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## Questions for PC Manitoba Leadership Candidates

1. In accordance with the Canada Health Act, our provincial government is mandated to ensure all Manitobans have reasonable access to essential health services.

*Do you consider pre-hospital emergency medical treatment to be an essential health service?*

*Should all Manitobans expect reasonable access to timely and appropriate emergency medical care and transport?*

2. Manitoba has eleven Regional Health Authorities, and as such eleven distinct and different philosophies regarding service delivery and standards for emergency medical services. Many other provinces have opted for a province-wide delivery system to ensure more consistent, effective and efficient emergency medical health services to all residents.

*What measures would you take to ensure Manitobans have access to consistent, effective and efficient emergency medical services across the province?*

3. Funding for emergency medical services in Manitoba has improved in the past few years. Staffing levels in rural Manitoba have increased, the government has undertaken to replace all land ambulances with new fleet vehicles and the proposed Medical Transportation Coordination Centre is expected to be in operation later this year. However, studies indicate that timely and appropriate treatment for many medical emergencies (heart attacks, strokes, diabetes, respiratory emergencies) can reduce morbidity and significantly improve patient outcomes, potentially saving healthcare dollars in many other areas.

*What measures would you take to ensure increased and sustainable funding for continued development of Manitoba's emergency medical services system?*

4. Paramedics are health care professionals and recognize we have a responsibility to the health care system and our patients. The Paramedic Association of Manitoba promotes minimum standards for entry to practice consistent with nationally recognized competency profiles, continuous professional development and ethical practice and behaviour. As such, paramedics should be recognized, as most other allied health professions, through legislated self-regulation.

*As leader of the Progressive Conservative party of Manitoba, would you immediately support the self-regulation of paramedics in this province?*