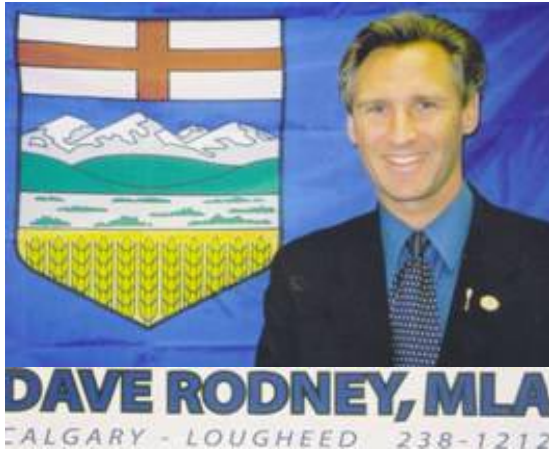


## ***ONWARD & UPWARD!***



**#311A, 2525 Woodview Dr. SW**

Our spring session has been extremely full, and I believe we're off to a great start! Straight out of the gate, I was honored to bring forward the first Government to receive royal assent: Bill 21 "The Tourism Levy" Act (which lowers the rate from 5% to 4% for the consumer, earmarks a 75% increase in marketing for AB's hotels, and saves \$11 million per year!). Introducing the first Private Members Bill—201—"the Smoke-Free Places Act" was an experience I truly appreciated, as we took another step forward in helping Albertans to be as healthy as possible (and I know we're not there yet!). In other news...after speaking with our Transportation and Infrastructure Minister on a number of occasions, it was very gratifying to learn that finally we have a formal announcement of the future southwest ring road.

We are very pleased that later this month, Queen Elizabeth will help us kick off our Centennial Celebrations. Other exciting events\* I would like to draw your attention to include:

- "Celebrating a Century's Lasting Legacy: Seniors' Week 2005" (June 6 – 12)
- AB Students Encouraged to Share their Views of Western Heritage
- New funding for school curriculum recognizes Alberta's Centennial
- Travel AB Holiday Card encourages People to go farther, stay longer
- Special Century Farm & Ranch Award Created for AB's Centennial
- Premier Issues Personal Invitation to visit Alberta in 2005

***\*For information on these and many other events happening across the province (or to register your own activity and receive free centennial memorabilia) please contact me at my office...or visit: [www.albertacentennial.ca](http://www.albertacentennial.ca).***

Since there is so much that is new with what we do, I am listing titles of recent Government information releases, below (rather than offer only minute detail on only a few of our initiatives).

*If you have any questions or concerns on what follows, please contact me!*

- AB Crime Prevention Week: May 8 – 15
- AB's 4<sup>th</sup> Children's Forum "Uniting for Children 2005" (supports parents & service providers)
- AB Girls Parliament
- High-achieving students receive financial boost from the province
- Investment in AB reaches historic level (more than \$100 billion worth of major projects)
- Provinces Welcome \$1 Billion Federal Aid Package for Canadian Farms

- Changes to the Insurance Act designed to better protect consumers
- Amendments give municipalities additional revenue tools
- Utilities Consumer Advocate saves AB's \$85 million on utility bills in 18 months

*As your MLA, I am always seeking your input; and I would like to thank all of you who attended our Town Hall meetings:*

- Thurs. May 5, from 7:30 - 9:00pm in the Spruce Room at Shaw-Nee Slopes Golf Course (820 James McKeivitt Rd SW)  
and/or Thurs. May 12, from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the school gym at Woodbine Elementary (27 Woodfield Way SW).

*If were unable to attend the Town Halls, and if you have any comments or questions, please contact me ASAP!*

Let's continue to plan Alberta's future, together. Onward & upward!

*Dave Rodney, MLA for Calgary-Lougheed, serves:*

**Woodbine, Woodlands, Bridlewood, Evergreen, Shawnee Slopes, Millrise, and Canyon Meadows (west of Elbow).**