

For immediate release  
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10247 124 Street NW  
Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1P8  
**P: 780.414.1124**  
**F: 780.414.1125**  
**T: 1.800.661.9201**  
**E: office@albertaliberal.com**

## **You can't trust the Stelmach PCs to simply just show up**

### **Tired Tory Debate Dodgers – Class of 2008**

Edmonton – It wouldn't be an election without all-candidates forums and debates and other opportunities to talk about the issues and connect with voters.

And it wouldn't be an Alberta election without PC candidates blowing them off.

Here's the first crop:

**All Calgary PC candidates:** Conservation Voters of Alberta held a water forum in Calgary on Feb. 25, and no one showed up to represent the PCs.

Also, no Calgary-area PC candidates showed up for the Arts and Cities Forum at the Jack Singer Concert Hall on Feb. 26.

After Ron Stevens dodged the Public Interest Alberta forum Feb. 25 (see below), all Calgary-area PC candidates were invited to see if someone – any one – would represent their party's views. No takers.

**All Edmonton PC candidates:** No PCs showed up to a forum held by the Alberta College of Social Workers in Edmonton on Feb. 25.

**Cal Dallas, Red Deer South:** Asked to attend Public Interest Alberta forum on Feb. 28 and refused.

**Wayne Drysdale, Grande Prairie-Wapiti:** Didn't show up to participate in environmental forum at Army, Navy, Air Force Veteran's Building on Feb. 27.

**Heather Forsythe, Calgary-Fish Creek:** Forsythe bailed on the Deer Run Community Association forum on Feb. 27.

**Heather Klimchuk, Edmonton-Glenora:** ducked out of Public Interest Alberta forum at the Royal Alberta Museum on Feb. 25. This is AFTER she agreed to attend last week. Furthermore, the PCs were invited to send a replacement. No response.

# Media Release

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**Mary Anne Jablonski, Red Deer North:** Asked to attend Public Interest Alberta forum on Feb. 28 and refused.

**Mel Knight, Grande Prairie-Smoky:** Didn't show up to participate in environmental forum at Army Navy Air Force Veteran's Building on Feb. 27.

**Peter Sandhu, Edmonton-Manning:** Told constituents he couldn't make it to a forum sponsored by McClure United Church on Feb. 27 because he was going door-knocking with Ed Stelmach. Fine, except that Stelmach was in Lethbridge.

**Ed Stelmach, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville:** The PC Leader, setting the example for the rest of his party, declared he would not participate in a local public forum on Feb. 27, hosted by the Fort Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

“The leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta, Premier Stelmach, will debate only other party leaders in provincial forums.” So said Stelmach's local campaign manager George Sebest in the Feb. 20 Sturgeon Creek Post.

This makes us nostalgic for Ralph Klein, who at least showed up to local forums in his own constituency in three of the four elections he was PC leader.

**Ron Stevens, Calgary-Glenmore:** dodged the Feb. 25 Public Interest Alberta forum in Calgary.

**Janis Tarchuk, Banff-Cochrane:** dodged the Canmore Environmental Forum on Feb. 26.

**David Xiao, Edmonton McClung:** skipped out of the Alberta Association for Community Living forum held this week in his constituency.

Stay tuned...more to come.

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For more information contact  
Michael Spears, Media Liaison  
(780) 919-2617

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