



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February 7, 2008

Alberta Liberal Pat Murray welcomes support of former Progressive Conservative supporter Ron Wood

CALGARY, ALBERTA - Pat Murray, Alberta Liberal candidate for Calgary-North Hill, today welcomed the support of long-time Alberta PC supporter Ron Wood.

"I was delighted and just a little flabbergasted when Ron called and invited me to put a campaign sign on his front lawn," said Murray. "This guy has been identified for so many years as a conservative voice, both provincially and federally, that getting a call from him was like having your campaign office hit by a tsunami - a very, very good tsunami."

Wood says he gave it a lot of thought and decided after too many years of indifferent and neglectful government, Alberta needs a new government with some energy and integrity.

What finally prompted him to act was two conversations he had; one with a cab driver and another with a friend who has always voted NDP.

"The cabbie drove me downtown and for the whole trip he complained about what a lousy government we have had in Edmonton," explained Wood. "He said he moved to Alberta 25 years ago and had always voted PC but not this time. My NDP friend and I were discussing how this government had let the province's infrastructure fall into a state of rot and the health system reach similar lows. I suggested to him he should vote Liberal instead of wasting his vote on the NDP and he surprised me by agreeing."

Wood added that he had volunteered to help Alberta Liberal candidate Dave Taylor as well, in any way he could. "I know Dave from when I was in broadcasting and have talked to him about provincial politics several times," said Wood. "I had called him to volunteer my help and it was Dave who directed me to Pat Murray."

Wood says he plans to talk to other friends and acquaintances who he knows have supported either the PCs or NDP in previous elections to try to persuade them to switch their vote. "But, and I stress this," he added, "my support for the federal Conservative Party remains unwavering and will as long as my old friend Stephen Harper remains leader and Prime Minister because I think those folks are doing a magnificent job."

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For more information
about Pat Murray visit
www.patrickmurray.ca.

For further information, contact Pat Murray at 969-VOTE (8683), or Ron Wood at 289-9796.

Please see next page for background.



BACKGROUND:

- In 1990, Ron Wood was recruited by **Preston Manning** to become his **Press Secretary, Communications Adviser and Media Relations Manager for Reform Party of Canada.**
- In 1999 he was asked by **Official Opposition Whip John Reynolds** to become his **communications strategist and adviser** when **Stockwell Day** became leader of the **Alliance Party**. In 2000, he was asked by Reynolds to return to Ottawa to become his **Executive Assistant and Communications Adviser** when Reynolds became the **Official Opposition Leader and Leader of the Alliance Party.**
- **When Stephen Harper** became leader of the Alliance, Ron remained as **Communications Adviser to the House Leader John Reynolds and Opposition Whip Dale Johnston, and special communications assignments for leader Harper.**

Ron Wood was raised in Calgary, a half block from Balmoral school. He attended Balmoral, Crescent Heights and Mount Royal College (private high school).

He began a broadcasting career in Midland, Ontario, in late 1963 and moved to Ottawa one year later to work for CKPM Radio as Parliamentary Correspondent. In 1967 he moved to CJOH-TV, Ottawa, as investigative reporter covering politics and other self-assigned news stories. In 1970 was promoted to Director, Creative Services for CJOH (Bushnell Communications). In 1975 he was recruited by the federal government to Information Services where his first assignment was Manager Media Relations for Metric Commission Canada. In 1978 he was approached by Moffat Communications to return to broadcasting and accepted position of News Director & Editorialist at CKXL Radio, Calgary. Ron won several regional and national awards for on-air editorials and documentaries.

Ron retired in January 2006 following the general election and returned to Calgary after 16 years of commuting and political travel.

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