## **Tanner Hnidey**

My name is Tanner Hnidey. I was raised west of Lloydminster, Alberta, and have been a resident of our magnificent province all my life. Across my studies at the University of Calgary, I was disciplined in Economics. There, I constructed principles on the research of noted economists like James Buchanan, Ronald Coase, Oliver Williamson, and Jeffrey Church, and I completed my degree in Economics with a concentration in Industrial Organization.

Of course, one needn't be an economist to diagnose our markets as exceedingly sick. Intrusive federal and provincial bureaucracies meddle in our economy and conspire to facilitate our ruin.

Let me be striking: Alberta is under economic attack. The Prime Minister claims to fight for us, yet simultaneously appoints a radical environmentalist vehemently opposed to our energy industry to the position of Minister for Environment and Climate Change. For another example, parliament promises fairness and freedom, but provides no compensation for the equalization program we've been forced to atlas since 1965.

Though undeniably important, economic policy is insignificant if the people of Alberta are not free. I recognize (as all of us do) that an armada of tyranny is amassed on the eastern horizon in Ottawa. We are bombarded by outrageous taxes and nationalized controls while being treated as an unthinking economic engine whose only purpose is to feed government's insatiable appetite to spend money. All the while, our self-evident right to live freely, earn capital, and enjoy life, is strategically crushed by a consuming denial of our liberty.

However, I would not be a constituent in this project if I did not believe there was hope. Brilliant minds and dedicated lovers of justice have assembled and are prepared to carry on the struggle until what is ours by birth—our rights, our freedoms, and our home—is returned to us. I am very humbled to be a part of it, for we are presently engaged in an intense ideological battle for the fate of our province.

I am convinced we are going to win.