



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Rachel Notley, MLA
Edmonton-Strathcona Constituency

May 2, 2019
Philip Bryden
Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Solicitor General
Office of the Deputy Minister, Justice and Solicitor General and Deputy Attorney General
2nd fl Bowker Building
9833 - 109 Street
Edmonton AB, T5K 2E8

Dear Deputy Minister Bryden:

Re: Appointment of Special Prosecutor

I am writing to you to request that you appoint a Special Prosecutor to oversee the ongoing RCMP investigation into the 2017 United Conservative Leadership election which elected Premier Jason Kenney as Leader of the United Conservative Party and in which Attorney General Doug Schweitzer was a participant.

Given the statutory authority of both the Premier and the Attorney General in relation to Alberta's Crown Prosecution Service and the RCMP, it is absolutely critical that robust independence of both the prosecutorial and investigatory roles of these agencies be preserved. It is our view that this can only be achieved through the assignment of oversight to a special prosecutor from a different political jurisdiction.

Active RCMP investigation into different elements of the UCP Leadership race appears to be underway. Alberta's Election Commissioner has confirmed that elements of his investigation into irregular financial contributions have been referred to the RCMP. As well the RCMP has confirmed it is investigating additional conduct related to vote irregularities.

It is our view that the proximity of the Premier and Attorney General to this matter present a reasonable apprehension of bias and conflict of interest. As you know not only must justice be done; it must be seen to be done. The public trust of Albertans in the system of justice must be maintained. The appointment of an extra-jurisdictional special prosecutor is a necessary step to ensure that goal is met.

In addition please be advised that we have referred this matter to the Ethics Commissioner to investigate any possible violations of the Conflict of Interest Act.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

**Rachel Notley, MLA, Edmonton-Strathcona
Leader, Alberta's Official Opposition**