



Privatization experiments: the record

Prices go up

Highways - New Brunswick's privatized TransCanada toll highway cost taxpayers \$1.5 billion to build and now motorists must pay \$14 for a round trip between cities.

[Privatized TransCanada highway robbery](#)

In Ontario, toll road fees increased 25 per cent during rush hour. And you can't renew your license if you haven't paid your fees.

[Paved with frustration - CUPE](#)

Phone service - Phone rates in Manitoba went up 37 per cent when the phone company was privatized.

[MTS Privatization ten years on - CCPA](#)

Services are cut

Provincial parks - Scores of parks were privatized by the Newfoundland government from 1995 to 1997. Over the years, many were simply abandoned. Overgrown and a target for vandals, the once-thriving parks are now little more than an eyesore marring the natural beauty of the landscape.

[The Telegram](#)

Our experience in Saskatchewan - Revenue generating assets - campgrounds, condos, golf courses, cabins, ski-hills and restaurants in the park system - were sold off or leased out under Grant Devine's Conservative government.

[SGEU brief](#)

Dental services - A school-based dental program in Saskatchewan was eliminated in 1987. Parents were left with no choice but private dentists, which meant many families did not access dental health services for children.

[Why we oppose privatization - the 80's](#)

Quality declines

Skills training - In B.C., the public training commission was turned over to a private employer-controlled authority resulting in lower quality education. Certificates are granted to students who complete only segments of a trades program, which reduces their employment and mobility options.

[BCGEU Alert](#)

In Saskatchewan, a truck driving program when offered through SIAST was a seven week course. A private trainer has reduced the curriculum and content of the program so that it now takes only five days to learn to drive semi-trailers and transports. Quality of training is clearly compromised, and as a result, public safety is jeopardized.

[SGEU brief](#)

Water and food safety jeopardized

Walkerton - A lack of public inspections, training and safeguards contributed to the E.coli outbreak in Walkerton that caused the deaths of seven people and made another 2,300 seriously ill. Sierra Club research indicates that privatization is a key factor in the contamination of drinking water in Ontario.

[Sierra Club](#)

Listeriosis outbreak - Privatizing the inspection and regulation of the food industry can lead to serious health risks. The listeriosis outbreak at Maple Leaf Foods, which has resulted in the deaths of 20 people, occurred in the wake of a transfer of inspection duties to private industry. The federal government recently cut the budget for public food inspection and allowed the food industry to simply report to food inspectors, instead of having inspectors on the factory and slaughterhouse floors.

[Food Safety compromised](#)

Care is compromised

B.C. health care - Privatized health care initiatives in B.C. have meant higher costs and user fees. When dietary, laundry and cleaning contracts were awarded to multinational companies, health authorities were inundated with complaints about the quality of food, cleanliness and patient care.

[Coalition Fact Sheet](#)