

“ONWARD & UPWARD!”

DAVE RODNEY, MLA CALGARY-LOUGHEED *

*<Woodbine, Woodlands, Canyon Meadows (west),
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As we gear up for the 2006 spring session of the Alberta Legislature, I encourage you to contact me with respect to any issue of provincial jurisdiction that you are concerned about: *please let us know what we are doing well—and also what you would like to be changed.* Let's build the future of our province...*together!*

IMPORTANT “GOOD NEWS” NOTICES:

- IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN WHO ARE 8, 11, OR 14 YEARS OLD, you are eligible for a \$100 Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan Grant—each year (authorized by the passing Bill 54 during our last session). *Please contact us at the office at www.advancededucation.gov.ab.ca/aces/ if you have any questions.*
- The interim report on the AB Hip & Knee Replacement Project indicates:

- For your copy of the Seniors Programs and Services Information Guide, please contact us today.
- Revenues from Crown land auctions reached an all-time high in 2005, with the province adding \$2.3 billion to provincial coffers. *This will benefit all Albertans by contributing significant funding for priority programs such as health, education and infrastructure.*
- A stakeholder consultation group that includes representatives from environmental organizations, First Nations, industry, and government is being asked to contribute to a report for consulting on policy principles for Alberta's mineable oil sands area. *The report, which is due on March 31, will help determine how consultation and development for the oil sands area moves forward.*
- The government announced it will be implementing all 10 recommendations of the "Environmental Protection Commission" following the release of its 30-day report. (For details, give us a call!)
- If you would like to nominate someone who has demonstrated leadership in agriculture, farming/rural/commodity organizations/food industry for the "Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame", *please contact us by March 31.*
- If you would like an "Alberta's Promise" Representative to speak at your event, *or if you would like to donate time or resources to children and youth...* please contact us. *partner--please visit www.albertaspromise.org or call 1-800-313-7500.*
- Provincial personal tax credits will rise in 2006, lessening Albertans' tax burden by nearly \$53 million. *(The increase stems from a 2001 government decision to index the tax system to inflation.)*
- The province's basic personal exemption, spousal exemption, and eligible dependent exemption amounts will rise to \$14,799 each. *(That's an increase of \$276 or 1.9 per cent per year over last, and a total increase of 14.7 per cent since indexing began in 1997--the highest exemptions in Canada!)*
- Alberta taxpayers would pay nearly \$7 billion more in provincial tax under Ontario's tax system, and over \$11 billion more in Newfoundland and Labrador's (based on 2005-06 Budget figures)
- The average household in Alberta saved approximately \$170 on their heating bills in January thanks to Alberta's unique natural gas rebate program. Our one-time rebate program provides a measure of stability and protection when consumers' energy assistance most. For January, consumers on the regulated rate system received a natural gas rebate of \$7.00 per principal residence and most will see the rebate...

- for additional information on all sorts of topics, please visit www.assemb
310-0000, and *take a tour of the brand new* www.daverodney.ca