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# ACTION ALBERTA



**ACTION ALBERTA**

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**HELLO ALL:**

**UCP FAIR DEAL PANEL HEARINGS END!**

A few of our email group including myself attended the final **UCP Fair Deal Town Hall meeting**. We have been following along with information and reports from the meetings since it began. We have strongly encouraged the people who read our distributions to **attend the meetings**, make presentations and make written submissions. It is apparent that all along there has been a **strong voice that Jason Kenney and the UCP are not doing enough to secure a fair deal from Ottawa**. It is apparent that **the separation option is gaining momentum**.

In Bryce Talsma's report from the **first meeting in Edmonton** he said "Based upon applause and responses to comments, there was a split of **25% Socialists, 50% frustrated and scared Albertans** who were unsure of what to do and **25% unapologetic demanding immediate radical action**."

At the **final meeting in Airdrie** on January 27, 2020, we found the **situation to be significantly different**. The official **attendance** from meeting organizers was **440**. This was very close to capacity of the room. There appeared to be **no public employee union presence**. There were **38 speakers** in total. About **15% of the speakers did not want to separate** or spoke of caution in that regard. About **50% of the speakers talked directly about separation**, indicating that it should be an option (or in a few cases an inevitability).

Similar to the **Value of Alberta Conference** in Calgary on January 18, 2020, nearly **every time a speaker mentioned separation there was a round of applause from the audience**. The remaining **35% spoke on the need for action towards more independence**. In total about **85% of the speakers were strongly asking for action**, the majority of which indicated **the UCP should put separation on the table**. Even more indicated that **equalization and/or electoral reform** needed to be addressed in addition to the other Fair Deal ideas.

By comparison to Bryce Talsma's comments it is clear that there has been a **significant change in overall message to the Fair Deal Panel**. I feel that

significant change in overall message to the Fair Deal panel. I feel that there has been **broadening of support for separation as an option. A strong majority of the room want the UCP to implement all of the Fair Deal ideas and expand on it with the separation option, electoral reform and putting an end to equalization.**

**Tex Leugner** from our group was the second speaker to address the panel. He delivered a crisp and articulate address that was given a **strong round of applause**. He concluded his presentation with “I declare to you that **Canada is no longer my country**. From this moment on I will support any move that Alberta makes to become an independent republic to which I will pledge my new allegiance.”

An **accountant from Airdrie** received **one of the largest rounds of applause** of the evening when she spoke about the issues she encounters daily from **representatives with the Canada Revenue Agency and Canada Pension Plan** on behalf of her clients. "All of our programs are bad and we need to do it ourselves" She stated, speaking in favour of many of the ideas set out by the panel. She went on to **share a story of helping a young family with insolvency issues** address Revenue Canada. She was told by an RCA agent from Quebec “**Tell them to sell some of their toys. We know how it is out there**”.

One of the most **concise points** I heard that evening was from **Rob Anderson, a former Wild Rose MLA from Airdrie**. He said “**Albertans must stop asking nicely and take control of our destiny. We must demand a new and equitable deal within the Canadian confederation under an updated constitution; or failing that, we must separate and form a new country with those of our neighbours who wish to join with us.**”

**Discover Airdrie** did the **best job of reporting** and representing the tone and feeling of the evening. [Click here](#)

Of course, the **CBC emphasizes the one and only speaker with an Eastern attitude**. [Click here](#)

From my experience at the meeting, I can say that **Global news completely misrepresented** the tone of the presentations and **ignored the strong separatist feelings in the room**. [Click here](#)

**The panel will continue accepting written submissions** for a short time. If you haven't done a written submission, we strongly encourage you to share your feelings with the panel. **Please send your submission to: [Click here](#)**

**Kelly Williamson**

**Alberta Separation**

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## **OUR READERS' COMMENTS SECTION**

**1. From a Reader:** Sure hoping you are considering a big push on the Fair Deal report. What I mean is that the fastest and best way to get everyone's attention is to opt out of the CPP. Kenney can give immediate notice. The problem with the equalization referendum is it punts the ball down the road.

**2. From a Reader:** Those of us in Alberta who now will vote to separate have not forgotten that we have many like-minded friends in other parts of Canada who are still loyal to the original concept of Canada. Someone in our little opinion/discussion group used the word "re-confederate" a while back and I puzzled over that one for some time. I believe we need to view separation (of Alberta) as a step or tactic in achieving a reconfederated Canada - a new Canada missing a strip of territory along the St. Lawrence lowlands (which won't be missed). One only needs to look at the blue on the 2019 electoral map to see there are many who think like us in southern Ontario outside of the GTA. The great POTUS to the south of us seems to understand the value of maximum pressure in negotiations. I'm not so sure that Kenney does (i.e. taking separation off the table from the get go), but he's an astute politician and perhaps he may still come around. If he doesn't, he will have to go. I wish we had someone more like Moe as Premier of Alberta right now. Kenney seems to be infected by the Ottawa brain virus. I see him as an obstacle, not a natural ally.

The Liberals are not going to change their ways and the Conservatives are mostly likely going to run again using the strategy of not being too far right so they will just come across as wishy washy no matter who the new leader is. Bernier was on to something when he argued that Conservatives need to present a clear conservative option, but I don't think that will happen. So nothing will change unless Alberta forces change.

**3. From a Reader:** AB and SK need to start a grassroots movement to support the cessation of Quebec from Canada. They are a separate and distinct society so let them be such. So let me start " I support an independent Quebec".

**4. From a Reader:** Meeting our Copenhagen targets suddenly looks possible, as most of us can't afford to drive our cars or buy anything but necessities, so manufacturers have closed their doors and emissions are way down. Reminder, the Harper Conservative government signed the Copenhagen Climate Change Agreement. Good ending to the fairy godmother story, "Alas, in Alberta, separatist sentiment has risen dramatically, citizens vote to separate and the oil and gas industry returns."

**5. From a Reader:** I always find it interesting when folks refer to this as ONLY Alberta, or say we are too small in population. If you look at BC population (5,100,000) not counting the lower mainland (2,759,000) and Vancouver Island (870,000) ... their population is 1,471,000. Alberta is 4,067,000, SK is 1,120,000 and Manitoba is 1,369,000. Total 8,027,000. Do you hear people say Scotland cannot separate from Great Britain because it is too small? Scotland's population is 5,424,000. Or how about Ireland...with 4,914,000 people. Are they small to be a country on their own too? These talking heads are trying to find ways separation cannot occur instead of trying to find ways the west CAN separate! Time to stand up, be counted and move into a regional country of like minded, hard working people.

#### **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. JOE OLIVER: ALBERTA HAS BEEN DISRESPECTED FOR TOO LONG AND NEEDS A FAIR DEAL NOW [Click here](#)**

**2. HISTORIAN SLAMS GRETA THUNBERG: "I DON'T SEE HER IN BEIJING OR DELHI" [Click here](#)**

**3. KEYNOTE SPEAKER BLAMES "COLONIAL" CENTRAL CANADA FOR WESTERN ALIENATION [Click here](#)**

**4. DON BRAID: CONSERVATIVE FIELD SHRINKS AS HARPER TALK**

**STARTS [Click here](#)**

**5. CANADA'S "CLIMATE CRISIS" IS ENTIRELY POLITICAL [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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