

ONWARD & UPWARD!

DAVE RODNEY, MLA CALGARY-LOUGHEED *

<Woodbine, Woodlands, Canyon Meadows (west),

Shaw-Nee Slopes, Evergreen, Millrise, Bridlewood

*** 238-1212, calgary.lougheed@assembly.ab.ca**

#311 A, 2525 Woodview Dr. SW, T2W 4N4



I sincerely hope that our centennial year has been a fabulous one for you and your loved ones; and I look forward to an even better 2006 for each and every one of you. It looks as though we are set up for exactly that, as statistics from this fall indicate that Alberta has: the lowest unemployment rate in Canada, an 11% growth in housing starts, and 12% rise in manufacturing shipments, a 23% crescendo in the value of merchandise exports, an 18% decrease in business bankruptcies, and a 26% increase in business incorporations.

“GOOD NEWS” INVITATIONS:

Please contact our office if you would like to nominate someone who:

- provides exemplary volunteer services to SENIORS (“2006 Minister’s Seniors Service Award”).
- encourages and supports employees to make HEALTHY CHOICES (“Premier’s Award for Health Workplaces”).

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU REQUIRE:

- assistance with any issue of provincial jurisdiction
- scrolls and/or medallions for loved ones to celebrate milestones and/or achievements

**** ...and I’d be very interested in your feedback re: the \$400 resource rebate cheques (as part of the governments plan to “smartly spend, wisely save, and give back to Albertans”)—and/or on any other issue. Please call or e-mail anytime!**

IMPORTANT UPDATES:

- As Chair of AADAC, I look forward to working with Dr. Colleen Klein, who is co-chairing a new *task force on crystal-meth abuse.*

(What did you think of our new crystal-meth and smoking ads on TV?)

- I was very pleased to launch www.albertaquits.ca in November: a free web-based cessation program developed by AADAC, which is designed to assist those who want

to quit smoking (and find the support they need to stay off tobacco). Feel free to check it out!

- It was an honour for me to formally announce the *new voluntary youth detox and residential programs in Calgary and Edmonton* recently. If you know of anyone experiencing problems with addictions, please contact us immediately! (AADAC does super work: I was very pleased that the organization received two of the Premier's "Awards of Excellence" for 2005.)
- *International Conference on Addictions*
- *National Conference on Addictions*
- As the AB representative on the National Public Health Goals Committee, I submitted a list of recommendations to the Federal Minister. *We'll see what happens...*
- It was a thrill to bring greetings from the province to the annual "*Buddy-walk*" for *Down Syndrome* last month.
- *The new law which makes Alberta roads safer for emergency and construction workers—and doubles fines (!) for speeding past emergency vehicles or tow trucks stopped with their lights flashing—came into effect October 31.*
- *Alberta's one-of-a-kind natural gas rebate program* will continue to shield Albertans from high home heating costs. The rebate program should save the average household approximately \$72.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- *on the legislature and/or government*, please check out www.assembly.ab.ca and/or www.gov.ab.ca (or call 310-0000) for a wealth of information.
- *on dropping off old TV's and computers—free of charge—* please visit www.albertarecycling.ca (or call 888-999-8762).
- If you would like a copy of the *Seniors Programs and Services Information Guide 2005-2006*, please contact us today!

BEST WISHES FOR A VERY HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY:

from our office manager Darlynn, my wife Jennifer, and your friendly neighborhood MLA.

In the meantime, it's "onward & upward!"