



# The Green Party of Manitoba

“Quality of life? – We can do better!”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **GREEN LEADER TAKES BUS TO FAIR**

**(Brandon, April 3rd, 2009)** James Beddome, Leader of the Green Party of Manitoba (GPM), is pleased to announce that he will be traveling by bus from Winnipeg to Brandon to attend the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair. Beddome looks forward to meeting with hard-working Manitobans from all regions of Manitoba, who make an annual tradition of celebrating Manitoba's agricultural heritage by attending the fair in Brandon.

"The fair has a sentimental value for me." said Beddome, "I remember attending the fair from a very young age, and I think I have attended almost every year since I was born. I was even the first person to pull a calf across the line in the 1999 4-H calf scramble."

"At the latest budget release I was dismayed to find that this province was investing nothing in intercity bus transportation. This is at a time when rural communities are facing decreasing bus service. A decade ago many communities had twice-a-day service to facilitate their needs to travel to larger centers; now rural communities are lucky if they even have any bus service."

"The province has also failed to give cycling a priority status in the province. The same stretch of highway where they are increasing the speed limit to 110 kilometres per hour is the same stretch where 2 cyclists were killed last summer. We should be looking at creating bike infrastructure across this province, including along highways as well as in urban centers. The NDP has \$535 million to spend on our roadways, but nothing for cyclists. How is that fair? Urban centers like Brandon, Winnipeg and Portage have been clamouring for funding for more cycling infrastructure but they did not receive even one more penny in the most recent budget." further added Beddome.

"The NDP government lacks any real vision of sustainability. How can we expect people to make better choices if we do not provide them with better options?" questioned Beddome.

Beddome is schedule to arrive at the Greyhound bus depot at 141 6th St in Brandon, MB at 2:30pm. He looks forward to personally accommodating any request from the Brandon and area media.

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**To arrange a personalized media interview, please contact:**

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Authorized by the Chief Financial Officer of the Green Party of Manitoba