ACTION ALBERTA

Albertans are tired of being Canada’s piggy bank

HELLO ALL (The Group of now 10,000+ and growing):

THE DOMINION OF (WEST) CANADA?

“The current mix of federal policies is not about the environment. climate
The current mix of federal policies is not about the environment, climate change, or even oil. It’s about re-asserting the rule of Laurentian Canada – the urbanized portions of Ontario and Quebec – over the West. This objective has been a structural constant of Canadian politics since before Confederation. The difference today is that we can do something about it.”

Consider the following facts. The current equalization system, which transfers money from so-called “have” provinces to “have-not” provinces, directly costs around $20 billion a year. The policy is enshrined in section 32(6) of the Constitution Act (1982). Quebec receives over 60 percent of the total transferred money. Even Ontario receives some because the peculiarities of the allocation formula have deemed it to be a have-not province as well.

From what has been said about Laurentian energy policy, one must be naïve beyond measure to think that Alberta is not being deliberately pillaged.

Ironically, the 1998 Secession Reference, which addressed the non-existent threat of Quebec separatism, provides a way out. The Supreme Court’s famous requirement of a “clear answer to a clear question” would compel the Government of Canada to enter negotiations with Alberta and/or Saskatchewan to amend the constitution, were either province to call a referendum on a constitutional question. In this case, it would entail repealing the constitutionality of transfer payments.

Following a lengthy publicity campaign on the costs of transfer payments to Albertans and Saskatchewanians, the question would be simple: are you in favour of repealing s. 36 (2)? Does anyone seriously doubt that an overwhelming majority of those asked would support such a proposal?

(From an article by Barry Cooper) Click here

SCREWING THE WEST TO PAY THE REST

“Politics, not economics, have driven the development of federal Equalization from the start. Federal political parties have habitually used Equalization to secure their electoral base in Quebec and/or to mute the siren call of the Quebec Separatists with this offer: why leave Canada and give up the generous transfers from the rest of Canada? Of course, what begins as bribery, over time, becomes a form of blackmail, as the recipients learn how to play the game.”
to play the game.

(A book review by Ted Morton) Click here

OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION

1. From a Reader: Kenney seems to think that getting pipelines is the answer, I have to ask if you are going to be happy paying even more to Quebec than we are today? For those of you that think separation is just too hard, what do you think the next couple of years are going to be like? And, maybe four more after? Most of our generation have taken their punishment but given the lack of business investment (and especially direct foreign investment) what sort of opportunities do you think your children and grandchildren will have? Do they know how to mow lawns, it is never to early to start! Some country we are leaving them!

2. From a Reader: Kindly make this public service announcement in your web letters to subscribers. I believe the UCP annual meeting is coming up in November, however, I am not sure of the date and location (no notice has yet been posted on the UCP website). Existing UCP members should make sure their membership is up to date and attend the meeting so Premier Kenney cannot stack the meeting to vote down a motion from the floor to change the UCP charter, allowing for a referendum on independence. If passed, then a motion from the floor can be made to hold a referendum on a declaration of independence in 6 months.

3. From a Reader: Pierre Trudeau destroyed my father’s career with his NEP program and likewise Justin Trudeau has destroyed mine. Time for me to accept it and move on. At 57, I will may end up competing with “new” Canadians for a job in Lowes.....go figure. So now I am simply trying to accept and diminish my anger.

4. From a Reader: I am personally ashamed that there are any more Liberal MPs left in Manitoba, so for that – my apologies. I do know that there is a very strong understanding of the need for a stronger Western voice here in Winnipeg but it needs more urgency. This coming from a Province that enjoys transfer payments. One thing that really had me scratching my head was the audacity of our Maritime ‘countrymen’. I know from personal experience from the days that I lived in Calgary that the first people to jump at a job opportunity in the oil fields were our ‘salty’ pals from the East Coast – particularly
Newfoundland. So why then do they continue to stab the West in the back and vote consistently for a Party that has every intention of ruining the great O&G Industry. To me, just another reason that the West needs to really re-think it’s association the rest of the country. As wonderful as Canada is – it just simply doesn’t work. And that’s before we even touch the Quebec issues that consistently poison the rest of the country. A separatist platform on our ‘national’ stage. What an oxymoron…..

5. From a Reader: Trudeau won the election by winning in Toronto, London and Vancouver. How? The Doug Ford factor? Fear of Conservative cutbacks? Scheer’s failure to offer hope, and to present as a leader of compassion, integrity and dignity? One factor is probably that Trudeau’s Climate Change and anti Canadian oil and gas industry policies suppress the value of the dollar (and Western Canada). Ontario’s manufacturing export economy prospers when the Canadian dollar is low. Central Canadians call a strong dollar a “Petro Dollar”. It’s a bad thing to them. A strong Canadian energy sector raises the value of the dollar. Any policy that suppresses that (such as a declaration to battle Climate Change) will win votes in Ontario. It always will. But we also have to consider that the Conservative Party, like western Canada, is just not as “Progressive” on social issues as large parts of Ontario or Vancouver. To gain ground there, the Conservative Party would have to move further to the left on issues such as climate change action, foreign aide, open borders, and more. Do Albertans want that? Would such a party represent us? If not, can we expect to be free of the Central Canadian Liberal party for any length of time, ever?

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. REX MURPHY: THIS MESS OF AN ELECTION HAS DEFINITELY CHANGED THE CLIMATE IN THE WEST Click here

2. ARROGANCE: NEWLY ELECTED MONTREAL LIBERAL MP IS ALREADY CONDESCENDINGLY THE WEST Click here

3. OPINION: HERE’S HOW ALBERTA CAN MAKE OTTAWA FEEL THE PAIN Click here
4. SOCIALISM, NOT CLIMATE CHANGE, IS THE REAL THREAT

5. TED MORTON: IT'S TIME FOR ALBERTA'S BOSTON TEA PARTY MOMENT

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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If you are an elected representative of any level of Government, you have a fiduciary responsibility and a moral obligation to hear constituent voices about the problems facing Canada and the Canadian energy and equalization/transfer payment crisis.

NOTE: Our website disclaimer applies to all our Action Alberta activities.