

REFORM PARTY OF ONTARIO's "PURPLE BOOK"

November 2009

NORTHERN REFORM

Our Values & Principles:

1. The will of the majority must prevail, within the bounds of the Canadian Constitution.
2. Government exists only to do those things that individuals or groups of individuals cannot do as efficiently.
3. Government services should be provided at the level closest to the user of that service, with that level of government being held accountable to voters.
4. Taxation should occur only to fund government services authorized by the people's representatives.
11. We believe that Ontario's population, her growth, and her economy must be sustainable in regards to our environment.
12. We believe that both rural (including northern) and urban Ontario are necessary partners for a bright Ontario future.
13. We believe that a well-educated population translates into a high standard of living.
16. We believe that Ontario's society must remain harmonious and to that end Ontario should work towards a New Ontario Vision.
17. We believe that modern & well-planned infrastructure is needed to ensure the safety and prosperity of our citizens.

A new strategy is needed in Northern Ontario:

Ontario's North is vital to the future of this province. It is vast, filled with valuable natural resources and an industrious population. The Mid-Canada Corridor Concept represents a very realistic settlement plan for Ontario's North. The 10% of Ontario's population that lives in the North deserves to share in 10% of Ontario's civil servant job opportunities. The North also deserves more immigrants to help stimulate the local economy. Home to Ontario's mining and forestry sector, the North has suffered with a strong dollar and reduced domestic demand for wood and metals. Ontario's North represents a unique opportunity to further expand Ontario's hydro electric generating and transportation potential.

To that end, we propose the following remedies:

1. Develop a northern port on James Bay to provide access to the North with the anticipated year-round navigation season in James and Hudson Bays.
2. Forestry industry: Modify the Ontario Building Code to allow for 40% more wood to be used.
3. Mining industry: Modify legislation pertaining to mineral exploration and extraction to lower costs and facilitate expansion.
4. Aboriginals: Develop policies to train and employ more of the North's fast-growing aboriginal population.
5. Fishing and hunting: Modify policies to make these businesses more sustainable over the long-term.
6. Invest in the development of more highway and rail infrastructure.
7. Develop a half-dozen new large-scale hydro electric and wind power generation sites.
8. Relocate 10% of all provincial government jobs now based in Toronto to Northern Ontario communities.