



February 22, 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

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. It would be preferential if the CBE would consider also giving audience to a speaker who can speak intellectually on energy, and energy regulations, or one who can speak to the broader discussion of the environment and climate change. It concerns us that Suzuki is too single noted and parochial. Dr. Suzuki is known for being extreme relating to his viewpoints: <https://geneticliteracyproject.org/glp-facts/david-suzuki-canadas-science-guy-turned-eccentric-anti-gmo-chemical-scaremonger/>

As a parent with children attending schools within the CBE, and as a taxpayer, it is disconcerting to learn the cost paid for David Suzuki's 1.5 hour keynote speech at \$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.

If CBE does not already, we should be fostering a rounded, full circle discussion. CAPL would greatly appreciate assurances that the necessity and value of hydrocarbons is included in the curriculum. Not simply the perception of oil is causing global warming. 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 inclusion of oil and gas facts is fundamentally flawed, isn't it? We worry that students may miss out on careers in the energy sector, technology section and even a career in developing reasonable and sound public policy, if this information continues to be missing from the curriculum.



The responsibility of our schools is to educate our children.. For students to form an opinion, it is necessary that they understand context and big picture developments; for example, phones, cars, plastic all come from fossil fuels. Alberta has extremely strict environmental regulations, especially relating to oil and gas. It is important that this be included in the discussion with students and teachers.

We would like to reiterate that Indigenous people support the oil and gas sector. The City of Vancouver receives 80% of its fossil fuel needs through the Kinder Morgan pipeline transporting Alberta's fossil fuels and the majority of indigenous peoples along the pipeline support it. Canada has the best and safest regulations for fossil fuels 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. Information such as this should be echoed throughout Alberta schoolrooms.

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 to provide a holistic approach to climate change, oil and gas, and the environment.

How can this change? How can we help? 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*
- ② *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 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

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