

CTF Survey of UCP Leadership Candidates

Question 5: Will you end all corporate welfare in Alberta?

Jeff Callaway: “The NDP government has put the government of Alberta at the centre of the economy. If our party is fortunate enough to win the next election, there is going to be a tremendous amount of work ahead to reverse all the damage that has been done. I will work to get government out of the way of companies building their business and creating jobs.”

Brian Jean: “We certainly cannot have governments putting taxpayers at risk to pick Corporate winners and losers. If companies or industries cannot survive on their own, taxpayers shouldn’t be coming to their rescue. Some broad-based tax incentives can make sense though, especially when we are struggling for jobs and competing with other jurisdictions that are offering incentives, but they are a rare exception that must be structured only in a way that spurs private investment without putting taxpayers at risk or punishing existing companies.”

Jason Kenney: “The policies of the UCP will be developed democratically by its members.

My own view is that government should not pick winners and losers by subsidizing corporations with tax dollars.

During my time with the Taxpayers Federation, I successfully lobbied the Klein Government draft the ‘No More Boondoggles’ legislation to end corporate welfare. Unfortunately, this legislation has been weakened as various forms of corporate welfare has crept back into the system. I would personally support a renewal of the ‘No More Boondoggles’ law as part of a complete review of corporate welfare programs.”

Doug Schweitzer: “I have no intention of bringing in any corporate welfare and I am in the process of reviewing existing corporate welfare that needs to be ended.”