HELLO ALL (The Group of 9,020+ and growing):

CANADA’S ENERGY POLICIES – IRRATIONAL AND IMMORAL!
(by Wim M. Veldman)

Many politicians, especially during an election campaign, abide by a Liberal Minister’s famous “screech-induced” dictum that if you state something over and over, and loud enough, people will believe you.

This is certainly the case with our oil developments and pipelines. Canada’s policies are irrational. Full disclosure - I am biased as I have 50 years experience with pipelines around the world. But it is this very experience that provides the foundation for my views. In April 2019, I was honoured to be invited to Ottawa to testify before the Senate Committees re Bills C-48 (Tanker Ban) and C-69 (elimination of the NEB).

During the energy crisis in the eighties I would have lost it all if not for an understanding bank manager and my wife cleaning houses six days a week. Today I have too many friends with no work and little hope due to Canada’s energy and pipeline development policies which could be further damaged by the stated policies of the NDP and Green parties. Below I list the Liberals’ quotes versus reality.

1. “The core responsibility of the Federal Government is to help get our natural resources to market.” The Tanker Ban Bill C-48 violates this
responsibility. It will prevent potential oil export pipelines such as the $16 billion Indigenous backed Eagle Spirit Line to Kitimat.

2. “The Tanker Ban was in the Liberal’s 2015 election platform and thus has the support of the electorate.” Post election realities frequently result in broken election promises, election reform and budget deficits come to mind.

3. “The Tanker Ban is required to protect the sensitive and unique ecosystems of the northern coast of B.C.” The uniqueness of this coastal zone, compared to other Canadian coasts, is debatable. As I testified in Ottawa in April 2019, the Ban will in fact increase the risk and consequence of an oil spill. A world class ship escort and spill response system for oil tankers, similar to the Valdez system in place since 1989, would be available to minimize the potential for and impact of incidents involving the vastly greater number of single-hulled container and cruise ships.

4. “The Tanker Ban will lead to economic opportunities for middle class Canadians.” My response to this assertion by Transport Minister Garneau was simply, please do not insult the intelligence of the Canadian public by claiming that shutting down the future growth and export of Canada’s oil resources will lead to a positive economic outcome.

5. “Bill C-69, the new Impact Assessment process for pipelines will protect the environment as the previous method involved cutting corners.” I challenge anyone to demonstrate how the NEB’s Decision Reports re: the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) could have been more strict and detailed. The government twice approved the NEB-regulated TMX project and paid $4.5 billion for the existing line to ensure the expansion proceeds. You don’t buy and promote a project that you believed involved cutting corners.

6. “Bill C-69 restores public trust and meaningfully includes Indigenous peoples in the process.” Until the government defines what constitutes “nation-to-nation consultation” – a working group of Ministers commenced this task in 2017 – lawsuits will continue. The heralded most recent round of consultations for TMX, directed by a retired Supreme Court Justice, has generated additional lawsuits.

7. “Good projects can now proceed because the system has the
7. “Good projects can now proceed because the system has the confidence of Canadians.” The NEB, “respected internationally” and “among the most stringent of regulatory regimes” (the government’s Expert Panel, 2017) did not lead to the demise of Northern Gateway or the delays with TMX. It was the scope of the government’s consultation. Bill C-69 is akin to amputating your healthy leg (the NEB) while not treating the infected one (the government’s consultation process with Indigenous groups).

8. “There is no market for the continued expansion of Alberta’s oil resources.” Every credible forecast concludes that, in spite of the evolution and growth of renewable energy sources, the world demand for oil and gas will continue to grow for the next 20-30 years. Considering the stated responsibility of the Federal Government (see Point #1), it is immoral to strand Canada’s fossil fuel resources, the third largest in the world.

9. “For Canada to meet the climate targets of the Paris Accord, there can be no future pipelines and production growth in the oilsands. Even the TMX pipeline must not proceed.” It is now widely recognized that Canada, and in fact the world, will not meet the Paris Accord targets. As stated by Bjorn Lomborg, certainly not a climate change “denier”, it is immoral for the world to expend $1 trillion/year fighting CO2 emissions, with little effect, while a high percentage of the world’s population suffers from lack of clean water and sanitation.

10. “Canada must lead by example.” Yes, let’s continue to be a world leader in environmentally sound development of our oil and gas resources. Reducing our production while less conscientious countries ramp up theirs to meet the ever-increasing world demand may, to some, feel good but is irrational and immoral.

(Wim M. Veldman is an engineering consultant re the design, regulatory applications, construction and operation of pipelines around the world for nearly 50 years)

CANADA'S DEBT CLOCK

To see how fast the Liberals are using Canada's credit card. Click here It Is increasing at OVER $54 MILLION PER DAY OF NEW DEBT for our children and grandchildren to pay in the future!!
OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION

1. From a Reader: You hit the nail on the head with this statement of fact: ".... just imagine what would happen if the oilsands were located in Quebec - there would be pipelines running everywhere AND Quebec would be an independent country. Quebec would NEVER share the benefits of such a resource with the other provinces - NEVER!" Canadians need to really reflect on that statement, and if they agree, then we need to ask ourselves. Why are we in a union with such a province in the first place? It’s like being in an abusive marriage and expecting the abusive partner to somehow change some day even though you can see they are just biding their time until the situation is no longer advantageous for them. Any marriage counselor or any reasonable person would tell you to get out immediately while you still can.

2. From a Reader: Thank you for the time and effort you put into researching and writing this informative and educational newsletter. Your political truths have been consistent throughout my six decades in Western Canada. On the morning of the 22 Oct, my bet is we are going to wake up in Alberta with either a Liberal majority or a Liberal minority government propped up by either the NDP or Greens. There isn’t a thing we can do about it, as that will be decided, once again, in Ontario and Quebec. That government will act on its mandate to further inhibit the oil and gas industry.

In the 1960’s, Pierre Trudeau and René Lévesque had an argument as to how to better Quebec’s place within confederation. René Lévesque wanted Quebec to separate, and Pierre Trudeau wanted to take over the rest of Canada. I think we all know who won that argument. As a retired member of the RCMP, I stood amazed through the 80’s and 90’s witnessing how these “takeover” policies were embedded into each sleeve of the Federal Government. It is now pretty clear to all within the Federal Government that the Eastern influence is predominant throughout, but those that are not involved in the day to day operations are completely unaware. Accepting the predictable results of this forthcoming election is just not in the cards for me, and for many others. At considerable risk to my own financial independence, I fully support the notion of an independent Alberta. We have our work cut out for us in gaining support, building awareness, funding, and consolidating all of this into one cohesive voice, calling for a clear referendum question on independence for the people of Alberta.
3. **From a Reader**: I can’t believe that there are so many ignorant and uneducated citizens in our country. This mindless void has to stop or our move towards separation will happen and Albertans will move forward to financial security and prosperity.

4. **From a Reader**: National Post article this morning.....I couldn’t believe the tripe this Bloc leader was spewing....almost sounds like Trudeau, another French Canadian hypocrite ... must be something in the water down there?? Maybe they are drinking water out of the St. Lawrence downstream of Montreal and Quebec city!!!! God help this country if the Liberals and Bloc team up against the Conservatives because then we are really screwed!!

5. **From a Reader**: Please forward this to any and all of your Eastern Canadian friends. A minority government, which is the most likely outcome in this national election, will be disastrous for both Alberta AND Canada as a whole. 
   
   **Click here**

6. **From a Reader**: Tonight there was a comment from a westerner that said she felt like Quebec has hi-jacked the election. It has always been that way, and now entrenched in the constitution. As Trudeau has stated “Canada belongs to Quebec.” For those who watched the second French debate, it is clear there is no place for Alberta and Saskatchewan in Quebec’s vision for Canada. If Albertans want to control their own destiny, the only way to build our own bright and prosperous future is independence. Vive L’Alberta Libre!

**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. **STEPHEN LEDREW: AFTER FOUR YEARS, HAVEN'T WE HAD ENOUGH?** [Click here]

2. **DANIELLE SMITH: CAMPAIGNING AGAINST ALBERTA HURTS ALL CANADIANS** [Click here]

3. **CANADA SLIPS AGAIN IN LATEST RANKING OF WORLD’S MOST COMPETITIVE ECONOMIES** [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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