

CTF Survey of UCP Leadership Candidates

Question 4: Will you commit to bringing back Alberta's 10% single rate personal income tax?

Jeff Callaway: "It was a sad day for all Albertans when the NDP decided to eliminate the single rate tax and move to a more complicated, less efficient tax system and higher rates. I will work to reinstate the flat tax."

Brian Jean: "The 'flat tax' was certainly a part of the Alberta Advantage, but it came after the surpluses were coming in regularly. In my Here for the Economy policy I emphasized that our priority is to get investment back to Alberta, and cutting red tape, carbon tax, and business taxes are a more effective means to achieve that. Our fiscal reform commission will then make recommendations on the best tax mix, and while I am inclined to restoring the flat tax, at this point I can only commit to ensuring entrepreneurs and workers at all incomes face the lowest tax burden in Alberta."

Jason Kenney: "As President of the CTF, I lobbied the Klein government to introduce the 10% flat tax. When finally introduced in 2000, by Ralph Klein and Stockwell Day, it became an integral part of the Alberta Advantage that helped make Alberta the economic engine of Canada. While it will fall to the grassroots members of the United Conservative Party to determine specific policy, I personally support the principle of a flat tax as an effective policy to remove disincentives to work, save, and invest. Having said that, I cannot credibly commit a future government to specific tax rates at this point. We do not know how big the debt, deficit, or over-spending will be following the next election, and should maintain flexibility to make commitments on specific tax rates closer to the next election."

Doug Schweitzer: "My tax plan, the largest tax relief in Alberta's history, will lower personal income tax for all Albertans.

For those earning under \$100,000, they would see a tax relief of a flat 9%. For those earning more than \$100,000, they would see tax relief to a flat 10% My full tax plan can be found here: http://www.dougschweitzer.com/tax_relief "