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Alberta Scan

Issue 1086

week ending 18 January 2019

Election-style...

Premier **Rachel Notley** spoke this week to the Alberta Industrial Heartland 2019 Stakeholder Event, laying out her election 2019 energy industry diversification arguments for voting NDP. She also took time in the January 17 election-style speech to accuse **Jason Kenney** and her UCP opponents of advocating for toll roads on Alberta highways. Excerpts from here speech are below.

I believe the time has come to dramatically accelerate energy diversification in Alberta. And that's what I want to speak with you about today:

About why we need to get more value from our resources...

About how we're going to do that, through our vision for a more diversified, secure and resilient Alberta...And, finally, quite honestly, with an election around the corner...I would be remiss if I didn't also talk to you about why I believe the next Alberta election is a clear choice between our plan to diversify for a stronger future...And my opponent's position, which would bring our diversification work to a screeching halt.

Notley said Alberta must channel the anger in the province into "determined, strategic advocacy."

Advocacy that goes beyond the media cycle, beyond the election cycle...And focuses on the project cycle. That's where the jobs are created.

That's where the investors are looking. And that's exactly where our focus is.

As part of that, we have undertaken a major national public education campaign, aimed at making sure all Canadians know exactly why pipelines matter and why we need Trans Mountain built.

And yes, there are still pockets of protests. But our efforts are working.

Before we started, roughly four in ten Canadians agreed that we need new pipelines. Now, that number is almost seven in ten.

Just yesterday we saw more news, once again confirming that the vast majority of Canadians agree our lack of pipelines is a crisis and we need to get pipelines built.

That matters. We have moved the dial on this.

Even the majority of our neighbours in BC now agree with us.

That's good for this industry and good for making sure Trans Mountain gets built.

So don't let anyone tell you we aren't making progress.

And don't let anyone tell you that a reasonable, thoughtful, well-informed approach doesn't work.

And we're not letting up.

We are also standing together and defending our energy resources from misguided federal policies.

...continued next page

...diversification

Such as Bill C-69, which must not pass as is...And Bill C-48, the so called "Tanker Ban" on Canada's Northwest Coast...

Which is really much more of an "Alberta ban" than a "Tanker Ban".

You all know these issues well.

You're out there speaking out about them alongside us. I thank you for that, and we need you to keep speaking up.

And in return, my commitment to you is that we will not stop fighting for you. Now, it's true that only Ottawa can see this pipeline through to completion...

And it's true only Ottawa can fix those broken pieces of legislation.

But there are things we don't need Ottawa for. Alberta has never been afraid to go it alone...

Grab the bull by the horns...

And get it done ourselves.

We're using our powers to respond decisively to the punishing consequences of Ottawa's failures...with a plan for the short, medium and long term.

As you know, in the short term, we have limited our oil production to bring down the differential...But we know this is very temporary.

In the medium-term, we are working to move more oil by rail, by securing upwards of 7,000 rail cars.

And in the long term, in addition to fighting for pipelines...our long-term strategy is that we have undertaken the most aggressive energy diversification plan since premier **Peter Lougheed**.

I'm very excited about this.

Let me walk you through it.

We have put more than \$3.5 billion dollars in incentives on the table to support investment in the badly needed diversification of our energy sector.

You've already seen some of the exciting results. Today in the Industrial Heartland, Inter Pipeline's Heartland Petrochemical Complex is well underway...being built by thousands of workers.

Many of you likely saw pictures and videos of the 820 tonne splitter moving to the facility in Fort Saskatchewan from where it was built here in Edmonton. It was the heaviest piece of equipment to ever travel on Alberta roads. Now, that splitter is big and the jobs and investment associated with it are, too.

That project came about because we were able to take \$200 million in royalty credits and leverage \$3.5 billion in private investment.

That's a return on investment Albertans can be proud of.

But make no mistake, it's just the beginning. We're going to keep leveraging smart investments like that.

Imagine taking what we've done with Inter Pipeline and multiplying it by more than fifteen times – that's what our Made-In-Alberta plan means.

And thanks to the great work of companies like Inter Pipeline...And the opportunities available in places like the Industrial Heartland...We are seeing tremendous investment interest.

I want to pause and provide you an update:

We are in active conversations with fourteen companies. Nine of which are located in the Industrial Heartland.

We're going to be looking for the best projects from these groups...

And in the coming weeks, I'm looking forward to announcing more of these exciting Made-in-Alberta energy diversification projects. More petrochemicals. More upgrading. And more ways to get value from our feedstocks.

Taken together, it will mean more value for you and for the energy resources we as Albertans all own... tens of thousands of new jobs in the Heartland and across Alberta...and hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars in new revenue to pay for the services Albertans count on.

Notley claimed the opposition in Alberta has no interest in diversifying the energy sector.

The only petrochemical splitters Alberta will see under the opposition

is petrochemical investors splitting for Louisiana.

This work is too important.

Alberta needs it.

And the choice as to whether we continue to diversify or bring it all to a screeching halt...is in every way on the ballot in the next election.

And while we're talking about government helping to create the environment for your businesses and communities to flourish and create jobs...

It's worth noting that another important thing government does is provide the highways and bridges that connect your operations and your communities.

On that note, there is one other item my opponents have put on the table that I feel compelled to talk about.

Especially as we discuss creating the conditions for your success.

I'm talking about Mr. **Kenney's** plan to add user fees to infrastructure projects. He's been clear about this...

As recently as his speech a few weeks ago to the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce.

It didn't get a lot of coverage, but Albertans deserve to know that 'user fees' on infrastructure can mean one thing and one thing only...

Tolls.

Tolls when you ship your equipment from places like Leduc to the Heartland.

Tolls when workers commute.

Tolls on the weekend, when you head to Costco, to soccer, anywhere.

Tolls that will only hurt businesses and families in the Industrial Heartland, not help.

Which is why Mr. Kenney's plan for tolling your bridges and highways is wrong for Alberta.

I will say 'no' every time to tolls.

And I say Mr. **Kenney** needs to come clean about what his plan to toll your roads is going to cost you, your family and your businesses.

The UCP later disputed Notley's characterization of Kenney's remarks, saying he did not propose tolls on existing roads. □

Government Scan...

The following announcements were made this week by the provincial government. The title of the announcement, as written by the government, is in bold. Cabinet

decisions, called Orders in Council, are marked with the abbreviation “OC” and the number of the decision. Copies of the full text of the OCs mentioned below are available online [here](#).

Advanced Education

17 January 2019

Announcing Alberta’s Newest University

As part of the government’s pre-election build up, advanced education minister **Marlin Schmidt** announced the Alberta College of Art + Design will officially become the Alberta University of the Arts (AUArts), the province’s first university dedicated to fine arts and design.

The Alberta government granted university status to the institution last year to more accurately reflect the mandate and high-quality degree programs available.

Details are [here](#).

Alberta Health Services (AHS)

16 January 2019

Volunteers Sought for Health, Provincial Advisory Councils

AHS is looking for new volunteer members to Health Advisory Councils across Alberta, to the Cancer Provincial Advisory Council, and to the Addiction and Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council.

Details are [here](#).

Health

15 January 2019

Alberta’s Top Baby Names for 2018

Premier **Rachel Notley** announced that Olivia and Liam were Alberta’s most

common baby monikers in 2018.

Albertans had 50,104 babies last year – 25,717 boys and 24,387 girls.

Olivia was the most popular name choice for baby girls for the fifth year in a row, with Emma and Charlotte close behind. Liam has reclaimed the top boy’s name in Alberta, taking the No. 1 spot back from Noah. Noah dropped from first to third place in the boys’ names list, while Oliver jumped to the second most popular name spot.

The full list is [here](#).

Premier

14 January 2019

Concrete Progress on Calgary Cancer Centre

Premier **Rachel Notley** toured construction underway at the Calgary Cancer Centre to draw a comparison between the previous conservative government’s inaction on the promised project and her government’s delivery on the project.

The \$1.4-billion cancer research

...continued next page

Recent Consultant Lobbyist Registrations

The following lobbyists recently registered to represent the clients below with Alberta’s lobby [registry](#).

Consultant Lobbyists (in order of registration)

| Registered | Client | Lobby Firm | Lobbyists | Target Departments/Organizations |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 16-Jan-2019 | Longview Communications Inc. | Parkland Fuel Corporation | Hugh McFadyen, Evan Legate, Maeghan Dewar | Alberta Energy, Executive Council, Alberta Economic Development and Trade, Alberta Legislative Assembly, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance, Premier’s Office |
| Program or Policy: Policies related to the transportation of oil feedstock to Parkland’s Burnaby refinery and, in particular pipeline capacity and allocation. Encourage the government of Alberta to introduce policies or take positions that help ensure a secure and economic supply of oil feedstock to the company’s refining asset. | | | | |
| 15-Jan-2019 | Christenson Group of Companies | Sandie Price | Sandra Price | Alberta Health, Alberta Legislative Assembly, Alberta Seniors and Housing, Alberta Health Services |
| Program or Policy: Home Care Administration. Secure site based home care funding for Christenson Communities. | | | | |
| 14-Jan-2019 | Alberta Real Estate Association | New West Public Affairs | Monte Solberg, Sonia Kont, Michael Solberg | Alberta Legislative Assembly |
| Existing Legislation: Alberta Estate Act. Support for the Alberta Real Estate’s role in future consultation around the <i>Alberta Real Estate Act</i> with Legislative Assembly members | | | | |
| 11-Jan-2019 | JUUL Labs | StrategyCorp Inc. | John Matheson, Garry Keller, Brian Teefy | Executive Council, Alberta Health, Alberta Economic Development and Trade, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance, Premier’s Office |
| Program or Policy: Vaping Products. JUUL is looking to better understand the government’s next steps with regards to vaping products. | | | | |

Alberta Scan

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Photocopying

Please do not photocopy this publication. Every photocopy makes it more difficult to gather useful information on your behalf.

Research

Thanks to staff at the Legislature Library for their ongoing help with researching items in this newsletter.

Political Monitor

Word of Mouth Communications provides *Alberta Political Monitor*, a service about ongoing policy developments. Call or email for further information.

Seminars on Alberta Politics

Word of Mouth Communications offers presentations of varying lengths about how the Alberta government decides and how the Cabinet Policy Committee process works. Call or email for further information.

Feedback

If you have suggestions to improve *Alberta Scan*, please contact:

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...government

and treatment centre is expected to open in 2023.

Details are available [here](#).

Transportation

15 January 2018

Safer Construction Zones for Motorists, Workers

Transportation minister **Brian Ma-**

son announced contractors are now required to cover speed reduction signage in a construction zone on provincial roads when no workers are present and if there are no safety concerns.

The government is also limiting the distance of highway lane closures, to ensure signs leading to construction zones are consistent and creating longer transition zones for slowing down.

Details are [here](#). □

Opposition Scan...

The following items represent issues the opposition parties in the Legislature deemed important

enough to warrant a press release and usually a new conference. They result in news only sometimes.

United Conservative Party (UCP)

15 January 2019

United Conservatives Release Results of 2018 Fundraising Efforts

UCP president **Erika Barootes** announced the party raised \$3.9 million between October and December 2018.

She said that brings the total for 2018 to almost \$6 million in party donations.

The party is touting a number of statistics as a measure of its pre-election popularity including:

- ▶ 151,804 members.
- ▶ 61 “open, democratic” nomination votes.
- ▶ more than 300 people who ran as contestants in UCP nominations.
- ▶ more than 58,000 UCP member votes have been cast in nomination races to date.
- ▶ \$3.9 million raised in the fourth quarter of 2018.
- ▶ total fund raising of \$5.7 million raised in calendar year 2018.
- ▶ membership sales of \$1.4 million.
- ▶ 81 total nominations, including non-contested acclamations to date.

Details are [here](#).

Wildrose

14 January 2019

An Agenda to Move Alberta Forward

Former Wildrose Party leader **Brian Jean** continues to comment on the current state of Alberta politics, despite losing the United Conservative Party leadership to **Jason Kenney**.

In a Facebook “opinion piece”, **Jean** attacked the current government and identified the growing anger surrounding Alberta’s participation in Confederation as the major issue facing the province.

Because of the inability of oil and gas producers to get their product to markets, **Jean** said.

“Canada is broken.”

“Our country is not working the way it was intended in 1867,” he said.

“None of our political leaders understand the current anger of Albertans - Albertans want a “mad as hell” Party, that isn’t going to take it anymore,”

Jean wrote. “I am worried that no political party in Alberta is prepared to take up this fight. Some don’t have the stomach for it. Some prefer catering to elites instead of understanding Albertans’ anger. Some won’t risk offending future voters in other parts of Canada. None of them seem willing to push other premiers to deal with the obvious problems facing confederation.”

Jean’s full lament is [here](#). □