



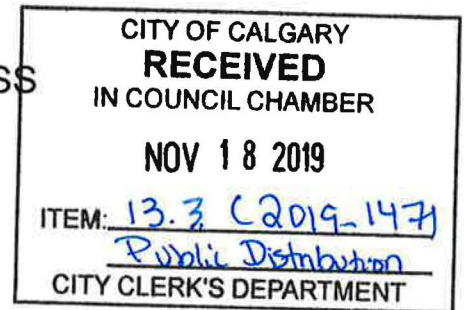
Report Number: TBD

Meeting: Combined Meeting of Council

Meeting Date: 2019 November 18

## PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

### NOTICE OF MOTION



**RE: LOCAL ACTION FOR A FAIR DEAL WITHIN CONFEDERATION**

**Sponsoring Council Member(s):** Peter Demong, Joe Magliocca, Sean Chu, Ward Sutherland, Jeff Davison, and Jeremy Farkas

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#### WHEREAS:

1. Albertans have an unprecedented level of frustration with their place in the federation;
2. The provincial government has recently announced the creation of a panel to secure a fair deal for Alberta and advance Alberta's economic interests, such as the construction of energy pipelines;
3. "The Fair Deal Panel" will examine ways to defend Alberta's interest within Confederation make Alberta more independent of Ottawa;
4. The panel will consult with Albertans on ideas such as establishing a provincial revenue agency, withdrawing from the Canada Pension Plan in favour of a new provincial agency and establishing a formalized provincial constitution.
5. The panel will conduct public consultations between Nov. 16 and Jan. 30, and complete its report to government by March 31;
6. The Nov. 9, 2019 mandate letter from the Premier of Alberta tasks the panel to consult with individuals or organizations who it believe scan offer useful knowledge or experience;
7. In October 2021, as part of the municipal elections, local returning officers may be tasked with executing the province-wide referendum on equalization;
8. Calgary City Council has increasingly taken a leadership position on issues of local, regional, and national importance, such as unanimous resolutions calling for support of Canada's responsible energy industry;
9. Calgary City Council unanimously adopted the "YYC Matters" program to invite Calgarians to review federal election issues, and learn how decisions made in Ottawa impact our quality of life here in Calgary;
10. The outcome of the panel's work may have significant impacts on our local municipality (such as the consideration of the requirement of municipalities and school boards to obtain the approval of the provincial government before they can enter into agreements with the federal government, as is the case in Quebec),
11. There may be other opportunities for the Panel which may further Calgary's interests, such as the common law enshrinement of the rights and status of municipalities within Confederation in a proposed provincial constitution;
12. Calgarians must be active participants in this crucial conversation on confederation's future, and to ensure that future decisions are constructive and well-informed;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1.
  - a. Council requests the Mayor, as well as any Councillors who wish to augment the advocacy of the chief elected official, to write to the Chair of the Panel, extending an offer for the City to participate and assist in their work to achieve a fair deal for Alberta;
2.
  - a. Council aims to provide a formal submission for the panel based on Calgary's perspective and interests, focused on material impacts to the City of Calgary as an organization, in time for the Jan. 30 deadline;
  - b. Council directs administration to conduct a high level analysis on whether there are impacts, benefits, challenges, or unintended consequences to the City of Calgary on the options stated to be before the Fair Deal Panel. This analysis is to focus its attention on the areas with material impact to the City of Calgary corporation:
    - i. Establishing a provincial revenue agency to collect provincial taxes directly by ending the Canada-Alberta Tax Collection Agreement, while joining Quebec in seeking an agreement to collect federal taxes within the province;
    - ii. Creating an Alberta Pension Plan by withdrawing from the Canada Pension Plan;
    - iii. Establishing a provincial police force by ending the Alberta Police Service Agreement within the Government of Canada;
    - iv. Emulating Quebec's practice of playing a larger role in international relations, in part by seeking Alberta representation in treaty negotiation that affect Alberta's interests;
    - v. Emulating Quebec's legal requirement that public bodies, including municipalities and school boards, obtain the approval of the provincial government before they can enter into agreements with the federal government;
    - vi. Using the existing provincial power to appoint the Chief Firearms Office for Alberta;
    - vii. Opting out of federal cost share programs with full compensation, such as the federal government's proposed pharmacare program;
    - viii. Seeking an exchange of tax points for federal cash transfers under Canada Health and Social Transfers;
    - ix. Establishing a formalized provincial constitution.
  - c. Council directs administration to consider what further advocacy options are available in order to advance the City's interests within the conversation of a fair deal for Alberta within the federation.
3. Council directs administration to report to the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee or direct to Council, as required based on the timing requirements to submit a Council approved position by Jan. 30, 2020.



Premier of Alberta

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Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada

November 9, 2019

Honourable Preston Manning PC CC AOE  
Stephen Lougheed  
Oryssia Lennie CM  
Jason Goodstriker  
Donna Kennedy-Glans QC  
Moin Yahya PhD JD  
Drew Barnes MLA  
Miranda Rosin MLA  
Tany Yao MLA

Dear Members of the Fair Deal Panel,

Albertans have an unprecedented level of frustration with their place in the federation.

Five years of economic decline and stagnation have been deepened and prolonged by policies emanating from the federal and some other provincial governments, many of which have sought to landlock Alberta's vast energy resources. This, plus policies that interfere in areas of provincial jurisdiction, are seen by many Albertans as fundamentally unfair, particularly given the province's enormous contribution to the Canadian economy, and to fiscal federalism.

Recent public opinion surveys suggest that as many as one third of Albertans support the concept of separating from the Canadian federation, and that three quarters of Albertans understand or sympathise with this sentiment. Many Albertans who indicate support for federalism are demanding significant reforms that will allow the province to develop its resources, and play a larger role in the federation, commensurate with the size of its economy and contribution to the rest of Canada.

The Fair Deal Panel's mandate is to listen to Albertans and their ideas for Alberta's future. The Panel should focus on ideas that would strengthen our province's economic position, give us a bigger voice within Confederation, or increase provincial power over institutions and funding in areas of provincial jurisdiction. Specifically, the panel should consider whether the following measures would advance the province's interests:

- Establishing a provincial revenue agency to collect provincial taxes directly by ending the Canada-Alberta Tax Collection Agreement, while joining Quebec in seeking an agreement to collect federal taxes within the province
- Creating an Alberta Pension Plan by withdrawing from the Canada Pension Plan

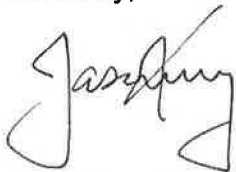
- Establishing a provincial police force by ending the Alberta Police Service Agreement with the Government of Canada
- Emulating Quebec's practice of playing a larger role in international relations, in part by seeking Alberta representation in treaty negotiations that effect Alberta's interests
- Emulating Quebec's legal requirement that public bodies, including municipalities and school boards, obtain the approval of the provincial government before they can enter into agreements with the federal government
- Using the existing provincial power to appoint the Chief Firearms Office for Alberta
- Opting out of federal cost share programs with full compensation, such as the federal government's proposed pharmacare program
- Seeking an exchange of tax points for federal cash transfers under the Canada Health and Social Transfers
- Establishing a formalized provincial constitution

The Panel's consultations and recommendations may extend beyond these concepts, and may include government platform commitments. The Panel should invite submissions and encourage discussion on the broad range of Albertans' views on how best to define and to secure a fair deal for Alberta; and how best to advance the province's vital economic interests, such as the construction of energy pipelines.

The Panel should conduct at least seven open town hall meetings across the province, and contract with a third party or parties to organize more structured citizens' reference panels to be conducted in different regions. All Albertans should be given an opportunity to provide input through online surveys, and other forms of direct feedback, both digital and traditional. The Panel may engage research vendors to conduct empirical qualitative and quantitative public opinion research (e.g. polling and focus groups.) The Panel should coordinate with Members of the Legislative Assembly who may consult their own constituents on Alberta's future. The Panel should consult with individuals or organizations who it believes can offer useful knowledge or experience.

The Panel should seek to conduct its public consultations between November 16 and January 30, 2019, and complete its report to the government by March 31, 2020. The budget for the Panel will be set at \$650,000. It will receive administrative support from Executive Council and other government departments as appropriate.

Sincerely,



Hon Jason Kenney  
Premier of Alberta