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JASON KENNEY
MLA CALGARY-LOUGHEED
Statement by Hon. Jason Kenney
November 29, 2022

I have written to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly to inform him of my resignation as Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Calgary Lougheed, effective immediately.

I would like to thank the wonderful people of Calgary Lougheed for the privilege of representing them over the past five years.

I am proud to have led a government that delivered on 95% of its election commitments to Albertans. However, a different government is in place, and the next election will occur in a few months. So after a great deal of reflection and consultation, I have concluded that now is the best time for me to step aside as MLA.

This decision brings to an end over twenty-five years of elected service to Albertans and Canadians. I would like to thank especially the people of South Calgary for their support over nine elections to Parliament and the Legislature, beginning in 1997.

Thank-you as well to the countless volunteers, staff members, and public servants who have supported me throughout the past two and a half decades of public service.

In the future I hope to continue contributing to our democratic life by sharing some of what I have learned on a range of issues, including immigration, national security, indigenous economic development, the state of the federation, economic growth, energy, and much more.

But for now, I close with this reflection. Whatever our flaws or imperfections, Canada – and I believe Alberta – are in many ways the envy of the world. This is not an accident of history.

We are the inheritors of great institutions built around abiding principles which were generated by a particular historical context. Our Westminster parliamentary democracy, part of our constitutional monarchy, is the guardian of a unique tradition of ordered liberty and the rule of law, all of which is centred on a belief in the inviolable dignity of the human person and an obligation to promote the common good. How these principles are applied to any particular issue is a matter for prudential judgement. But I am concerned that our democratic life is veering away from ordinary prudential debate towards a polarization that undermines our bedrock institutions and principles.