



NEWS RELEASE

Wildrose Party Outlines Go-Forward Strategy

Release Date: December 17, 2014

At a meeting of the Executive Committee (“EC”) of the Wildrose Party held today, the EC and Caucus members unanimously reaffirmed their commitment to the future of the party and providing Albertans with a positive vision for the province and an effective opposition. In response to yesterday’s events we wish to provide members, Albertans and the media with the following information.

Resignation of Leader

Wildrose EC will consult with Caucus to determine who will be best suited to fill the position of Interim Leader. Details of the process to select a new Leader will be released early in 2015.

Merger with the Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (“PCAA”)

At no time has the Wildrose Party been approached by any representative of the PCAA regarding a merger, combination, partnership or alliance. Nothing like this has ever been discussed between the two respective organizations. Today’s events are confined to nine former Wildrose MLAs who opted to cross the floor without consulting with the Wildrose Party. The Wildrose Party remains a strong independent organization with over 22,000 members, dozens of Constituency Associations, hundreds of volunteers, and thousands of donors.

Request for “Reunification Resolution” From Former Leader

The Wildrose EC and Caucus have unanimously rejected the reunification proposal.

Future of Wildrose

The Wildrose Party continues to enjoy strong support from 5 MLAs, members, Constituency Association volunteers, nominated candidates and was the choice of over 440,000 Albertans in the last election. The future of any political party is ultimately decided by its members and the voters, not it’s Leader or elected members which come and go over time. The Wildrose EC has reaffirmed its commitment to maintain Wildrose as a strong independent political party to ensure Albertans have a credible, principled and conservative option on the ballot during the next provincial election.

EC Changes

Effective immediately, David Yager has stepped down as President and will assume the position of Vice President Fundraising. Former Wildrose President and Vice President Fundraising Jeff Callaway will assume the position of President. Mr. Callaway was President of Wildrose in 2008 to 2010 when the party experienced its greatest period of growth from upstart to political force. Mr. Callaway was also the President during the last leadership race in 2009. The EC is confident Mr. Callaway's party building experience and energy is the type of organizational leadership Wildrose needs at this time of significant change.

Jeff Callaway commented that "Dave Yager and I have been committed to this party for several years and we remain committed to its members, policies, caucus, and most importantly Albertans who deserve a principled and fiscally conservative option to vote for. Providing positive solutions and earning the trust of Albertans before, during, and after an election is more important than any personal position or ambition."

For further information please contact: jeff.callaway@wildrose.ca