



CHAMBERLINK



Federal government out of touch with rumoured truck and SUV tax

By Warren Steinley
MP Regina-Lewvan

The following editorial column is from Warren Steinley, a member of the Conservative Party of Canada who is the Member of Parliament for Regina-Lewvan

With revelations of an incoming “truck and SUV tax” making headlines recently, Justin Trudeau and his Environment Minister are once again undermining western industry.

The truck and SUV tax has made its way into the public consciousness as a recommendation by Canada’s Net-Zero Advisory Body. As opposition to such a tax grew, Liberal Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault felt it necessary to speak to it, disputing any plans to implement this tax and decreeing anyone saying otherwise as “fear-mongering.”

Environment Minister Guilbeault claims that there was no “kicking of the tires,” on the political viability of such a tax which would be unduly punitive against a certain flat, cold, and currently very snowy area of this country that the New Democratic Party (NDP) and Liberals have had minimal electoral success in over the last several years. But, with all the Liberal double speak we have born witness to, forgive us for not taking the Minister at his word on whether this policy may be on the horizon or not.

Citing the Net-Zero Advisory Body recommendation to further tax heavy emitting vehicles such as trucks, the Liberals have claimed that it is just that – a recommendation, and one by an “independent body.” It is worth noting then that the body was convened by the radical Federal Minister of the Environment in 2021.

The so-called “independent” body was brought together to review and recommend policy which will further the Liberal government’s goals of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. It takes about 10 minutes of reviewing the makeup of the panel to gain some insights into which direction this panel would typically lean politically. A co-chair of the panel “has been a senior manager at Environment and Climate Change Canada and Natural Resources Canada,” as just one example . . .

Whether the public backlash was enough to force the Liberals to shelf the policy for the time being, or if there was truly no intention to implement the tax to begin with, it is reasonable to be skeptical of this government which has a long track record of running roughshod over certain geographical regions of this country and their key industries. Ironically enough, many of the more recent punitive environmental policies that have hurt

western industry also originated from Net-Zero Advisory Body recommendations.

And I am sure everyone reading this remembers this same Liberal Government's trial balloon of small businesses tax changes and calling small businesses "TAX CHEATS" a few years ago, and the country wide backlash from Chamber of Commerce organizations and small businesses advocacy groups to beat back those punitive changes.

Those who live and work in and around Regina know that after seven years of Liberal governments undermining and hamstringing our industries and looking down their nose at our way of life, there is nothing "off limits."

Taxing the purchase of a truck or SUV is simply the latest in an extensive line of Trudeau policy measures that completely undermines the Saskatchewan economy and the people that live here. Conservatives across the country will oppose this unfair and unnecessary tax to ensure that Canadians are not punished for simply selecting a vehicle they need to go to work, take their kids to hockey, or piano lessons in the middle of a Saskatchewan winter.

Conservatives will always be on Saskatchewan's side.

UPCOMING REGINA CHAMBER EVENTS

WED., APRIL 27

40th Annual "Take A Break" Luncheon

An opportunity to recognize your support staff during Administrative Professionals Week.

Delta Regina

11:30 a.m. -- Buffet luncheon

Entertainment: Norma McKnight,
ventriloquist/comedian extraordinaire.

Signature Sponsor: SaskTel Business Solutions



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THURS., MAY 26

2022 Speed Networking

A quick way to expand your professional contacts!

The Williston Harbour Landing

5 p.m. -- 7 p.m.



MON., JUNE 20

Networking On The Green

The Regina & District Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament

Presented by IG Wealth Management

At The Wascana Country Club

1 p.m. Shotgun Start

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For more information or to register for any of these outstanding Chamber events click [HERE](#)

"We acknowledge, with respect and truth, that we work and support the business community in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional lands of the nêhiyawak (Cree), Anihšīnāpēk (Saulteaux), Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation."

Saskatchewan expands Covid-19 booster eligibility to 50+

Saskatchewan has expanded the eligibility for fourth doses (second booster) of COVID-19 vaccinations to all residents aged 50 and older effective immediately. The fourth dose is recommended four months or longer after having received the third dose.

Previously, the fourth dose was limited to individuals over 70 or those 50 years and older living in First Nations and Métis communities or in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District.

This is in addition to all residents of long-term and personal care homes and those with designated health conditions who have been eligible for fourth doses since February. Immunity is shown to wane over time and the provision of booster doses is demonstrated to provide significantly increased protection against serious illness, hospitalization and death.

COVID-19 vaccination appointments are available through the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Indigenous Services Canada, the Northern Inter-tribal Health Authority and at participating pharmacies throughout the province.

To book a COVID-19 immunization, visit [Saskatchewan.ca/covid-19](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid-19) or by telephone at 1-833-SaskVax (727-5829).

All Saskatchewan residents age five and older are eligible to be fully vaccinated and residents age 12 and older are eligible for a third dose (first booster) four months following their second dose. For more information on third and fourth dose eligibility, see [Saskatchewan.ca/covid-19](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid-19).



Levene Speaker Series

What can SK's role be in Canada's global food economy

Dr. Sylvain Charlebois

Professor and Director,
Agri-Food Analytics Lab, Dalhousie University

Tuesday, May 17 • 12:00 noon • remote via zoom

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