



COMMUNIQUÉ

L'honorable Claudette Tardif, Ph.D., sénatrice

For immediate release

SENATOR CLAUDETTE TARDIF DEPLORES THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO SUPPORT EDMONTON'S BID FOR EXPO 2017

OTTAWA (November 29, 2010) - Senator Claudette Tardif spoke up last Tuesday during Question Period in the Senate to express her extreme disappointment following the Conservative government's refusal to support Edmonton's bid for Expo 2017.

Alberta's capital was the only Canadian city to bid on this event, and the Province of Alberta had already announced its support. The City of Edmonton started planning the event three years ago and has already invested thousands of dollars. In fact, it was the Prime Minister himself who encouraged municipalities to bid on this international event.

"The federal government abandoned Edmontonians, Albertans and Canadians last week with its refusal to support Edmonton's bid for the world's fair in 2017. The event would have attracted nearly 5.3 million visitors and marked the 150th anniversary of Canada, while showcasing discussions on sustainability, human energy, fossil fuels and other international issues," argued the Hon. Claudette Tardif. "We have lost an excellent opportunity to put Alberta and Canada on the world stage, to share our history as a bilingual, multicultural and northern country and to take advantage of the social, cultural and economic benefits of hosting such an event."

Senator Tommy Banks gave notice of an inquiry into the matter in the Senate on Wednesday, November 24, and Senator Tardif intends to participate to further examine the federal government's refusal to support the City of Edmonton in its bid to host Expo 2017.

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