

## Tom Kmiec Member of Parliament for Calgary Shepard

3114 Glenmore Ct SE Calgary, AB, T2C 2E6 Tel (Calgary): 403-974-1285 Tel (Ottawa): 613-992-0846 Tel (24/7 contact): 1-855-852-5710

Email: Tom.Kmiec@parl.gc.ca

LIBERALS TIPPING THE SCALES IN THEIR FAVOUR

# THIS IS WHO THE OTTAWA LIBERALS HAVE **APPOINTED TO RUN THEIR** \$600 MILLION MEDIA BAILOUT

Dear Constituent.

Once again, the Ottawa Liberals are trying to stack the electoral deck in their favour. This time, the government is spending \$600 million of your money to bail out their media friends.

To decide which media outlets will be deserving of this taxpayer money, the Ottawa Liberals have enlisted a panel that includes Unifor as one of its 8 members. Unifor is a deeply anti-conservative labour organization and makes no secrets about it. In 2015 Unifor launched

**Unifor Canada** O @UniforTheUnion

Unifor's National Executive Board started

@AndrewScheer #canlab #canpoli

planning for the federal election today

aggressively partisan ads against Stephen Harper, and last year Unifor labeled themselves "the resistance" and Andrew Scheer's "worst nightmare."

This \$600 million Liberal media bailout is nothing but a desperate attempt by the Liberals to stack the deck in their favour. A healthy democracy relies on an independent press, free of political influence. It should never be up to any government or partisan group to determine which media outlets receive taxpayer support and which media outlets do not.

Canada's Conservatives will use every tool at our disposal to fight this media bailout and stop the Ottawa Liberals' from rigging the next election in their favour.

In your service,

Tom Kmiec, M.P. Calgary Shepard

P.S.: TURN OVER TO READ ANDREW SCHEER'S EDITORIAL ON THE LIBERAL MEDIA BAILOUT

**UNSURE** 

#### HAVE YOUR SAY

Should the Ottawa Liberals cancel their \$600 million media bailout?

NO

Name	Comments:	
Address		
Postal Code		
E-mail		
Telephone		

### With Unifor and Media Bailout, Trudeau is Stacking the Deck in his Favour

By Andrew Scheer, Toronto Sun | June 1, 2019

Unifor, Canada's largest private sector union which counts amongst its members nearly 12,000 journalists, is engaged in a campaign to help re-elect Justin Trudeau and the Liberal Party of Canada in this fall's election.

This is not a matter of opinion. It is a matter of fact.

Last November, Unifor's Twitter account posted a photo of its executive board, led by President Jerry Dias, with the caption: "Welcome to Andrew Scheer's worst nightmare." [...]

They want me to lose the election. And they want Justin Trudeau to win it.

That's fine.

My problem isn't with Unifor. I may not agree with their politics, or the blatantly partisan manner in which they spend their members' hard-earned dues, but Canada is a free country and our laws allow Unifor to express itself however its elected leaders deem fit.

My problem is with Justin Trudeau.

Last fall, Trudeau announced he'd found \$600 million for what is essentially a bailout package for the news industry.

This was rightly and roundly criticized at the time — mostly by veteran, reputable journalists themselves — based on the rather simple notion that the government shouldn't choose who gets extra money to cover its re-election campaign.

But Trudeau was only getting started.

He announced the recipients of his bailout package would be decided by two different panels he would appoint and that the aforementioned Unifor — already campaigning to get Liberals re-elected — would sit on one of them.

In other words, between launching partisan attacks against Conservatives, Unifor will help decide how the government will support news organizations covering the election at Trudeau's invitation.

The implications on freedom of the press and government interference in elections are obvious. Conservatives have spent this week pointing them out and demanding Trudeau change course. [...]

When it comes to Unifor, they can choose to either represent their members on an independent panel or to campaign aggressively against a particular political party. They can't do both. [...]

It's clear, less than four months away from the start of the campaign, that Trudeau has no confidence Canadians will give him another term in government in a fairly fought election.

And on that point, we agree.





#### Tom Kmiec, MP

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