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Alberta NDP responses from candidate Roop Rai.

For more information visit www.albertandp.ca/rooprai

* Per Elections Alberta we acknowledge our survey is not a poll and was not based on recognized statistical methods.

Long Term Care

1. *Will you and your party support opening more publicly funded and publicly delivered long term care spaces, and if so, how many?*

As the NDP candidate in Calgary-Greenway, I strongly support the position to prioritize spending in health care where services are needed most, such as in the expansion of supportive living, long term care and dementia care spaces. Seniors deserve to live in dignity and access the supports they need. I will work hard to ensure that the services available for residents in Calgary-Greenway reflect the needs of the community.

2. *What will you do if elected to hold the government accountable to their promise for 2,000 new public long term care beds?*

In 2015, the Alberta NDP committed to providing 2,000 public long-term care beds over four years, which will improve seniors' care and reduce hospital congestion. This was a very significant pledge and I am confident that there will be every possible effort made to ensure that Albertans receive these much-needed spaces. I will be an active advocate for Calgary-Greenway and will work with my colleagues to put words into action.

3. *Do you and your party support public dollars ending up in the profit margins of private care corporations like Extencare and Points West Living? How will you and your party work to end this practice?*

The PCs previously demonstrated through their costly experiments in privatization that corporate profits are not the best way to move forward in securing the most affordable, stable services for Albertans and we need to transition away from these models. The Alberta NDP recognizes that efficient, quality services are best delivered publicly.



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Home Care

1. *Will you and your party support the expansion of publicly delivered home care services, and if so, to what degree?*

New, cost-effective models for expanding public homecare need to be explored and acted on to enhance and stabilize the health care system by directing care to where individuals need it. This will help to keep people at home instead of in hospitals. With Alberta's NDP, I can be a part of taking these steps forward.

2. *If elected how will you hold the government accountable on their promise for expanded public homecare?*

I have confidence in the sincerity of previous commitments made by the Alberta NDP and will be a tireless advocate for the residents of Calgary-Greenway within a party that supports my values and puts the needs of Albertans first.

Health Care Funding and Provincial Revenues

1. *Do you and your party support expanding the services covered under universal health care?*

Although Albertans enjoy an extensive range of publicly funded-health services, there are still many health care costs that must be paid for out of pocket that some simply cannot afford. The Alberta NDP is determined to bring the best healthcare options to the table. A mental health strategy, for example, will help to properly deliver badly needed mental health services to Albertans, which will also help reduce hospital congestion.

2. *Will you and your party advocate for increased revenues to help get Albertans off the resource rollercoaster and to fund expanded health services?*

As we have seen throughout the past year, Alberta's resource revenue has drastic impacts on our budget and ability to provide the necessary services that we need. It is imperative that we diversify our economy and position ourselves better in the future to prevent our province from experiencing this kind of sudden downturn. Through progressive taxation, more preventative approaches, modernizing health strategies and working collaboratively with other levels of government, we can put appropriate, stable resources into health.

3. *If your party supports cutting health care funding, how much will be cut, and from which areas?*

Albertans, like all Canadians, value having a public, accessible, affordable health care system. It's a big part of what defines us and we want to know that our families can access the care they need when they need it most. The creation of universal public health care is a part of the NDP's heritage and remains a piece of the core values that drive New Democrats to work toward a more equitable, healthy society. Innovation, prevention, and long-term investments are a part of keeping healthcare sustainable.