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

PREMIER KENNEY MUST ACT - NOW
(By: Mike Lambros
Calgary, Alberta)

I think Albertans are near our own “Chilean” moment, without the fire and bloodshed or saying this respectfully, our “Hong Kong” moment. I say this is with all due respect to Premier Kenney and his team, who I think are doing an adequate job and in some areas even a good job. However, he seems to be backing down on his conditions for a referendum even before confronting Trudeau et al, other than through the media. Any poker player, especially the cunning Gerald Butts (our de facto PM) sees Kenney’s wavering by changing timelines and conditions, as a show of weakness at best and at least not as confident as he was. It shows Kenney doesn’t feel strong in his position and they don’t miss a thing! It’s a bad strategy to back down even before you’re at the table. I can hear Butts and Trudeau laughing all the way from Ottawa.

Although both these issues (equalization and TMX pipeline) are vital to Albertans and actually important to all thinking Canadians, the real issue at hand is equalization on a greater scale as in EQUALITY! This is our “Hong Kong” moment! Full Equality as in a “REWRITE OF THE CONSTITUTION!” Period, full stop!

Several of Action Alberta’s contributors have recently written about the many serious discrepancies in treatment between the West and East as well as the outright favoritism given to Quebec.

Action Alberta’s last electronic newsletter shows the complete lack of interest by easterners as well as most in B.C. regarding things about Alberta, except for the money! Keep giving us the money! As a transplant from Ontario 40 years ago, I too can attest to this.

What I would love to see is a petition signed by a quarter or half a million Albertans demanding that Premier Kenney negotiate EQUALITY for Alberta in Confederation, with “not withstanding” clauses in place for each province’s discretionary use. Failing to secure this, our Premier needs to outline our options going forward, which I see as three:

1. Suck it up, accept being second class and carry on; OR

2. Build a “firewall” and hope we can convince others (provinces and Feds) at
some future date that we, our children and grandchildren might be worthy of being equal, even though up until now paying **$611 Billion and 150 years of confederation has not been quite enough.** But maybe some day! Hang in their Alberta; OR

3. **Conduct a referendum to separate**, after outlining what our great province could look like should we choose separation. **THEN LET THE PEOPLE SPEAK!**

**OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION**

1. **From a Reader:** I would like someone to explain this "equalization" formula. How does Quebec declare a budget SURPLUS for the last number of years, afford subsidized daycare/university/hydro rates, have 3 times more in their QPP per capita than we have in our CPP, continually have politicians pandering to their every whim, ..... yet, somehow receive 60% of all equalization payments (particularly from a province like Alberta where 100,000 people are out of work and scrounging just to live?). Clearly, Quebec has been doing what it does best...... conniving, bribing, blackmailing and manipulating Canada to gain more and more power and wealth until they figure it's time to go their own way and leave us all holding the bag. They have played us all for fools and people out East are too close to see it for what it is. They are also too gutless to do anything about it (as was evident with the results of the election). Wexit is not just about the lack of pipelines, it’s about the West having completely different principles and character than the East.

2. **From a Reader:** Per Conrad Black: “As the Montreal (and Terrebonne) economic analyst DeWolf Shaw has forcefully pointed out, economically Quebec has completely outperformed Canada in the past decade; six straight budget surpluses, substantial debt reduction, and a brilliant Hydro-Quebec worth $500 billion (compared with the shambling, quasi-bankrupt Ontario Hydro). The Quebec Caisse de Dépôts et de Placements has net assets of $326 billion for 8.5 million Quebecers, and the Canada Pension Plan has assets of $404 billion for 29 million non-Quebec Canadians. Quebec unemployment is the lowest in the country and the economic argument in Quebec will favour the separatists in the next Quebec referendum, for the first time. Maurice Duplessis and Daniel Johnson were correct that the only way to achieve autonomy (or independence) for Quebec is to unite the nationalists with the conservatives (and not the socialists as Lévesque and Lucien
Bouchard attempted), and that is what Blanchet and Premier François Legault appear to be doing.”

3. From a Reader: Seems to be a huge disconnect somewhere. We have demonstrations and concerns in the lower mainland over oil tankers. At the same time nearly $6 billion of coal was exported from that same harbour in 2018. Isn’t coal about the most polluting energy source? Are the large vessels full of coal leaving Vancouver any less threat than a few oil tankers? Sounds like considerable hypocrisy to me. While separation of any part of our country is not desirable I would say a full and fair discussion of equalization payments would be an excellent starting point. Alberta should stand firm on that issue. Enough of supporting Quebec for all these years.

4. From a Reader: Alberta kids should sue the Federal Government for causing Grievous Harm to Alberta Energy Patch with Fake and Unsubstantiated Climate Science, some of it derived from competing Foreign Interests. All the while not promoting the reality that Alberta is a World Leader in Environmentally Friendly Fossil Fuel Energy Development. Think our side has more Provable Facts for this case.

5. From a Reader: Look up Arctic Gateway Group to see some of what is being planned for the Port of Churchill. This might be the single biggest bargaining chip the West has over Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. Once oil, gas and other western goods can hit tidewater from the prairie provinces the bond we all felt across the MB-ON border fades and western self sufficiency in all other areas becomes even more real. We stay if the right deal comes along or we get the hell out! With oil and gas no longer land locked in AB & SK, the prairies becomes an economic juggernaut that could steamroll the eastern half of the country! They would be begging to re-join us in whatever we call the new republic we create. And make no mistake, the first president of our new republic would be none other than Mr. Stephen Harper!! If Quebec doesn’t leave of its own volition, we should go. A divorce is long overdue. Call it irreconcilable differences. Au revoir!

6. From a Reader: It’s time to stop talking and complaining and start doing. We need someone to step up to the plate and get this done. The sooner this is done the better off we’ll all be. The other provinces have to get on the bus or get out of the way. Why is Alberta making tons of cuts and raising taxes so we can balance our budget and we keep sending our money down East? The time
is now, let's get this done!!

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

2. AUSTRALIA PM ADVISOR SAYS CLIMATE CHANGE IS 'UN-LED RUSE TO ESTABLISH NEW WORLD ORDER' Click here

3. JACK MINTZ: SORRY MR. TRUDEAU, THERE'S NOTHING 'PROGRESSIVE' ABOUT RECKLESS DEFICITS Click here

4. CLIMATE CHANGE - THE FACTS Click here

5. 'CANADA' BECOMING A DIRTY WORD IN THE OIL PATCH 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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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.

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