



Karen Caig
1st Vice President

Jay Thompson
Local President

Jim Connelly
Financial Secretary

Sisters and Brothers

Nov 24th 2108

This has been a very busy couple of months on the political front

Cannabis has been legalized which has opened up a lot of legal challenges across the country with companies coming out with cannabis policies from zero tolerance to don't do it before work, Currently there is no test to determine how much cannabis in your system constitutes impairment or a time frame on when you last smoked it. This new legalization is going to be a huge boom for lawyers and will set precedent setting legal rulings.

The new NAFTA deal with the US and Mexico has been settled, It has been renamed the USMCA (United States, Mexico, Canada Agreement, It still has to be approved by each countries senates but it is expected to be signed, There are positives and negatives in the agreement, Some of the positive that have come out of the agreement are line 19 the dispute resolution clause that the US wanted any disputes that would arise out of the agreement to be heard and decided in an American court, It has been worked out that a third party arbitrator would look at and decide any disagreements ,

Canada is still able to protect its intellectual property, without this protection the US could come into Canada buy up all the media outlets and discontinue "made in Canada" productions and media programs. The new agreement also helps raise wages in Mexico, and the States, to make it more friendly to open up and build businesses in Canada instead of shipping the manufacturing jobs to Mexico and the US. Some of the negatives of the agreement are that Canada had to give up 4% more of its dairy industry that with the European free trade agreement means that 10% of the Canadian dairy market is now opens to foreign products coming in. They have also raised the duty free for online ordering from \$20.00 to \$150.00, which is raising concerns that it will impact Canadian businesses, the tariffs on Canadian aluminum and steel is still there but it will hopefully be resolved at the G 20 summit in Buenos Aries at the end of this month.

Canada also came out ahead with the "sunset clause " which Trump wanted to put in the right to back out of the agreement every 5 years, now its every 16 years. However it is still in there that all three countries' can revisit it every 6 years to negotiate any changes. The midterm elections in the states has been completed, the democrats have taken over the house but lost the senate, This is good for the U.S and Canada because now trump will have some checks and balances to his rampaging style of leadership However now that they run the house there is no guarantee that the USMC agreement will be ratified so the drama continues

Doug Ford in Ontario since taking power has been very busy slashing everything, He has cancelled the cap and trade system for carbon capture, even though the federal government said they will impose a



Karen Caig
1st Vice President

Jay Thompson
Local President

Jim Connelly
Financial Secretary

carbon tax on any province that does not have there own. Reduced funding for university's, cancelled the sex ed curriculum in schools, stopped the planned increase to the minimum wage, he gutted Toronto city council by half, he's cancelled the Ontario income pilot project, he has cancelled the Pharmacare for all Ontario residents under 25, and of course the buck a beer program that went over so well. Because of all these cuts the Ontario government now has multiple class action lawsuits against it from multiple sources including all the businesses that were benefitting from the Cap and trade system, the Ontario civil liberty's union for the sex ed curriculum, even Elon Musk of Tesla is suing the government, These lawsuits are going to cost the taxpayers of Ontario hundreds of millions of dollars,

In Alberta The UCP has been very busy in there Bashing of the Alberta government over the Carbon tax, But in the UCP, s own policy's they say they need a carbon tax structure, Mr. Kenney has been very busy offering the Auto dealers of Alberta tax breaks, minimum wage decreases, removal of safety standards if he gets into power, He has also been very active in defending candidates, members, staff etc. posting anti Islamic, anti woman, homophobic rants, etc. UCP candidates have been recorded posing with sons of Odin a known Alberta hate group; Mr. Kenney has been slow to remove them from the UCP until he was forced to. Recently John Carpay a lawyer and active member in the UCP compared the pride flag to a swastika and has filed a lawsuit against the Alberta government on the GSA's that have been implemented in schools, if you look at the three main parties in Alberta and the members they have removed due to inappropriate action or postings on social media in the last three years Alberta NDP have removed 1 member from there ranks, The liberals have removed no one and the UCP have removed 12?

I recently returned from Port Elgin and while I was there I sat down with Josh Coles, The director of the membership, mobilization, and political action department for National, and I enquired about what national is planning on doing to help in the next provincial election here in Alberta? I was informed that there is a plan in the works to come and help out with the Notley campaign All the details have not been worked out yet but once more information is available it will be distributed,

The next provincial election is expected to be called in early spring and held possible March or April, this is an extremely important election because if the UCP get in there cuts will be worse than what Ford is doing in Ontario.

Thank you

I move my report



Karen Caig
1st Vice President

Jay Thompson
Local President

Jim Connelly
Financial Secretary
