

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ALBERTA

Rachel Notley, MLA

Edmonton-Strathcona Constituency

May 2, 2019 Marguerite Trussler, Q.C. Ethics Commissioner Office of the Ethics Commissioner Suite 1250, 9925-109 St NW Edmonton, AB T5K 2J8

RE: Request for investigation into the Conflict of Interest Act.

I am writing today to request you conduct an investigation into potential breaches of Sections 2,3 or 4 of the Conflict of Interest Act by Premier Jason Kenney and Attorney General Doug Schweitzer. The apprehension of a conflict of interest arises from the statutory authority of the Premier and the Attorney General as it relates to Alberta's Crown Prosecution Services and the RCMP. In particular, on March 15, 2019, the RCMP confirmed that they are investigating possible breaches of the Criminal Code that may have occurred during the leadership race of the United Conservative Party. Both Mr. Kenney and Mr. Schweitzer were candidates in that contest.

Although the facts remain unclear in this matter, it has been publicly reported that Mr. Schweitzer requested a suspension of voting amid allegations of voting irregularities during the UCP contest. There has also been public reporting of documents that show campaign workers for Mr. Kenney engaged in conduct that may be the subject of investigation. Although neither of these pieces of evidence are conclusive, they are enough to raise questions about the involvement of both of these members of Executive Council in this matter. As you are aware justice must not only be done, but it must be seen to be done. It is unprecedented to have an RCMP investigation that implicates both the sitting Premier and Attorney General.

As well, please be advised that today I've written to the Deputy Attorney General to request that a Special Prosecutor from a different jurisdiction be appointed to oversee all further prosecutorial and investigatory decision-making on this matter. Should that request be honored, it may well be that the request for your office's involvement becomes moot. However, until that happens, we are deeply concerned for the integrity of this process as it currently exists.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rachel Notley, MLA, Edmonton-Strathcona Leader, Alberta's Official Opposition