



**Todd Loewen, MLA**  
Central Peace-Notley

May 13, 2021

Honourable Jason Kenney  
Premier of Alberta  
307 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Kenney:

It is with a heavy heart that I must inform you of my decision to step down as UCP Caucus Chair. I have copied all members of caucus to inform them as well. I no longer believe that caucus can function properly; meetings have been cancelled without members' consent, significant decisions of government have been made without notice to members, and our input as elected members is rarely considered. Additionally, I feel it is best to resign this position to be able to speak freely.

We have faced persistent problems. The government's response to a hostile federal government has been perceived as weak and ineffective. Negotiations with physicians were not handled well. The government's action on the eastern slopes did not align with the expectations and values of Albertans. Albertans have lost trust in the leadership of our government and are no longer willing to extend us any benefit of the doubt on most issues. This makes it difficult for members to enact our policy agenda while effectively representing the concerns and interests of our constituents.

The caucus dysfunction we are presently experiencing is a direct result of your leadership. Messaging from your government has been contradictory, confusing, and needlessly inflammatory. Alberta now faces a troubling economic crisis with historically high unemployment, dying small businesses, and staggering levels of debt. The people of Alberta have lost trust in this government because you have not brought needed balance and reason to the discussion. Albertans and our UCP party members deserve better.


Albertans perceive our government as out-of-touch and arrogant, and they expect our caucus to bring their issues of concern to the government. Many of us have tried to do so repeatedly, only to be ignored and dismissed. When the Premier chooses not listen to caucus, is it any wonder why the people choose to stop listening to the government? Our supporters and those I represent can no longer tolerate this. These folks have not abandoned the principles and values of the UCP, but they have abandoned you specifically.

Personally, I have helped build the conservative movement in this province for 13 years and have served faithfully as a public servant. I still uphold the principles and values under which I was elected.

I believe I still represent the will of the party's grassroots, and wish to make it clear that I am not leaving the party. My constituents overwhelmingly believe in a strong, united party and I must represent that belief.

Along with so many Albertans, our understanding was that we in the UCP had united around our shared principles, integrity, and common-sense approaches to governing—in short, an Alberta “strong and free.” We did not unite around blind loyalty to one man. And, while you promoted unity, it is clear that unity is falling apart. I know that many Albertans, including myself, no longer have confidence in your leadership. I thank you for your service, but I am asking that you resign so that we can begin to put the province back together again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Todd Loewen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Todd" and last name "Loewen" clearly distinguishable.

Todd Loewen, MLA

cc: UCP caucus members