

Civil Enforcement and Stronger Oversight in Canada

Whereas:

Canada has exceptional legislation, regulation, guidelines and rules to ensure the health and safety of our citizens and environment. Over ten years the Harper Conservative Government gutted government-employed enforcement and gave the oversight to self-interested private business and associations.

Loss of independent oversight has resulted in train derailments, oil spills, food contamination, over fishing, wildlife and environmental catastrophes to name a few effects with oversight bent to serve the needs of corporate gain. Meanwhile these corporations and associations spend massive dollars lobbying the government to promote their self interest.

Be it resolved that

1. The Canadian Government look across each Ministry and recommit dollars and people to ensuring enforcement of existing consumer and environmental health and safety legislation, regulation, guidelines and rules.
2. The Canadian Government prioritize the punishments/fines when violations occur.
3. The Canadian Government provide stronger negative incentive to conform should repeat violations occur.
4. The Canadian Government investigate positive incentives to improve compliance.

Be it further resolved that:

The Canadian Government institute stronger lobbying controls to:

1. Put lobbying into the public forum and get it out of backrooms. Registration is not enough.
2. Implement a system to record which lobbyists our government and politicians are speaking with and record what is said.
3. Implement a code of conduct for lobbying in Canada with a bias toward consumer and environmental health and safety, with strong consideration for lobbying violations.
4. Publish lobbying activity and expenditures made by lobbyists.

Kootenay Columbia Federal Liberal Association
Liberal Party of Canada (BC)
Contact: robin@kootenaycolumbia.ca