

CTF Survey of UCP Leadership Candidates

Question 9: Will you lead by example to reduce spending – eliminating MLAs' carrelated perks and ability to expense both per-kilometre mileage and gas for travel?

Jeff Callaway: "Common sense should rule the day. MLAs use their cars a lot to travel the province, but the legislature should only pay one or the other. Setting a reasonable per-kilometre rate amount should be sufficient to account for gas costs as well as wear on vehicles."

Brian Jean: "In 2015 we campaigned on ending the excessive vehicle expenses and the fact it ran on an honour system. It is a minor inconvenience but MLAs should have to log mileage and only get a typical mileage rate with no gas cards."

Jason Kenney: "As the former head of the Alberta Taxpayers Association, I led the successful fight to reform the 'gold-plated' MLA pension plan in 1993. I would support a review of MLA expenses, including those mentioned above. MLAs must lead by example."

Doug Schweitzer: "I strongly disagree with the misuse of taxpayer dollars by public servants, especially when this misuse is for personal financial gain.

The guidelines MLAs follow for living and travel expenses need to be reviewed. Albertans have had to make sacrifices in this economic climate and MLAs should lead by example and cutting expenses wherever possible.

I believe that the tone from the top is crucial. I will lead by example on this issue and will expect our caucus to adhere strictly to the rules and regulations on MLA reimbursement policies. Any misconduct on expense claims will be considered a serious breach of public trust and will be dealt with immediately."