

Alberta Auto and Property Insurance

Policy  
Briefing  
Position

Workers First Party (WFP)  
Central Committee  
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## Workers First Party (WFP) Policy I: Cooperative Capitalist Model for Auto and Property Insurance in Alberta

The Workers First Party (WFP) acknowledges the rising costs in Alberta's auto and property insurance system and the need for a fair and transparent approach to insurance retailing, underwriting, and investment. We propose a cooperative capitalist model that ensures transparency, cost minimization, and equitable profit distribution among all stakeholders, including insurance retailers, underwriters, insurance investment funds, and policyholders. This innovative approach will also incorporate blockchain technology to enhance security and transparency for policyholders and property.

1. **Cooperative Capitalist Model:** WFP advocates for the establishment of a cooperative capitalist model for auto and property insurance in Alberta. Under this model, insurance providers, retailers, and underwriters will operate as cooperatives, collectively owned and managed by policyholders, workers in the industry, and investment funds. This model allows for greater transparency and shared decision-making.
2. **Transparency and Cost Minimization:** We are committed to ensuring transparency in the insurance industry. Insurers will be required to provide detailed breakdowns of costs, profits, and premiums. The cooperative model will focus on minimizing administrative expenses and streamlining the insurance process to reduce overhead costs.
3. **Equitable Profit Distribution:** Under the cooperative capitalist model, profits generated by insurance providers will be distributed equitably among policyholders, employees, insurance retailers, underwriters, insurance investment funds, and other stakeholders. This approach aims to eliminate unchecked profit-taking and ensures that everyone involved benefits from the success of the cooperative.

4. Investment in Clean Energy and Transportation Infrastructure: A portion of the profits earned by the cooperative insurers and investment funds will be dedicated to advancing clean energy and transportation infrastructure in Alberta. These investments will support the development of sustainable and environmentally friendly solutions that benefit all Albertans.

5. Regulatory Oversight: WFP recognizes the need for regulatory oversight to prevent abuse and ensure compliance with the cooperative capitalist model. We will establish a regulatory body responsible for monitoring the industry, protecting consumer interests, and promoting fair competition.

6. Blockchain Technology for Policyholders and Property: WFP will integrate blockchain technology into insurance processes to enhance security and transparency for policyholders and property owners. Blockchain will enable secure, immutable records of policies, claims, and property information, reducing fraud and ensuring the integrity of insurance transactions.

7. Regional Equality: WFP is committed to ensuring that this policy benefits all regions of Alberta, with a focus on addressing specific insurance needs and challenges that may vary across the province.

8. Worker and Policyholder Representation: The cooperative capitalist model will include mechanisms for worker, policyholder, and insurance retailer representation in the decision-making processes of insurance providers. This ensures that the interests of these key stakeholders are considered and respected.

9. Consumer Education: WFP will invest in consumer education initiatives to ensure that Albertans understand their insurance options and rights within the cooperative capitalist model. Informed consumers can make better choices and hold insurers and underwriters accountable.

In conclusion, the Workers First Party (WFP) proposes a cooperative capitalist model for auto and property insurance in Alberta, aimed at increasing transparency, minimizing costs, and promoting equitable profit distribution. This approach not only benefits policyholders and workers but also

incorporates insurance retailers, underwriters, and investment funds, along with blockchain technology to enhance security and transparency, fostering a more sustainable and prosperous future for all Albertans.

## Briefing

In forming a policy that combines elements of both free market insurance and no-fault state-owned insurance into a cooperative capitalist solution, several considerations should be taken into account. The goal is to create a system that fosters wealth accumulation for all stakeholders while maintaining the benefits of both approaches. Here are key considerations:

### Comprehensive Coverage:

- Free Market Insurance Element: Retain the aspect of choice and competition found in the free market insurance system, allowing policyholders to select from a variety of coverage options tailored to their needs.
- No-Fault State-Owned Insurance Element: Implement a no-fault approach for certain types of insurance, such as auto insurance, where injuries and damages are covered regardless of fault. This ensures that policyholders receive compensation quickly and efficiently in the event of an accident.

### Transparency and Cost Control:

- Free Market Insurance Element: Embrace the free market's focus on efficiency and cost control. Encourage insurance providers to minimize administrative expenses and streamline operations to keep premiums affordable.
- No-Fault State-Owned Insurance Element: Borrow the concept of price control and transparency from the state-owned insurance model, where rates are regulated to prevent excessive pricing.

### Equitable Profit Sharing:

- Cooperative Capitalist Model: Ensure that profits generated by insurance providers are distributed equitably among all stakeholders, including policyholders, workers, insurance retailers, underwriters, and investment funds. This approach eliminates excessive profit-taking and allows everyone involved to benefit from the insurance system's success.

### Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure:

- Free Market Insurance Element: Capitalize on the private sector's capacity for innovation and investment by encouraging insurance investment funds to contribute to the development of sustainable infrastructure, such as clean energy projects and transportation improvements.
- No-Fault State-Owned Insurance Element: Implement a portion of the profits generated into public projects related to sustainability and infrastructure development, aligning with the principles of a state-owned system.

#### Regulatory Oversight:

- Free Market Insurance Element: Retain the regulatory oversight found in the free market system to prevent abuse and ensure compliance with consumer protection laws.
- No-Fault State-Owned Insurance Element: Leverage state regulation to guarantee that the cooperative capitalist model adheres to pricing controls, fairness, and transparency.

#### Regional Equality:

- Ensure that the policy is designed to address the unique insurance needs and economic challenges of different regions within Alberta, making sure that the cooperative system benefits all residents, regardless of location.

#### Blockchain Technology for Transparency:

- Utilize blockchain technology to enhance transparency, security, and trust in insurance processes, enabling policyholders, insurance retailers, and other stakeholders to access immutable records of transactions and policies.

#### Worker and Policyholder Representation:

- Include mechanisms for representation of workers, policyholders, and insurance retailers in the decision-making processes of the cooperative insurers. This ensures that the interests of these stakeholders are considered and respected.

#### Consumer Education:

- Invest in consumer education initiatives to ensure that all Albertans understand their insurance options and rights within the cooperative capitalist model, enabling them to make informed choices and hold insurers and underwriters accountable.

By considering these elements and finding a balance between the free market and state-owned insurance approaches, a cooperative capitalist solution can be designed to maximize wealth accumulation for all stakeholders while promoting transparency, fairness, and sustainability in Alberta's insurance system.