planet. Wildfires and extreme weather events are becoming the new norm. What is your plan to address climate change?
7. Last but not least, the March 2017 budget cuts hit health care, education and the community based sector very hard. What will you do to see that stable, adequate funding is committed to our valued public services so that they can be maintained and improved?

Thank you for providing a timely reply to our questions. We will ensure that your priorities are shared with our members who live and work in the riding.

Yours Truly,



Denzel Pickering
Co-Chair
Political Action & Awareness Committee

SC/DP/jb USW 5917

cc: Political Action & Awareness Committee