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Candidate kerfuffle in east Calgary

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Posted at Thursday, February 7, 2008 5:20 PM
Some Tories in the constituency of Calgary-Montrose say the wrong person is representing them.

Ron Leech is the pastor of the Eastside City Church in southeast Calgary.



Leech says the constituency chose him to be the Tory nominee in the provincial election after MLA Hung Pham stepped down. [print this story](#) [E-mail this story](#)

But Ed Stelmach has hand picked a different candidate for the riding. The PC Party says Stelmach never approved Leech as a candidate. It also says Leech's nomination process didn't follow the correct protocol. But Leech disagrees and wants the party to reconsider. The candidate Stelmach did chose was 27-year-old law student Manmeet Singh Bhullar.

Meanwhile the former press secretary to Reform Party founder Preston Manning is shifting his allegiances to the Alberta Liberals in the upcoming provincial election.
Ron Wood says the governing Tories, under Premier Ed Stelmach are tired, old and complacent and need some time in exile.
Wood says he's endorsing Liberal candidate Pat Murray in his home riding of Calgary North Hill.
Both the Liberals and the NDP hope to capitalize on what they say is a growing sense of frustration with the Conservatives in Alberta.
Wood says the provincial Conservatives need to reinvent themselves but have neither the drive nor the vision.
He says the current Alberta Liberal party seems to share many of his fiscally conservative views.

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