



Date: February 21, 2018

**Calgary Board of Education**

1221 – 8 Street S.W.  
Education Centre  
Calgary, AB  
T2R 0L4

**Attention: Chief Superintendent, Deputy Chief, Area Directors**  
[ChiefSuperintendent@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:ChiefSuperintendent@cbe.ab.ca)

Reference: Teacher's Convention – David Suzuki Keynote Speaker

On the CBE website under Concerns & Complaints section, you state  
*"We know that the success of your student is dependent on a strong partnership between families and the CBE. The CBE also recognizes that parents and students occasionally disagree with our decisions. We are committed to hearing and responding to your concerns in a respectful, courteous and timely manner.*

*All concerns and complaints are treated confidentially. " (Italics added)*

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen ("CAPL"), and our members, have a considerable stake in what Calgary students are taught regarding the energy business in Alberta, and across Canada. It dismays us to find that the CBE would even consider Dr. Suzuki worthy of teaching our Alberta students' teachers about Alberta's energy business and the facts relating to same. Even more disconcerting is that even if the choosing of Dr. Suzuki was laudable, the fact that there was no other voice speaking for energy, climate change, and the environment; this is a sad statement about the quality of programming across the CBE. Let's not forget the expensive price tag that comes with hiring Dr. David Suzuki - \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00, according to his website. We have heard countless times that the CBE does not have enough funding to cover all of the required teachers, and yet this large price tag was covered by our tax dollars.

Rather than speaking to Mr. Suzuki's shortcomings, it beguiles the CAPL, and therefore speaks to the CBE's shortcomings, why the CBE is again the topic of note in homes across Alberta as it fails to recognize that Alberta families' futures in energy are put at-risk by the failure of the CBE to even consider it in its entirety in its curriculum and certainly at its annual Teacher's Convention. Since the funding of Alberta's schools is met by the provincial government who receives its funding from a variety of sources including and predominantly energy, the lack of teaching in this regard is fundamentally flawed, isn't it? Certainly the students' dreams of jobs in Alberta should include an education about the providers of such to the Alberta government coffers? In fact, CAPL would say the CBE is failing to provide the simple necessities of education to all such students and to their teachers. Why is that?

The responsibility of our schools is to educate our children, not brainwash them. It is necessary for teachers to be encouraged to offer information (unbiased) to students and allow them to make up their own minds. Alberta has extremely strict environmental regulations, especially relating to oil and gas. Did



any of the teachers at the convention ask Dr. Suzuki about the environmental issues in BC? There is raw sewage being pumped into the ocean from Vancouver Island and apparently that is fine, but oil and gas is apparently not.

Alberta's Indigenous peoples support pipelines. The City of Vancouver receives 80% of its fossil fuel needs through the Kinder Morgan pipeline transporting Alberta's fossil fuels. Canada has the best and safest regulations for fossil fuel in the world. The concentration of Alberta scientists rivals any other major city in the world and what industry do they work in? Fossil fuels. Just some fun facts that should be echoed throughout Alberta schoolrooms.

CAPL promotes facts, not propaganda; substance over emotional fervor; and Alberta jobs for the future over protest line-ups for pay.

For us at CAPL we treasure the Alberta students' future as they add to the tremendous legacy of this province's contribution to Alberta families and Canadian's standard of living. We see a huge gap between that belief and that of the CBE's view of students and their contributions. The Calgary Board of Education and the Alberta teachers have long had a one-sided approach to climate change, oil and gas, and the environment. It is time for the educational system to have a more balanced approach to the environment and climate change. Fact – climate change has happened for millions of years. Fiction – human beings cause climate change. I am truly disappointed in the Calgary Board of Education and the one-sided approach that has been taken relating to the environment and climate change. Our education system is broken when teachers refuse to look at facts and truth. It is time for the educational system to have a more balanced approach to the environment, the oil and gas industry, and climate change.

How can this change? Ask our members for educational contributions through sharing their livelihood experience; ask our scientists in our member companies about the latest in technology making Canada even better at environmentally and sustainable development in energy; and ask the parents of our Alberta students. They are talking to us.

*The Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen is a cross-Canadian non-profit Association with over 1600 members with objectives to:*

- ② promote education and training in petroleum land management, including a structured mentorship program, student scholarship program and support of educational institution curriculums, and student body organizations;*
- ② engage with and provide input to the public and governmental agencies through its Board of Directors;*
- ② encourage fellowship and cooperation among its members through association-sponsored activities; and*



☐ *establish the highest professional and ethical standards through education and professional designations (P. Land, PSL, CML and CSL.)*

As to the confidential treatment of our letter, we will waive that in view of the transparency this subject requires.

Comments can be sent to [president@landman.ca](mailto:president@landman.ca) or at the CAPL office at (403) 237-6635. Thank you kindly for the opportunity to present this opinion on these matters.

Sincerely,

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CAPL Member**

cc Board of Trustees

Wards 1&2 – Trina Hurdman - [tdhurdman@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:tdhurdman@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 3&4 – Althea Adams - [aladams@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:aladams@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 5&10 – Marilyn Dennis - [madennis@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:madennis@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 6&7 – Lisa Davis - [lidavis@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:lidavis@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 8&9 – Richard Hehr - [rjhehr@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:rjhehr@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 11&13 – Julie Hrdlicka - [jrhrdlicka@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:jrhrdlicka@cbe.ab.ca)

Wards 12&14 – Mike Bradshaw - [mibradshaw@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:mibradshaw@cbe.ab.ca)

Area Offices

[Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area2@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area2@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area3@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area3@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area4@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area4@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area5@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area5@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area6@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area6@cbe.ab.ca)

[Area7@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area7@cbe.ab.ca)