

April 17, 1986

Premier Don Getty
Alberta Legislature Buildings
EDMONTON, Alberta

Dear Premier Getty:

You probably don't know me. I am an old lady who was one of Alberta's early women lawyers and am a member of your party. During the "Constitutional Fight" I made 70 well attended speeches (two in the Jubilee Auditorium) in Alberta against Trudeau's removal of individual property rights in his new constitution.

Although Peter Lougheed and I were, and still are, very good friends, he chose to follow the advice of his legal department at that time who stated that my concern was not legally proper; in fact, in The Globe and Mail as even irresponsible.

Since that time my concerns have now with time for consideration been given serious study by other lawyers across Canada.

At your last provincial conference the Solicitor General of Canada, Crosby, and 8 out of 10 provincial attorney-generals for the provinces, the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Real Estate Association, and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce have all publicly indicated that they too are now in agreement with my original protest re the improper removal of individual property rights from the Federal Constitution.

Yet despite the prestige of these legal opinions your present legal department is stubbornly refusing to join with this Canada wide endorsement that the individual's property rights MUST be returned in the Canadian Constitution. Property rights of an individual reach to the very core of the democratic principles yet herein Alberta a conservative government is endorsing an almost communistic measure.

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I could sympathize with the fact that in the past since I, as an individual was almost alone criticizing Alberta's endorsement of the removal of property rights and was an old lady and an unpractising lawyer, my opinions would at that time be questioned.

But now since my opinion is endorsed by the majority of legal brains and business brains across Canada, I find Alberta's continuing resistance ridiculous.

May I hear from you on this matter regarding the policy and intentions of your government.

Yours truly,

RUTH GORMAN