

Friends,

Some of you may be aware of the conversations that have been happening both within our party and online about how we interact with each other. Our party is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment for volunteers, for employees, and for all Albertans. But it's clear that in some cases we have fallen short of that commitment.

As leader, I take this very seriously. It is critically important to me that all of our members feel included and respected. Many of you have asked what we're going to do to make this right.

Work to address the concerns raised has been ongoing for several months in two key areas. An update to our anti-harassment policy, guided by an independent third party, has been underway since the fall of 2021 and will be completed and released at our Fall Convention.

As well, in March, the party executive received concerns in writing about the relationship between some local constituency associations and the party office. I'm grateful to all the volunteers who have taken part in the conversations that followed throughout the spring, which are helping us put together a package of recommendations that will be discussed with members in the weeks ahead.

Volunteers need to feel included and respected. I hear the concerns raised by members and I take responsibility for the work we need to do to address them.

The steps we are taking will be shared and discussed further this weekend. These conversations can be uncomfortable, but they are essential. I am confident they will make our party stronger.

Let me be very clear: there is no party without volunteers. I am so grateful to all of you for your contributions to our shared goal of electing a positive and progressive government in the next election.

Sincerely,

Rachel Notley
Leader, Alberta's NDP