



*Stampede BBQ in Bankview*

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## **Liberals Again Thumb Nose at Parliament**

**It has become a recurring theme - how little this Liberal government respects the will of Parliament.**

The case in point this time: Bill C-208. This Conservative bill lowers taxes on small business owners and farmers who pass the family business on to a family member. The Liberals opposed the bill, but with support from all of the Opposition Parties, it passed.

The Liberals don't like the bill (or maybe they just don't like legislation that they didn't introduce themselves). Last month the government **tried to actually cancel the implementation of the Bill**. The Bill had passed all of the steps, including Royal Assent, but the Liberals decided to simply not implement it. This is astounding, likely even unprecedented.

The night before a Finance Committee hearing that would take issue with the government's defiance of Parliament, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland said she had reversed her position, and issued a statement acknowledging that the law had come into force. However, she also said she intended to introduce changes to it in November, leaving farmers and small business owners in limbo as to whether the law will remain in effect beyond November.

Apart from the government's disrespect for Parliament, **this incident also highlights the Liberals' ongoing disrespect for small business owners including farmers.** You may recall this Prime Minister calling small business owners tax cheats a few years ago, contending the only reason they owned businesses was to evade their fair tax obligations. This time, Liberals privately contend the bill will allow small business owners to defraud the government. It's not clear how they would do that, but it is apparent **this government continues to believe that small business owners and farmers don't pay enough tax.**



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## **Afghan Interpreters**

The withdrawal of American military forces and NATO partners in Afghanistan has given rise to a sharp increase in Taliban activity in certain provinces. Afghan interpreters and support personnel who bravely assisted our Canadian Armed Forces are receiving death threats. The safety of their families is at risk.

The Liberal government claims to be aware, and sympathetic, to the situation - **but are moving extraordinarily slowly. They don't seem to realize that every day - every hour in fact - puts these people and their families in greater jeopardy.** Do they not have a plan of action? Are they unable to act rapidly when the situation calls for it?

Other countries are taking immediate action to help Afghans who worked with their armed forces and ensure their safety, while Canada is dithering and delaying. **There are even reports that Canadian military personnel are taking matters into their own hands, risking their own lives to help their interpreters and their families find safe refuge.**

This is unacceptable. Conservatives are pressing the government every day to take swift action, and at least set a date on which interpreters and their families can be extracted.

A website has been set up to support the interpreters: [afghaninterpreters.ca](http://afghaninterpreters.ca)

## Erin O'Toole Tackles Equalization



**THE FIRST STEPS TO ENSURING FAIRNESS FOR ALBERTA:**

- ✓ Fix the equalization rebate.
- ✓ End the tanker ban.
- ✓ Fix the Impact Assessment process to ensure pipelines get built.
- ✓ Implement a federal LNG Export Strategy.

CONSERVATIVE

Alberta has paid about \$600 Billion to the rest of Canada since 1967 over and above what we receive back in transfers, and in the last decade, about \$20 Billion a year. I think most Albertans support the general concept of sharing with the rest of the country, and we understand that we don't write a cheque to Ottawa every year - it is because of our relative wealth that we generate more personal and business tax and receive fewer social transfers (EI, pensions etc.). But in the last couple of years we have had some hard times, and yet the system doesn't seem to work both ways.

The Liberals are not supportive of Alberta's economy and in fact, seem quite hostile to our economic aspirations. We understand our economy has to change with changing times, but **we don't need our federal government throwing up roadblocks every step of the way while we work to restore our prosperity.**

During his recent visit to Alberta, Conservative Leader Erin O'Toole promised to put Alberta back on equal footing.

### Specifically on equalization, Mr. O'Toole proposes:

- Remove the per-person payout cap
- Lower the revenue decline threshold so that it is triggered at 3% rather than 5%

- Lower the resource revenue decline threshold so that it is triggered at 40% rather than 50%
- Make those changes retroactive to 2015

**These changes would result in a \$4 billion rebate to the province of Alberta as well as ongoing greater fairness in how we share our good fortune.**

**Erin O'Toole said, "It's a first step to end the mistreatment of Western Canadians,". These commitments address the fiscal unfairness embedded in Canada's equalization framework. He also emphasized that Alberta's Conservative Members of Parliament pushed hard for these commitments to fairness.**

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## **Around Calgary Centre**

Congratulations on a great Stampede Breakfast and Beer Garden, Neo Financial! I met co-founders Andrew and Jeff. Thanks for the hospitality and for creating disruptive innovation in finance here in YYC!



I had the pleasure to attend the [卡城華人耆英會 The Calgary Chinese Elderly Citizens' Association - CCECA](#) opening ceremony for their community garden, accompanied by my colleague from Port Moody-Coquitlam, MP [Nelly Shin](#). This

garden will be a beautiful amenity for all Calgarians, and they allowed me to plant a flower there!



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*Please get in touch if there's anything my office can do for you.*

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