

The Conservatives are ramping up their messaging, including many ads on Facebook running variations on the theme 'Better off with Harper'. The public comments that follow these postings suggest that many do not believe this to be true. At the same time, Mr. Harper has received some positive media coverage for the attention he devotes to Canada's North, and has used his current tour to establish themes we may see in the election, including a ramping down of attacks on Justin Trudeau. At the same time, his comments upon refusing to call an enquiry into the disappearance and murder of first nations women in the wake of the death of Tina Fontaine in Winnipeg have become a major lightning rod for media and public criticism, with the Liberal leader positioning the PM as being 'on the wrong side of history.'

Our messages to the public:

Liberal Outreach in Western Canada

Today, Liberal Critics will continue reaching out to Canadians at events in communities throughout Western Canada. This tour is giving our MPs the opportunity to engage with leaders and stakeholders while we continue building a strong plan for the months ahead as we prepare for the next election.

During the Critic outreach tour, Liberal MPs will be attending over 164 events in 45 ridings across Western Canada.

Since leaving Summer Caucus, our MPs have engaged with groups across western Canada, including discussions surrounding biofuels in Alberta, fisheries in British Columbia, and First Nations issues across Western Canada. Today, Liberal Critics will be discussing economic and hydrocarbon development in Edmonton, community health in La Ronge, and public safety in Vancouver.

Liberals believe that government must not only create the right conditions for economic growth, but also ensure that growth is sustainable and will finally help struggling middle class families succeed. Mr. Trudeau has spoken extensively on the need for increased trade, as well as investment in infrastructure and post-secondary education.

Please view and share the coverage of Summer Caucus in [Global News](#), the [Edmonton Journal](#), and [Radio-Canada](#), and the [Star Phoenix](#).

Items of interest from the news:

Ralph Goodale succinctly sums up the Conservatives' dodgy economic record: [https://www.facebook.com/ralphgoodale/posts/10152344041490897?fref=](https://www.facebook.com/ralphgoodale/posts/10152344041490897?fref=nf)
[nf](#)

The PM's refusal to call for an enquiry into aboriginal issues has drawn sustained criticism:

[http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/wynne-harpers-comments-on-missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/wynne-harpers-comments-on-missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-outrageous/article20175092/?click=sf_globefb#dashboard/follows/)

[outrageous/article20175092/?click=sf_globefb#dashboard/follows/](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/wynne-harpers-comments-on-missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-outrageous/article20175092/?click=sf_globefb#dashboard/follows/)

http://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2014/08/22/stephen_harpers_dangerous_refusal_to_commit_sociology.html

http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/08/23/trudeau-harper-wrong-side-of-history_n_5703061.html?1408831452

The PM tips his hand on an election strategy?

: <http://www.leaderpost.com/Harper+newly+energized+tour/10143076/story.html>

These items and more are featured on our Seniors Commission Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bclibs/>

Looking ahead:

Another 'bellwether' provincial election is coming up in New Brunswick on September 22nd, and Justin Trudeau has been active in the campaign in support of Liberal Leader Brian Gallant. The Conservatives currently hold 41 of the 55 seats.