


From: **Action Alberta** info@actionalberta.ca 
Subject: ActionAlberta #124 - GERALD BUTTS IS BACK!
Date: May 26, 2020 at 11:12 PM
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ACTION ALBERTA

HE'S BACK!

DISGRACED

**Trudeau staffer
returns to Ottawa
to aid Trudeau on
environmental
policy**

The Post Millennial May 25, 2020

Butts has been appointed to the Task Force for a Resilient Recovery, which has been described as an "independent group of finance, policy and sustainability leaders." Their ambition is to provide both economic and environmental policy ideas to the Trudeau government as the country begins to lift the lockdown restrictions, according to the



Niagara Independent. This task force will complete their mandate in just eight weeks.

Despite that daunting task, not a single member of this task force has ever had to run a business—all opting instead for taxpayer-funded careers.

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BUTTS IS BACK TO HELP SHAPE THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT'S GREEN POLICIES!

The **understated announcement** of the “**Task Force for a Resilient Recovery**” went largely **undetected** by national media and political pundits. Though the Ottawa grapevine was abuzz with the mention of **Gerald Butts’s resurfacing**, there was no commentary beyond recognizing his membership on the Task Force. The possibilities that this man’s return to counsel the Prime Minister and the **Liberals’ backroom** as they prepare for the **impending election battle** went wholly unconsidered.

Gerald Butts has re-entered the Nation’s Capital as a **member** of the Task Force for a Resilient Recovery, “**a new and independent group of finance, policy and sustainability leaders.**” The Task Force has proclaimed for itself the task of “developing actionable recommendations on how governments can **help get Canadians back to work** while also building a **low-carbon and resilient economy.**” With a time frame of **eight weeks**, it will review and assess a variety of potential environmental “recovery investments” to recommend for **inclusion in the federal government’s economic plans** to kick-start the economy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Remarkably not one member of this Task Force, that is to assess

Canada's economic recovery plans, has run a corporation or industrial business. The membership includes international non-governmental agencies, academics, and leadership from environmental groups. It is being co-chaired by Barbara Zvan of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, Don Forgeron of the Insurance Board of Canada, and Elizabeth Beale, formerly with the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council. The Task Force states it has advisory support by eight business and finance advisors and that it will be supported by two research organizations — Smart Prosperity Institute and the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

Its **primary focus** will be a review of The Resilient Recovery Framework, a document submitted to the Task Force by the **Smart Prosperity Institute** on the very day of its launch. (The framework document, as well as the close relationships between the Task Force and the Institute is reported on in my next column.)

In a written statement, the Task Force declared: "**Canada's investments to recover from COVID-19** will either lock us into a vulnerable future or put us on a resilient path towards net-zero emissions, good jobs and a strong economy. This is an important opportunity for Canadians everywhere. We're determined to help Canada's governments seize it." In an exclusive CBC pre-launch interview, a spokesperson explained that the Task Force's goal is to help seize a "**once-in-a-generation opportunity**" to "build back better" by **directing government stimulus funds to sustainable projects**. Task Force member Bruce Lourie, who is president of the Ivey Foundation at the University of Western Ontario, told CBC News they want to make sure the government does **not take its eye off the ball and invest in the "wrong kinds" of areas for the future**.

Spencer Fernando, an Ottawa political reporter, immediately identified the possible **implications of having Gerald Butts involved**. "The group - **anticipating massive government stimulus spending** - is seeking to direct funding to what they see as parts of the economy key to **building a 'green economy'**" and Fernando explains, "**The problem will be if the group seeks to use the CCP Virus Crisis as a pretext for pushing for the destruction of Canada's oil and gas sector**." In his editorial comment "Butts Pushing New Movement," Fernando concludes, "It remains to be seen whether this new group will be focused on good ideas that can help all Canadians, or on **playing political games that further divides our nation**."

Whether the Task Force recommendations reflect beneficial or divisive suggestions for Canada's future economic recovery, they will **certainly advance green investment programs** and services. And this is where **Gerald Butts will be indispensable** to the Task Force and its success in packaging its green investment solutions. Given Butts' past record with green programs, and his adeptness at **presenting environmental concerns as wedge issues in political campaigns**, Canadians can expect to see much of the Task Force work finding its way into the Liberal campaign platform.

As **Principal Secretary to former Premier Dalton McGuinty**, Butts is acknowledged as the chief architect for many of **Ontario's environmental initiatives and its infamous Green Energy Program**. As a result of **unscrupulous** solar and wind power projects, an **ill-conceived** coal shutdown, and pricey incentives to renewable industries, **Ontario taxpayers are now saddled** with hydro and energy expenses in the hundreds of billions of dollars. Ontario manufacturers are paying the **most expensive rates of electricity in North America**. The Liberal Government's last Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault issued a mea culpa by way of an admission that the Green Energy Act not only led to "sub-optimal outcomes" for consumers, but **increased prices in electricity for families and businesses in Ontario**. On the 2018 election campaign trail, then Premier Kathleen Wynne herself conceded that many Ontarians must "choose between paying the electricity bill and buying food or paying rent." In part, **this is Gerald Butts' green legacy in Ontario**.

Fast forward to his actions in Ottawa as the **PMO confidant** of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Butts is credited with the development and implementation of the federal government's **carbon tax regime**. He is also widely recognized as framing the Liberals' energy and resource development strategy, which has been nothing less than **an orchestrated assault on Canada's resource sectors, driving out Encana, Koch, Statoil, Marathon Oil**, to name a few – and **cancelling mega-energy projects such as Teck Resources' Frontier Project and the Energie Saguenay natural gas project**. Today, the Trudeau Government showcases its **environmental policies as a top priority**. Jocelyn Bamford, President of the Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers and Businesses of Canada, observes that **this environmental focus is the very same priority of former Ontario Premiers Dalton McGuinty and Kathleen**

Wynne. Bamford states: “At both the federal and provincial levels, the **brainchild of the liberal policy** aimed at kick-starting green energy initiatives is former Trudeau principal secretary **Gerald Butts.**”

Indeed, Justin Trudeau’s BFF is back. There is much to Gerald Butts’ resurfacing; his seemingly inconsequential role as a member of an unheard of task force is likely much more of a story for the Government’s green recovery investments and for the Liberals’ election platform.

By: Chris George

The Niagara Independent - May 22, 2020 [Click here](#)

OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION

1. From a Reader (Paulette MacQuarrie): Just to clarify that my criticism of "the captains of industry" in the oil and gas energy sector was directed at the CEOs, directors and board members of energy companies, not the volunteer advocates of the industry. That said, I find it utterly pathetic that the job and responsibility of advocacy is dumped on volunteers. How disgraceful that the oil and gas industry can't (or won't) run a decent public relations campaign with better professionals than the disruptive riffraff dispatched on the hapless Canadian populace by Lead Now, Tides, and the like. How atrocious that it was left to to a lone activist and a disgruntled celebrity socialist to expose the "tar sands" smear campaign and the mendacity, duplicity and treachery of the "green" energy stakeholders. So a person might be forgiven for noticing, and objecting to, how some of those titans of the oil and gas industry have been playing footsie with Notley and Trudeau instead of protecting the goose laying the golden eggs that they (and their "green" adversaries) covet.

2. From a Reader: Thank you to Susan Hearn for her excellent commentary regarding the oil industry future in Action Alberta #121. Her comments regarding the failure of the oil industry to stand up and fight back when attacked by the fanatical progressive left and their hysteria with regard to fossil fuels, is bang on. They have sat in the corner and said a lot of nothing , hoping that Canadians would not take the environmental movement seriously. What they failed to understand was that our youth was being indoctrinated with the progressive-left environmental ideology of the David Suzuki's of the world, by the very institutions that the oil industry funded. Unfortunately it may now be too late to reverse this idiocy, as it has become so ingrained in the minds of

many voting age Canadians. In the last federal election 66% of voters voted against the oil industry, by voting anything but Conservative. Does anybody really think that has changed? It is no longer about political parties, policies, the economy, the debt and deficit or anything else. It is clearly about voting to stop the oil industry in Canada, as the masses sincerely believe that it must be done. That is what they have been taught, while the industry stood by and did nothing in response. Alberta can therefore no longer survive, as part of Canada. We still have what the world wants and needs, we will just have to find a way to provide it without Canada. Oil is most definitely no where near dead!

3. From a Reader: Thank you so much for the In-depth report by The Pipeline publication. It started with G. Butts, best friend to J. Trudeau. And now it has been made clear - all the people who have infiltrated the Trudeau liberal government with their agenda to destroy Canada. Canadians need to know what and who is behind every candidate before they vote. These same types must also be behind the main media outlets who protect the Trudeau message. Thank you for exposing these people. I hope this information spreads far and wide.

4. From a Reader: Devastatingly Disgusting!!!! I honestly believe that as a country, we were done decades ago. This just puts icing on the cake. I once believed in Canada. I even put my life on the line as an infantry combatant should the need ever rise. I now feel like a bad crotch disease saying I am still part of this shit hole. I am absolutely shocked at the difficulty in leaving. Even those that want to really put little effort into making that happen. It's much like the story of frying a frog alive in a frying pan. Put him in cold and slowly turn up the heat. The various levels of uncomfortableness simply become the new norm.....until you can eat him. I see the cutlery coming now.

5. From a Reader: So what The Pipeline is really saying is that no matter what political party is in power, there are more than enough Eco-terrorists embedded in Canada's Deep Swamp civil service, to make sure the crippling of this nation will continue in perpetuity... Does Alberta need more justification for wanting to leave the federation?

ADDITIONAL READING/ VIEWING

In closing, here is additional information on the problems we are facing and the

need for us to take remedial action immediately to right our sinking ship.

1. FACTS TAKE CANADIAN FILMMAKER FROM OIL AND GAS OPPONENT TO ADVOCATE [Click here](#)

2. WOULD ALBERTA JOIN CANADA? [Click here](#)

3. JOE OLIVER: CANADA INTENT ON WORSENING URGENT FISCAL PROBLEM WITH INCREASINGLY LONELY CLIMATE CHANGE BATTLE
[Click here](#)

4. ELIZABETH MAY IS WRONG ABOUT OIL AND GAS [Click here](#)

5. DIANE FRANCIS: ERIN O'TOOLE'S BOLD VISION TO BOLSTER CANADA INTERNATIONALLY [Click here](#)

ACTION ALBERTA - WHO WE ARE

We are a group of deeply concerned, unpaid Alberta resident volunteers. Our work is intended to educate, inform and motivate all Canadians to be visible and vocal regarding the unequal, unfair and discriminatory treatment of Alberta by our Federal Government. Alberta's energy sector is the most important driver of the Canadian economy and its health directly impacts the standard of living of every Canadian. Unfortunately, that is not happening under our current Federal government!

Please **share** this email with your contacts so we can turn this unfair, inequitable, unjustifiable travesty around for the good of all Canadians. If you would like to submit information or articles, please send them to me.

Thank you for ALL of your support and interest!

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