



DAVE RODNEY, MLA Calgary Lougheed: “Onward & Upward”!

Woodbine, Woodlands, Canyon Meadows (S-W), Shaw-Nee Slopes, Evergreen, Millrise, Bridlewood

#311A, 2525 Woodview Drive SW, T2W 4N4. 238-1212, calgary.lougheed@assembly.ab.ca



MLA Dave Rodney with students @ “Calgary Reads” & citizens @ the Calgary-Lougheed AGM ☺

*** GOOD NEWS: Our schools are coming to a neighborhood near you—soon!**

Signs are up at the designated spots for our new K-6 Public School in Bridlewood, our new K-4 School in Evergreen, & our new K-6 Catholic school in Evergreen. The schools’ design development is almost complete, targeted design milestone dates are being met, & boards are working closely with design teams to ensure schools will reflect the individual districts’ programming needs & requirements. All applications for required permits have been submitted to the municipality, but...the permitting process in the City of Calgary has been somewhat slow at obtaining the development & construction permits. There have been multiple attempts to work through the permitting issues with the City of Calgary & particularly the Water Resources group that are integral to having Storm Water Management reports & Development Site Servicing Plan submissions approved. Despite these delays, the contractor has reported recent progress in working with the city through the permitting process, & the contractor is moving forward with site preparation work in anticipation of the imminent issuance of the permits. Despite permitting issues in Calgary, the contractor reports that all schools are proceeding—on schedule!

*** AB expands health coverage to midwifery: new mothers have more choice, improved care**

Effective April 1, 2009, expectant mothers will have access to innovative, publicly-funded midwifery services in hospitals, community birthing centers, & homes.

*** Interest now charged on late Maintenance Enforcement payments**

A 4.25 % interest rate will now be charged for failure to comply. Those who are unable to pay maintenance debts in full may contact the program to make alternative payment arrangements. The program manages 50,000 files/mo & serves 100,000 clients & more than 65,000 children. (403-310-0000 or www.albertamep.gov.ab.ca)

*** Calgary homeless to benefit from affordable housing money**

the Calgary Mustard Seed Street Ministry's housing initiative received \$21.4 million in provincial funding, expected to help create 112 additional housing units for low to moderate income residents, who have experienced homelessness. The new haven for the city's most vulnerable citizens will be located at 105 10th Avenue SE, & will consist of bachelor & one-bedroom units. The facility will also provide support services designed to resolve the underlying causes of homelessness & help individuals regain independence, including mental health & addictions counselling & employment & life-skills training. In addition to provincial funding for the project, the Community & Seed Equity fund will provide \$1.9 million, Service Canada will provide \$1 million, & the balance will come from the Mustard Seed Street Ministry's Capital Campaign.

*** Tough new legislation targets properties used for illegal activities**

Albertans now have a new tool to combat illegal activities associated with gangs, drugs & prostitution in their neighbourhoods: the *Safer Communities & Neighbourhoods (SCAN) Act*—which creates a new sheriffs' unit to investigate public complaints about properties used for illegal activities; & if necessary, close those properties for up to 90 days. Concerned tenants or residents can report a problem property by phoning 866-960-SCAN (1-866-960-7226) or visiting www.scan.alberta.ca

*** Online entrepreneurial tool reaches Calgary**

Entrepreneurs looking to open & operate a business in Calgary have a new tool to cut paperwork & reduce the red tape. BizPaL, an online business licence & permit tool, is an innovative service that provides entrepreneurs with simplified access to the information on permits & licences they need to get started. The BizPaL service in Calgary was developed in partnership by the City of Calgary, the Government of Alberta, & the Government of Canada. Area business owners & entrepreneurs can access the service by visiting www.calgary.ca/bizpal or www.bizpal.alberta.ca. For more information & access to the websites of participating partners, visit bizpal.ca

*** AB Fast Facts:**

- * \$10 change in oil prices has \$2 billion impact on revenue
- * \$1 impact in natural gas prices has \$1.7 billion impact
- * 1 cent change in Canada/US exchange rates has \$300m impact

*** For the "LATEST & GREATEST" on CALGARY-LOUGHEED issues:**

Since this article must be submitted a month prior to publishing, please access the most timely & in-depth information directly (call, visit, fax, e-mail, or drop by!), or visit: www.daverodney.ca

*
