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

POLITICALLY BLOCKED ISN'T THE SAME THING AS GEOGRAPHICALLY LANDLOCKED!
LANDLOCKED
(Marco Navarro - December 2, 2019 - The Frontier Centre for Public Policy)

In mocking response to those wishing to separate, some quip that Alberta would remain landlocked the day after it becomes independent. With a more respectful tone, Alberta’s own premier used similar words in his recent “Fair Deal for Alberta” speech.

Those endorsing and those opposing Alberta’s separation from Canada would benefit from a clear statement of the problem to which separation presents as a solution.

Alberta and Saskatchewan are the only landlocked provinces in the country. Being landlocked means that a territory does not border an ocean. Being a landlocked territory is a problem of geography but not an unsolvable problem. One can obtain territorial corridors to access ocean waters. Or one can secure passage through neighboring territory for one’s exportable goods by building highways and railways, airways and waterways, transmission lines and pipelines. These are known solutions to lacking tidal shores.

Alberta’s and Saskatchewan’s geographic problem of being landlocked needs to be distinguished from the political problem of having lawfully exportable goods blocked across territories of sister provinces from reaching tidal waters.

Stated plainly, obstructing Alberta’s and Saskatchewan’s oil from reaching far away markets builds walls against solutions created to solve the geographic problem. Such walls are existential threats.

Thus, the current problem isn’t that Alberta and Saskatchewan are landlocked per se. Many territories in the world, independent states and sub-national states, are landlocked but are very prosperous without obstructing neighbors.

For all the inequity and unfairness in policy that Alberta and Saskatchewan have been subjected to since they were carved out of the Northwest Territories and became provinces in 1905, being landlocked has not been
the principal problem.

The eco-green doom fuelling the blockage is an excuse. The alarmist doom is the means by which Laurentians seek to strangle Alberta’s economy.

While a federal tanker ban shuts out Western oil from British Columbia’s North coast, oil tankers filled with foreign oil enter the Bay of Fundy in the Atlantic and up the Saint Lawrence River, where given flow and tide even a small spillage can spoil thousands of kilometres of unique ecosystems along sensitive shores, parks and natural reserves.

Similarly, there is no Ottawa campaign (nor should there be) to stop the oil flowing out of Newfoundland and Labrador or out of Nova Scotia. No prime minister has ever visited those provinces to announce his/her desire that they keep their oil well beneath the ocean.

**Blocking Western oil is not about the environment.** And neither is it about safety. With all their risks, pipelines remain the safest mode of transport for oil, given the alternatives of trucks and trains. The people of Lac-Mégantic understand this very well.

Drilling a bit deeper, it’s worth stating that blocking our oil goes beyond the faction currently running Ottawa. Ottawa represents the dominant population of the country who have declared war on our principle resources under the ecological banner. That’s not likely going to change with changing administrations.

**The war against Western oil is 100 percent political.**

If you think I am taking too much of an interpretive license in reading the facts when I suggest that Laurentian Canadians mean to subjugate the West, let us be reminded of the sentiments our current prime minister expressed on a radio interview in Quebec before he became prime minister, before he became better-schooled in the political art of concealing what he means. Paraphrasing and translating, the PM said that Canada belongs to Quebeckers, and that the country can only best be run by federal Liberals from Quebec. He went on to say that whatever troubles Canada had at the time, it was because Albertans were running things. Power, therefore, it is clear, needed to be wrestled away from Albertans.
This last point has crucial political implications in finding solutions for Alberta and Saskatchewan. Despite the manifested words of the prime minister on election night that he wants to address Western concerns, Saskatchewan’s search for solutions was met with platitudes and climate slogans when its premier recently visited Ottawa.

So here is the greater problem. One can only negotiate with those whose minds and spirits are open to negotiations.

Dismissing and reducing the blockage of Western oil to a geographic issue is a misapprehension of the problem. Blocking Alberta’s and Saskatchewan’s oil is a political problem that will require political solutions, and political solutions require cooperation.

For Alberta and Saskatchewan, the future is at stake. Without that openness and cooperation from Ottawa, from Quebec and from British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan will have to find their own solutions.

THE VALUE OF ALBERTA - CONFERENCE

Alberta Proud and Canadians for Democracy & Prosperity are sponsoring The Value of Alberta - A Conference on a Canadian New Deal on Saturday January 18, 2020 at the Convention Centre Calgary from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Conrad Black is the keynote speaker!

Alberta is blockaded. Three parties in the House of Commons support a blockade of Alberta until we agree to a phase out of our way of life. Meanwhile, Premier Kenney is calling for a "Fair Deal" for Alberta. Others want something more drastic. What is possible? What should we push for in a "Canadian New Deal"? Come hear prominent Albertans and Canadians discuss what more autonomy for Alberta could look like.

To purchase your tickets GO HERE and scroll down. See you there.

OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION

1. From a Reader: The just finished Premiers’ meeting in Toronto amounted to no more than a fly in, fly out, photo-op. It really accomplished nothing and
Premiere Kenny needs to stop putting lipstick on the pig! Basically, the Premiers agreed to disagree on anything that matters, and they are trying to convince Canadians that they are all supportive of each other. What a bunch of BS! No agreement on the two most important items to Alberta, those being pipelines and the not even mentioned, transfer payment issue. Despite this, Mr. Kenny made a point of thanking all the other Premiers for "having our backs". What? Am I missing something? In what way do they have our backs? They claim that they are all united on getting Canadian natural resources to market, but not in agreement on pipelines, especially B.C. and Quebec, except they do agree on natural gas pipelines that benefit them. The Premiers of B.C. and Quebec blatantly state that they are only in agreement with things that benefit their respective Provinces. For that, Mr. Kenny thanks them? In my opinion, at that point, he should have walked out of the meeting, not thanked them.

2. From a Reader: Tonight I attended the Fair Deal town hall in Edmonton. The panel uttered no words. Zero. It was two hours of audience comments (two minutes each) as the panel took notes. Half of the audience were socialists with prepared statements. Complete waste of time, but great soundbites for the media.

3. From a Reader: I have had the opportunity of living in three different provinces. Ontario (presently), BC and Quebec. I am a senior, a veteran and have certainly paid my share of taxes over the years. In my humble opinion, every fault, degradation and shortfall in this country can be placed squarely on Quebec. Lester Pearson is to blame. When all the fuss/terrorism started in Quebec in the early sixties, he had the assets (military, RCMP) to crush it. He did not, instead calling in the “three wise men” … Trudeau, Marchand and Lalonde to negotiate “what does Quebec want?” The pandering started almost immediately with the first casualty being our national identity in the flag which was deemed "too English". Trudeau #1 (with his communist history ) was elected in 1968. That was the beginning of the end. Interesting to note was his swift emasculation of the armed forces ... already reeling from Liberal “unification”. I cannot fathom why Canadians can’t see the absurdity of the fact that 80% of our population speaks English yet, every facet of our lives are governed by French speakers that make up only 20%. To me, the major issue in Canada is the absolute financial and linguistic stranglehold this French minority has on the country. Everything has been eroded. Can anyone point to anything that is First Class anymore? Quebec should be strongly encouraged to separate … without the Transfer Payments and leave the rest of us in peace.
4. From a Reader: Perhaps it’s time to up the anti in Canada. If the federal government doesn’t think Alberta is serious about leaving the country may be we should be courting President Donald Trump to “make us an offer”. I’m sure they would be interested in buying Alberta along with all its resources and would be more than happy to get our products to market. Trudeau can’t see the benefit to Alberta of separating because he thinks we would be isolating ourselves even more. But he isn’t thinking what Alberta’s association with the United States could mean for putting a road block in Canada’s development. I say “invite President Trump to come on down and make us an offer”. See what that dies to Trudeau’s unity and Quebec.

5. From a Reader: Just days after Justin Trudeau was seen laughing at President Trump behind his back, the Canadian economy tanked:
- 71,000 jobs lost, most since the financial crisis
- 18,000 jobs lost in Alberta alone
- 5.9% unemployment, up .4%
Meanwhile, the US added 266,000 jobs with a 3.5% unemployment rate. Who’s laughing now?

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. CONRAD BLACK: CHASING SEAT ON THE DYSFUNCTIONAL U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL IS A WASTE OF CANADA’S TIME Click here

2. QUEBEC CAISSE TO BUY BRAZIL PIPELINE FOR $8.6 BILLION Click here

3. DIANE FRANCIS: TRUDEAU’S RIDICULOUS, HOLIER-THAN-THOU CLIMATE POLICIES ARE MAKING EMISSIONS MUCH WORSE Click here

4. ALBERTA SHEDS 18,000 JOBS IN NOVEMBER; ENERGY SECTOR TAKES A BEATING Click here

5. TRUDEAU THRONE SPEECH AN ‘INSULT TO PEOPLE OF ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN’ 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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