

Final Report

Dave Rodney, MLA Calgary-Lougheed

Mission to Washington, D.C.

July 19-20, 2007



Overview:

Dave Rodney, MLA Calgary-Lougheed, traveled to Washington, D.C., July 19-20, to represent the Government of Alberta at a Canadian Embassy reception.

The mission was successful in meeting its objectives as outlined below.

Mission Objectives:

- represent the Government of Alberta at a Canadian Embassy-hosted reception to honour Alberta's representative in Washington, D.C.

Results:

On July 19, Canadian Ambassador Michael Wilson hosted a reception at the Canadian Embassy honouring Murray Smith, Alberta's Representative in Washington, D.C.

The reception recognized Mr. Smith's contributions to building Canada's, and Alberta's, relationships with the United States.

More than 100 people, including senior U.S. government and industry representatives, attended the event.

Speakers included Ambassador Wilson; Scotty Greenwood, Executive Director of the Canadian-American Business Council; and MLA Rodney, on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

Ambassador Wilson presented Mr. Smith with the Calgary Flames flag that flew over the Embassy during the 2003-2004 Stanley Cup Finals. An American flag that flew on the Capitol the day before the reception was presented to Mr. Smith on behalf of Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, in recognition of Mr. Smith's achievements in Washington.

Mr. Smith left his post as Minister-Counsellor in the Alberta Office in Washington, D.C. at the end of July. The Alberta Office, co-located in the Canadian Embassy, advances the province's interests in key areas and helps expand Alberta's contacts with high-level decision makers in Alberta's largest and most important market. Approximately 90 per cent of Alberta's exports, or more than \$75 billion in goods and services, go to the United States annually.

While in Washington, Mr. Rodney also met with an energy policy think-tank (GWest); received a briefing from Alberta Office in Washington, D.C. officials on Alberta-U.S. relations and the role of the office; and visited the Holocaust Museum.

Delegation:

Dave Rodney, MLA Calgary-Lougheed