



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 November 1985

I enclose a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the former Premier of Alberta. I should be grateful to know if there are any particular points which need to be taken into account when preparing a draft reply from the Prime Minister.

(Charles Powell)

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Alberta



THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

Room 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 2B7 / Phone 403/427-2251

October 30, 1985

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland
10, Downing Street
London SW1
England

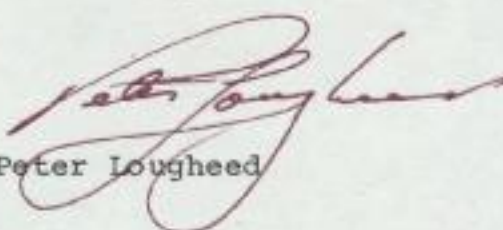
Dear Prime Minister:

As you may know, I have decided to return to private life after twenty years of public service to the people of Alberta. On November 1, 1985, Mr. Don Getty will be sworn in as the next Premier of the Province of Alberta. He was selected to succeed me as leader of the party at a leadership convention on October 13, 1985. Mr. Getty served in previous Alberta cabinets between 1971 and 1979 as Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs and as Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

Canada and the United Kingdom have an important, historic relationship and I hope that, in my fourteen years as Premier of Alberta, this Province may have helped assure the strength of the traditional ties between our two countries. It was a great pleasure to be able to receive you in the Province of Alberta in September of 1983, and I have very much appreciated the various opportunities I have had to meet with you.

I know my successor will be equally committed to furthering Alberta's close ties with the United Kingdom, and I hope he will also enjoy the privilege of meeting you.

Yours truly,



Peter Lougheed

PL/tmt



Je v2
cle

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

4 October 1985

MESSAGE TO THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

Thank you for your letter of 4 October proposing that the Prime Minister send a message to be read out at a dinner in Mr. Lougheed's honour on 11 October.

I am sure that the Prime Minister would endorse the message, though I think that it might refer to "... so many successful and productive years" in the first sentence.

BF | I should be grateful if the message could be sent to Sir Derek Day for delivery.

(CHARLES POWELL)

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SKW

010

WPE



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

4 October 1985

Dear Charles,

Message to the Premier of Alberta

The Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta will elect a new leader at a leadership convention on 13-14 October. At that point the resignation of the present leader and Premier, Mr Peter Lougheed, will come into effect.

The Prime Minister met Mr Lougheed when she visited Edmonton in September 1983 and also when he visited London in February of last year. Mr Lougheed, who has announced his intentions of returning to the private sector, has had twenty years as party leader and fourteen as Premier. He built the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta from nothing into its present position where it holds 75 of the 79 seats in the Legislation Assembly. Alberta has a very strong financial position and is in a phase of strongly resumed growth. Mr Lougheed is therefore leaving entirely of his own volition and at a time when his reputation is high.

His long period of office, his high reputation and his personal contact with the Prime Minister make it appropriate that she should send a short message which could be read out, with other tributes, at a commemorative dinner being held at Edmonton in Mr Lougheed's honour on 11 October. The message might be on the following lines:

"I send you my warm good wishes as you step down after so many years as Premier of Alberta and leader of the Alberta Progressive Conservative Party. I recall with great pleasure my visit to Alberta on September 1983 and our meeting in London in 1984. I wish you every success for the future."

Yours,
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street