



ONWARD & UPWARD!

DAVE RODNEY, MLA CALGARY-LOUGHEED*

Woodbine, Woodlands, Canyon Meadows (S-W),

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Fed/Prov Safe Communities Press Conference ... @ a Community BBQ

FEDERAL & PROVINCIAL UPDATES:

- Held a **Press Conference** with the Federal Minister of Public Security to announce **\$600,000 in**

New Funding Partnerships for Safer Communities

- Met with our **Provincial & Federal Caucus Members** (*a great chance to bridge potential gaps!*)
- Started serving on the new **Privacy of Information Act Committee**
- Began working as the new **Gov't Liason to the Strategic Tourism Marketing Council**

(research on the Calgary Zoo, the Tyrrell Museum, and the Bow River/Fish & Wildlife)

- Opening & Closing the **Banff International Television Festival Awards Show**
- **Continued work on 9 committees...**

AADAC DEVELOPMENTS:

- Many meetings with Officials from the **US (Federal, State, & Regional) & the United Nations**

in New York & Washington DC—as a guest of the CCSA, with whom we are hosting next year's Canadian Conference (I also attended "Alberta at the Smithsonian" Events, while I was there)

- Presenting to the **Public Accounts Committee** (first private member ever!)—a wonderful

opportunity to highlight the great return on invest that Albertans receive for the prevention, information, & treatment programs offered for alcohol, other drug, tobacco, & gambling addictions

- Participating in the **International Conference on Addictions**
- Collaborating with the **Provincial Cancer Board** on Common Initiatives
- Opening the **new Bonnyville Treatment Facility**

- ***Parents—please note:*** the new “PCHaD” legislation (Protection of Children Drugs) is **intended for minors whose addictions are likely to cause harm to themselves or others.** Parents/guardians can apply to the provincial court to have the child placed in a protective safe house for up to 5 days (for detoxification & assessment), with the option for referrals to free, voluntary, individualized programs of up to one year—which respect the needs of the family!

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- Discussing **solutions to all sorts of local problems** with individual constituents—daily!
- Meeting with our **School Boards Stakeholders (at all levels), Community Presidents, Seniors’ Groups, Fish-Creek Officials, & COPS Volunteers**
- Attending many **community events & fundraisers** (inc “Purge the Spurge” at Fish Creek Pk)
- Presenting the **McMahon Stadium Society** with a cheque for new turf (a Canadian-made product, which thousands of amateur athletes will enjoy—at hundreds of events, every year)
- Breaking ground on the new **Stampede expansion**, and appearing in the parade—amongst many other activities!
- Presenting tokens of appreciation to the **Southern Family** for their incredible work at Spruce Meadows, in the Corporate Community, and for the Community at Large
- **Hosting our AGM** with Heather Forsyth, Minister of Children’s Services
- Assisting with many individuals & groups re: **constituency & city community grants**
- Conducting **media interviews** on all sorts of topics

GOOD NEWS:

- **Close to 1,000,000 people saw “Alberta @ the Smithsonian”:** 97% rated it “good to superior”, 86% of those polled now plan to visit Alberta, and a new Alberta-Smithsonian internship program will provide AB students with 50 internships!
- The new **10-year strategy “Building & Educating Tomorrow’s Workforce”** will inform, attract, develop, and retain people in the workforce (with motivation for higher education, since over 65% of the new jobs in the next 5 years will require some form of post-secondary education).
- **“Your Future Starts Here”**, which is designed to help increase high school completion rates), will culminate with a **provincial symposium** involving youth, parents, educators, business leaders, and community organizations—on **Sept 24/25**.

- Alberta recorded a **Surplus for the 12th Consecutive Year** (\$8.7 Billion)—which was primarily committed to **infrastructure requirements** (health, social services, educational, community, centennial projects & services; + highways), **& savings** (\$2.7 Billion was added to the Heritage Fund—now @ \$15 Billion—and to other endowments, including advanced education).
- We continue to pay the **lowest overall provincial taxes in Canada**—& our **economy grew by 4.5%** last year (the highest in the country—again!).
- Over the past year in AB, **employment grew by almost 5%** (2.5 times the national rate, & 25% of Canada's overall employment growth!). We also have the **highest personal disposable income per capita in Canada**.
- **New & Updated Standards for Continuing Care Health & Accommodation Services** based on commitment to Albertans, months of feedback, & recommendations of the MLA Task Force—are now in effect (for a higher quality of life for our “more experienced” citizens!).
- **The Alberta Ombudsman** can now review health authority decisions re: a patient concern or complaint, to ensure that they were administratively fair. *Contact us if you have questions...*

INVITATIONS:

- **Please contact me if you require:**
 - Scrolls to celebrate milestones/achievements
 - Information on any Government Department
 - Grant Applications
 - Assistance with problems you might have with provincial government departments
- **Be an “S-Team” Hero:** visit www.bullyfreealberta.ca or call **888-456-2323**
- **Visit www.weron2u.ca**, which is designed to **protect children & youth from online predators** via education & awareness campaigns (& it complements theatre & poster campaigns).
- Check out www.virtualvisit.learnalberta.ca for an engaging, 3-dimensional online experience with customizable characters & interactive educational activities—the **1st program of its kind!**
- **Drop in to our office, call, fax, or e-mail anytime—**

we're here to help Albertans be as strong, healthy, and compassionate as they can be—together!

- For much more, visit www.assembly.ab.ca or call 310-0000.
- *** PICK OUR NEW PREMIER!—Visit www.daverodney.ca for more details!**



With Wife Jennifer & Cheryl Hickie (Entertainment Tonight Canada) at the Banff TV Awards ... with Jackie Tan, Award Winning Student!