

To: Michelle Rempel

Email: Michelle.Rempel@parl.gc.ca

Re: Alberta Jobs Task Force

January 23, 2017

Hello Michelle,

I attended the Alberta jobs workshop you held on Thursday January 12th. Thank you for doing something to stop the bleeding in Alberta, or for at least raising the attention to what is going on. You asked for feedback that you can use to support your message to Ottawa. I'm not usually the person to "put myself out there" but I continue to hear the words "lose the apathy" and feel like I need to have my voice heard. I am an Oil & Gas Data Manager with 35 years' experience, currently working towards a Masters Information Management at Dalhousie University. I have been looking for work myself for 18 months, while some of my peers are close to 3 years unemployed. Jobs are scarce, the competition is fierce, and many roles are posted multiple times as companies are reluctant to bring in new people.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my opinion. I am proud of the industry I work in, proud of what I do, and I'm driven to take a stand and be heard. This is my career and my industry and I don't see any levels of government stepping up to help. This is my feedback for you to carry to Justin Trudeau and the Liberal government in Ottawa.

The Realities	The Impact
Petroleum is an essential component of our current society. Alternative energy is cleaner and the direction we should be heading but will require time and financial investment.	Who will fund the move to alternative energy? The Canadian tax payers cannot bear additional taxes. The skill sets required to develop alternate energy are found within the oil and gas industry.
The oil industry in Alberta is in crisis, we have lost as many as 215,000 skilled jobs.	Negative impact on Canada's GDP, significantly lower taxes to federal and provincial governments, negative

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	<p>provincial transfer payments.</p> <p>Trickle-down effect to other industries.</p>
<p>We are 3 years into this downturn and the prediction is the jobs won't come back and we will never rebound to the same level of activity.</p>	<p>Lower tax base to support to federal and provincial programs.</p> <p>Larger deficits are carried by all levels of government and the impact is felt across Canada.</p>
<p>Albertans are running out of savings, have exhausted EI payments (many paid premiums for decades but didn't qualify to collect), and are draining retirement savings years earlier than anticipated.</p>	<p>Long term social impacts, seniors will have limited ability to support themselves in old age, higher education not possible for our children, negative social impacts will be felt for at least 1 generation.</p>
<p>Educated families are leaving Alberta with no intentions to return.</p>	<p>Knowledge workers and skills not available to resource diversification or innovation.</p>

- Immediately fund a short –term bailout, the Canadian petroleum industry is in crisis. Throughout my career we have seen Alberta tax dollars bail-out the auto industry, airlines and others. Work with industry, Professional Societies and other groups such as Alberta Technology to compile and prioritize a list of initiatives that can be done that will improve technologies, clean up the environment, improve efficiency, or create knowledge transfer to younger generations. Put as many people back to work as possible on short-term projects that will leave us in better shape for the future; financially, environmentally, technically. Position the province and the country to be global leaders in niche markets. See Appendix A for potential projects.
- Fund and implement a Canadian first policy for oil. Implement sur-charges for oil that is imported from other countries. Use this tax base to support alternate energy projects or improved environmental standards across Canada.
- Build the pipelines, get our oil to market. Do not allow the United States to be our only market or we will be dominated and consumed by the Americans.
- Get rid of the carbon tax, at least for now. Modify the business tax to fit the current economic environment, make our province a good place to invest. We all want to protect the environment, but to tax us at a time we are already barely keeping our head above water is creating a negative economic impact that we may not recover from.

- Stop new funding to other countries until this country is in better shape; we have hundreds of thousands of Canadians out of work, veterans without housing, children going hungry, and reserves without clean running water. Invest in Canadians first, if we have extra money educate our children to compete in the global markets. Then help other countries.

Michelle, how can I help you to help us? As the President of the Calgary Geoscience Data Managers society, I would like to invite you to attend and speak briefly at any of our upcoming Learn at Lunch series (February 22, March 22, or April 19th). Additionally, I am prepared to plan and facilitate a luncheon or breakfast workshop with participants that are the leaders of the Oil & Gas Technical Societies, and Oil and Gas Business Leaders from my network. I would be pleased to invite you to attend and participate with us, with the goal of a deliverable from the workshop that provides you a list of tangible projects we can do to get people working. Canadian oil is produced ethically with respect for the environment, safety and the people who work or are impacted by oil and gas production. We desperately need your support and your participation would be integral, we need your help to carry our story to Ottawa, your direction to secure short-term access to public funding to help to end the Alberta job crisis.

My challenge to my peers: Lose the apathy, take a stand and let your voice be heard.

Respectfully,

Sue Carr

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