

# Media Release

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## You can't trust Ted Morton to protect Alberta's wildlife

### PC MLA campaigns at the Alberta Fish and Game Association conference his government funds; Alberta Liberals shut out

Edmonton – This afternoon, Foothills-Rockyview MLA Ted Morton addressed the Alberta Fish and Game Association conference in Edmonton, in the middle of an election campaign.

The Alberta Liberals also wanted to address the conference, but were denied by AFGA president Maurice Nadeau. Nadeau also denied the Alberta Liberals the opportunity to distribute a letter of greeting to the conference. He also refused to read a statement of greeting into the conference record from the party.

The Alberta Liberals wanted to tell AFGA members about the government's Open Spaces Alberta pilot project, and our vision to protect Alberta's natural wonders.

We would have told attendees that Open Spaces amounts to a "pay-to-hunt" system that will enable only the wealthy to hunt legally.

We would have told them that Open Spaces is essentially privatizing wildlife, since landowners would have the right to resell hunting tags.

We would have told them that Open Spaces is nothing more than another PC government boondoggle designed to benefit large landowners, but penalize the average Alberta hunter.

We would have told them how Morton, who was Minister of Sustainable Resource Development and, thus, responsible for Open Spaces, still hasn't released a land-use framework with input from ALL stakeholders.

We would have told them how Open Spaces would bring vast swaths of Alberta's pristine wildlife habitats under the control of private landowners, with no responsibility to protect it or allow free access to the public.

And we would have told them how we have heard from hunters across the province who are outraged by Open Spaces.

You'd have to ask Nadeau why he didn't allow the Alberta Liberals an opportunity to address AFGA in the middle of an election campaign. But it might have something to do with the \$621,000 in grants AFGA received from Sustainable Resource Development Alberta over the last five years, part of nearly \$1.1 million in total grants from the Alberta government (source: Alberta Treasury "Blue Books").

It's time for a change to get the job done right.

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**It's time.**  
**AlbertaLiberal**