

10 questions for UNA members to ask Progressive Conservative leadership candidates

QUESTION 1: In 2010, your government promised and initiated a five-year stable funding plan for Alberta Health & Wellness.

As premier, will you support the continuation of the five-year stable funding for health care?

QUESTION 2: Acute care beds occupied by patients who should be in continuing care have been identified as a key cause of the overcrowding in Alberta's Emergency Rooms.

What would you do as premier to ease the pressure on Emergency Rooms?

QUESTION 3: The right of working people to be represented by a union and bargain collectively has been upheld by courts across Canada.

Do you support the right of public sector workers to collective bargaining, including the right to strike?

QUESTION 4: The federal government recently imposed a contract including rates of pay on postal workers.

Do you think governments should intervene in bargaining and impose settlements?

QUESTION 5: The recent bankruptcy of a private surgical clinic in Calgary and the threatened eviction of elderly veterans from a private nursing home have raised questions about privatized health care.

As premier, would you support the introduction of more accountable publicly owned and operated health care facilities, such as long-term care?

QUESTION 6: Last year, the Government attempted to introduce more privatized health care through the Alberta Health Act.

As premier, do you support the idea of more privatized health care?

QUESTION 7: More than 1,000 Alberta teachers are expected to lose their jobs because your government hasn't given school boards enough money to pay for the deal it negotiated with teachers.

What do you think the government should do about this?

QUESTION 8: Premier Stelmach introduced higher oil and gas royalty rates, but changed course when the recession began.

Do you think Alberta is charging enough for oil and gas royalties?

QUESTION 9: Albertans know that only a portion of their oil and gas royalties are being collected from energy corporations.

As premier, what if anything would you do about that situation?

QUESTION 10: The flat tax Premier Klein introduced in 2001 makes Alberta the third-highest-tax jurisdiction in Canada for low-income earners, while the wealthy get big breaks.

Would you keep the flat tax or introduce a more progressive tax system?