

The Western Separatist



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"Separate or Surrender"

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Our cover: This month's cover features Stephane Dion at the Calgary Stampede, promoting his "green shift" which would literally shift the green (dollars, that is) from Western Canada to Central Canada.

Separatist Meetings Planned for August

The following meetings are planned for Alberta and Saskatchewan in August:

Friday, **August 1**, 7 pm-9 pm,
Saskatoon, Best Western Harvest Inn, 1715
Idylwyld Drive N

Monday, **August 4**, 7 pm-9 pm
Leduc, Days Inn and Conference Center,
5705-50 Street

Tuesday, **August 5**, 7 pm-9 pm
Calgary, Best Western Village Park Inn,
1804 Crowchild Trail NW

Wednesday, **August 6**, 7 pm-9 pm
Regina, Regina Public Library Sunrise
Branch, 3130 Woodhams Drive

Please help to make these meetings a success by promoting them, attending them, and bringing your friends.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Who is the author and what is the correct wording of the old quote: "If the high tide of the Atlantic Ocean washed up on the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains, I couldn't care less." My mom thinks it was Margaret Sinclair- Trudeau's dad - any truth to that?

H. Paton

Editor's Note: Can any of our readers answer this question?

To the Editor:

I'm from Quebec and I'm a separatist too. I understand your will to the freedom. For many of my fellows, all Canadian provinces should be independent. It's our right to freedom. But I think it's important to keep good relation of neighbour...

I think that our will is the same and much more similar than they appear.

I wish I will travel in your country once upon a time and I do it before your independence. A fellow in the fight for real freedom.

*Éric Barrailler Montréal, Québec (for the new name of my country should be **Laurentie**.)*

PS: I'm really sorry for my bad English writing. It's not the official language in my new country.

Freedom's Voice

"What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as Freedom should not be highly rated."

— Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

"Tyranny seldom announces itself. ... In fact, a tyranny may exist without an individual tyrant. A whole government, even a democratically elected one, may be tyrannical."

— Joseph Sobran (1946-) Columnist

"A man is none the less a slave because he is allowed to choose a new master once in a term of years."

— Lysander Spooner (1808-1887) Political theorist, activist

"To silence criticism is to silence freedom."

— Sidney Hook
(1902-1989) American Marxist philosopher
Source: New York Times Magazine, 30 September 1951

"Perhaps the sentiments contained in the following pages, are not yet sufficiently fashionable to procure them general favor; a long habit of not thinking a thing wrong, gives it a superficial appearance of being right, and raises at first a formidable outcry in defence of custom. But the tumult soon subsides."

— Thomas Paine (1737-1809) January 1776, Source: Common Sense

The Cost of Confederation

Will the punitive taxation measures proposed by such federalists as Stéphane Dion will discourage foreign investment in Western Canada, creating a new mass exodus of capital similar to the one that occurred during the National Energy Program of the 80's?

To get an idea of what losses the West could suffer, note the following excerpts from an article entitled "India set to invest billions in oil sands" by Shaun Polczer of Canwest News Services, July 4th, 2008:

After two years of scouring the oil sands for acquisitions, India plans to pull the trigger on a multi-billion-dollar deal this year, government officials told the World Petroleum Congress yesterday.

"Indeed, we are going to get more actively engaged in the Canadian tar sands in the next six months; we are looking at opportuni-

ties,” said M. S. Srinivasan, India’s Petroleum Secretary.

He said India would prefer to acquire assets over producing companies on a magnitude of at least \$2-billion to \$2.5-billion. “Size does matter. We would like to be going for an economically viable size; too small an acreage may not be a commercially viable proposition,” he said.

India has been looking for an entry into the oil sands for more than two years. In April, 2006, it was reportedly on the verge of signing a deal that would mark its foray into North America....

Calling foreign investment in the oil sands “absolutely crucial,” Mr. Knight said the Alberta government welcomes the interest from abroad, not just from countries such as India. “This is a global business and we know we need global involvement. They [India] are very open and we have had some positive discussions about where they see the potential of doing some work in Alberta.”...

India is the world’s fifth-largest consumer of energy, accounting for almost 4% of global consumption. Like other emerging economies, it has been scouring the globe for oil and gas supplies to fuel growth.

In a speech to the congress — which wrapped up last night — Murli Deora, the Oil Minister, said India needs ever-increasing oil and gas reserves at home and abroad to sustain economic growth of 9% to 10% per year.

“India’s energy needs are growing as income levels and population are both rising,” he said. “Our main focus is to enhance energy security for the country.”

Although its domestic production is expected to jump 30% over the next five years, it still won’t be enough to feed its economic development. *[end of excerpts]*

A Separatist Speaks

by Douglas Christie

There is an emerging and general consensus that the National Energy Policy is back, wrapped up in a green disguise and sold as environmentalism. Rather than make the end user of gasoline, Ontario and Quebec, pay, Stephane Dion proposed to tax the oil companies as the source of it all -- a winning strategy in Quebec and Ontario, no doubt.

The end result will be as Keith Davey so eloquently put it, so long ago: “Screw the West. We’ll take the rest.” The success of an election campaign on this basis will show we were right all along, that there is no hope for justice for Western Canada in Confederation, simply due to the numbers from each province in the House of Commons.

We in the Western Block are therefore responding to the need for a public voice for Western Canada. We need to be on the radio and even television and out in public meetings, advocating the tremendous advantages of an independent West. The economic advantages are what we want to present, and the total failure of the Conservatives to make a difference, because of the nature of the structure of Canada.

So our plan is to test the water with four meetings in the beginning of August in Alberta and Saskatchewan -- one each in Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon and Regina We need your direct involvement in two ways: (1) help pick the location of the four rural meetings, keeping in mind that they should be within a two hour drive of one of the four cities mentioned above, and (2) being there at the meetings nearest you, and bringing your friends.

Your help is essential to our success. Other ways you could help would be to arrange a hall, provide accomodation, or have a yard party or coffee party to promote the meetings. When the four rural meetings and each time and place is fixed, a poster will be sent to every

member in Saskatchewan and Alberta, to help promote the meetings.

If these meetings produce a positive result we will hold more. If not, we will keep the party intact and continue to build for another day.

“Climate change”—Are Stephen Harper’s Conservatives much better?

In January 2007, Rona Ambrose was replaced as Environment Minister by John Baird. Everyone said that this signalled a revolution in Stephen Harper’s “climate change” policy. What went unsaid, however, was that Ambrose represents Edmonton in Parliament, while Baird represents Ottawa. And looked at geographically, it was therefore no surprise that according to David Suzuki, “Within a couple of hours of the announcement of his appointment, he [Baird] telephoned me to say that he was committed to working with environment groups because climate change was a serious problem that, if anything, was being underestimated by scientists.” Indeed, Baird “assured” Dr. Suzuki that he was “not a member of the flat-Earth society.”

In other words, Dr. Suzuki could relax. No longer was some Stone Age Albertan in charge of the environment file.

The new word from Ottawa was that the sky was falling. Mr. Baird actually wrote in the *Ottawa Citizen* on April 25, 2007, that “Winter is disappearing as we know it.” Try telling that to anyone who’s had to live through the last two Winters (or Springs!) in Western Canada. But as we all know—or should know—Western Canada is simply too far away to be observed from Parliament Hill.

Now Mr. Baird may have disappointed Dr. Suzuki, but the new Environment Minister was determined to do more than talk about the so-called “underestimated” problem of climate change. Last year, he announced that Ottawa was taking action. Consistently conflating air

pollution with carbon emissions—one is a poison, while the other is plant food—Mr. Baird suggested that “greenhouse gases” are responsible for “childhood asthma.” Therefore, in order to protect the children, Canada would have to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20% or 150 million tonnes by 2020.

And which provinces would have to sacrifice the most in order that John Baird could congratulate himself on his sophistication? No prizes for guessing Alberta and Saskatchewan, which together produce 40% of Canada’s greenhouse gases.

Needless to say, Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach was not pleased with Mr. Baird’s (and Mr. Harper’s) new National Energy Program. His own plan was for Alberta’s CO₂ emissions to reach a plateau in 2020 before falling 14% by 2050. But according to Don Martin, the national affairs columnist of the *National Post*, Ed was just going to have to lump it.

Mr. Martin is a Calgarian himself, but he knows how Canada works. He wrote in the *Post*, “Back off, Alberta. That’s the official word from high in the federal Environment Ministry as two Conservative government titans square off over the degree and speed with which greenhouse gases must be cut over the next 40 years to avert global warming.” Mr. Martin understands that “nowhere will [Ottawa’s] hit be harder than on Alberta and the frantic expansion of its energy sector,” but, when push comes to shove, Alberta must resign itself to being raped again, just as it was in 1980 by Pierre Trudeau. “A top federal official called me to eliminate any doubt. When hard federal regulations conflict with soft Alberta targets, Ottawa’s numbers rule.”

Liberal, Tory, same old story. Whether it’s Pierre Trudeau or Stephen Harper, Ottawa’s numbers always rule. British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba together hold 92 seats in the House of Commons. That

leaves 216 seats in the rest of Canada. Ontario alone, with 106 seats, has more power than the entire West combined. You can't argue with the numbers. And so long as the West continues to belong to Canada, the arithmetic of the House of Commons will ensure that Ottawa always sells out the West.

Mr. Martin says that "top officials, who spoke candidly but anonymously, insist the last thing federal Conservatives owning all 28 seats in Alberta want to do is jeopardize the most recession-proof economy in the country." You see how concerned they are about the West? Touching, isn't it? But Mr. Harper can and will jeopardize Alberta and the other Western provinces. And his cabinet ministers and MPs here in the West will say, just as Brian Mulroney's cabinet ministers and MPs did, "Stop snivelling. You've never had it so good. Who are you going to vote for, the Liberals?"

Back in Mulroney's day, Western voters abandoned the Tories for a new party, the Reform Party, which was Western born and bred, like its leader. You might remember its first slogan, "The West wants in." This was later replaced by the slogan, "Preston Manning wants to become Prime Minister." Mr. Manning was then faced with the same numbers, the same arithmetic problem that Brian Mulroney faced then and Stephen Harper faces now. So the Reform Party became the Canadian Alliance, which became the newfangled Conservative Party, and Stephen Harper, who first went to Ottawa as bright-eyed and bushy-tailed Mulroneite, became Brian Mulroney's true successor.

It cannot be denied that Stephen Harper's climate change program is not as bad as Stephane Dion's. But both the Liberals and Conservatives see Westerners as cash cows; Mr. Dion would slaughter us for our meat, while Mr. Harper is content merely to steal our milk. Mr. Dion doesn't need Western seats to become Prime Minister, so he doesn't care that we hate him. Stephen Harper, on the other

hand, desperately needs Western seats to remain Prime Minister, so he must pretend that he likes us. Nevertheless, despite this superficial difference, Mr. Dion and Mr. Harper are united on the crucial point: the wealth of the West belongs to the rest of Canada, and whenever the West gets too wealthy for its own good, it is Ottawa's duty to rob the West and then tell us we should be grateful for what Ottawa—whether it be represented by Marc Lalonde or by John Baird—allow us to keep. That's the way it is.

And it will stay this way until we realize that the West will never solve Canada's arithmetic problem. John O'Sullivan, who was an adviser to Margaret Thatcher and a former editor of National Review magazine, is famous for O'Sullivan's Law: "All organizations that are not actually right-wing will over time become left-wing." I propose that we would do well to recognize the truth of what I shall call Christie's Laws. First, any political party that is not actually Western will over time become Eastern. And second, any political party that is not actually separatist will over time become federalist.

My second law explains why the Reform Party was ultimately destined to fail the West, while my first law explains why the Conservative Party is perennially destined to betray the West.

If we in the West are content to be robbed or worse, then we deserve the phoney choice between Mr. Dion and Mr. Harper, between the Tweedledum Party and the Tweedledee Party. But if we in the West are not content to live any longer in economic servitude, if we are determined to demand the respect due to free men and women, then one course of action only is possible. We must support a political party that is both actually Western and actually separatist—the Western Block Party.

~Join the Western Canadian Independence Movement~

Western Canada Concept, Box 101, 255 Menzies Street, Victoria, B.C. Western Canada V8V 2G6; Or by fax: 250-479-3294

Western Block Party, 810 Courtney Street, Victoria, B.C. Western Canada V8W 1C4; Or by fax: 250-479-3294

___ I wish to join/renew my membership in the **Western Canada Concept**, and enclose my membership fee of \$15.00, per person, per year. This includes a free subscription to the Western Separatist Papers. Please make cheques out to WCC.

___ I wish to subscribe to the **Western Separatist**, and enclose \$15.00 per year, made out to WSP Ltd.

___ I wish to join the **Western Block Party** (a federal political party dedicated to promoting Western Canadian Independence) and enclose my membership fee of \$10.00, per person, per year, made out to the Western Block Party.

___ I enclose \$ ___ for ___ **bumper stickers**.

___ I enclose a **donation** of \$ _____ to help promote the idea of Western Independence.

___ Please send **information** about the Western Canadian movement for Independence to the following people (please print clearly):

I want to help as follows: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

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Western Canada Concept, the Movement for Western Independence!
Advocating Western Canadian Independence since 1974

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