

Peter MacKay suggests Magnitsky Act should be used against China for COVID-19

The Canadian Press

OTTAWA

Conservative leadership hopeful Peter MacKay is calling for use of the Magnitsky Act if specific individuals in China can be identified as having suppressed information related to COVID-19.

A full inquiry, perhaps an international one, into how the novel coronavirus turned into a pandemic is required, MacKay told supporters.

"We need to invoke existing laws like the Magnitsky Act to hold individuals personally accountable for misdeeds if that evidence exists," he said.

The act allows for sanctions against foreign nationals "responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights."

The legislation is named after Sergei Magnitsky, a Moscow lawyer who was tortured and died in a Moscow prison after uncovering fraud in Russia.

"If there was evidence that was suppressed, or falsified, or if there is information brought to the front that proves that the outbreak in Wuhan (city) either could have been prevented or we could have contained it much earlier, than I think we have to have a much, much greater degree of accountability,"

MacKay said on a call with supporters this week.

There has been a running debate over how much Chinese government knew and potentially didn't tell global health officials about the emergence of COVID-19 in that country late last year, leading to questions about whether the damage could have been averted.

Both China and the WHO have denied any cover-up.

MacKay is not the first to suggest using the act. Human rights advocate and former Liberal MP Irwin Cotler advanced the idea in April.

MacKay, as well as two other leadership candidates, Erin O'Toole and Derek Sloan, also joined Cotler and hundreds of other politicians, academics and human rights advocates in signing a letter condemning China's actions.

A fourth candidate, Leslyn Lewis, doesn't appear to have signed the letter, though like her competitors has called for a change in Canada-China relations.

Conservatives have long taken a harder line on China than their Liberal counterparts. Late last year, O'Toole successful-

ly led a push to create a special House of Commons committee devoted to probing the relationship. His position on China is the first thing visitors to his Twitter page will see.

Still, the need to formulate policy and ideas on the specific issues posed by the COVID-19 pandemic - the role of China being one - has become an ever-growing part of the Conservative leadership campaign.



Peter MacKay

With billions in federal spending moving out the door, and provinces beginning to reopen their economies, the candidates are increasingly fielding questions about how they'd handle bringing Canada back to some measure of normal.

When the CPC leadership race resumed late last week — it had been put on pause because of the pandemic — MacKay refreshed his entire website, adding a document about his "vision" for rebuilding Canada in the post-COVID-19 era.

Among other things, he called for a plan similar to what was used in post-war Europe to rebuild there, and one that ensures Canada has all the supplies it needs should the outbreak return or a new one

N.S. families seek to certify class action against mass killer's estate

The Canadian Press

HALIFAX

Families of victims of a Nova Scotia mass shooting are hoping to gain a small measure of justice by suing the estate of the dead gunman, says a lawyer working on a civil action.

Robert Pineo said that as of Friday morning there were nine families seeking to certify a class action lawsuit against the estate of Gabriel Wortman, asking the court for compensation for the deaths and damage he caused during his rampage on April 18 and 19.

Wortman killed 22 people in five locations around the province in a rampage that began in the small community of Portapique, about 40 kilometres west of Truro. He was shot and killed by police on April 19 in Enfield, N.S.

Pineo says the specific damages being sought against the estate of the 51-year-old Halifax dentist are yet to be determined, but he expects they will be in the millions of dollars.

The lawyer also says a successful claim would likely far exceed the estate's net worth, which includes real estate holdings Pineo estimates to have a value of more than \$1 million.

"The families that I have information from aren't doing

this strictly for money but rather to get answers and to see a form of justice against the gunman, even if it's through his estate," he said.

He said it's possible more families will join the action, or that other law firms will begin efforts to certify class actions that could later be consolidated into one case.

The representative plaintiff is Nicholas Beaton, whose wife Kristen Beaton was killed while she was on her way to work on April 19. Kristen Beaton, who worked for a nursing agency, was pregnant with the couple's second child at the time of her death.

The proposed lawsuit names three categories of plaintiffs.

The first includes direct relatives of those killed, such as parents, children and spouses.

The second is all people who suffered personal injuries from the gunman, excluding a woman who police have described as his common law spouse.

The third category is for all people who suffered damage to property, again excluding his common law spouse.

Pineo said the woman's exclusion from the lawsuit is because it's possible, due to her relationship to the killer, that she may somehow be part of the estate.

PUBLIC NOTICES

8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages	403.529.8260
Gas Emergency	403.529.8191
Water & Sewer Emergency	403.502.8042
After Hours Special Services	403.526.2828



Medicine Hat
The Gas City

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED APRIL 30 TO MAY 6, 2020 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

COMMERCIAL

201 MARSHALL AVENUE SE (Lot 3, Block 6, Plan 9612511 and Block R1, Plan 7911408) DP15392. Community Services District (Accessory Use Demolition).



HOME OCCUPATION

2122 7 AVENUE NE (Lot 8, Block 1, Plan 7410918) DP15399. Office With Storage On Site. Landscaping.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty-one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

WATER MAIN FLUSHING & FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTIONS

Environmental Utilities performs regular, routine maintenance to uphold the water quality and system infrastructure by annually flushing water mains and inspecting fire hydrants.

During these operations, there may be some discoloration in the water which is not harmful to consume and will disappear when flushing is complete. Please note that discoloured water should not be used for laundry and that fluctuating water pressure may also be noticed.

Should discoloration persist beyond three hours, turn on your cold water tap or an outside sprinkler and let the water run for several minutes until the water runs clear.

For additional information or to confirm whether crews are working in your zone, refer to the Water Flushing Programs page on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca/eu or contact Environmental Utilities at 403.529.8176.

2020 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT ROLL

Notice is hereby given that the 2020 Assessment Roll for the City of Medicine Hat has been prepared for Multi-Family and Non-Residential properties and the Assessment Notices will be mailed on May 14, 2020. Single Family Residential and Farmland property Assessment Notices were mailed on February 28, 2020.

The Assessment Roll is open for inspection for Multi-Family and Non-Residential property as of May 14, 2020. The roll is available to view at <https://www.medicinehat.ca/government/departments/finance/assessment/view-your-assessment-information>. Inquiries may be directed to the Assessment Department, City Hall, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on every day of the week except Saturday, Sunday, and public holidays by calling 403-529-8114. Under Ministerial Order No. MAG: 014/20, the complaint deadline for Single Family Residential and Farmland properties has been extended to July 1, 2020. The complaint deadline for Non-Residential and Multi-Family properties is July 21, 2020.

If you wish to object to the entry or omission of your name, or that of any other person, or to the assessment of your property or any other property upon the said roll, you must complete and submit the Assessment Review Board Complaint form together with the applicable complaint registration fee. An agent may file a complaint on your behalf if you, the assessed owner, complete an Assessment Complaint Agent Authorization form. Submit completed forms to the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board at the following address:

CITY OF MEDICINE HAT
CITY HALL, 580 1 STREET SE
MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA T1A 8E6
ATTENTION: CLERK OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD

Your complaint must include the following:

- indicate what information shown on an assessment notice or tax notice is incorrect,
- explain in what respect that information is incorrect,
- indicate what the correct information is, and
- identify the requested assessed value, if the complaint relates to an assessment.
- include the appropriate complaint registration fee.

Please ensure your complaint form includes all reasons for appealing. The Assessment Review Board cannot consider matters not included on your form.

Forms are available at the Assessment Department, Main floor, City Hall or at www.medicinehat.ca.

Dated this 9th day of May 2020.

Sue Sterkenburg, AMAA
City Assessor

*Note: Prior to filing a complaint, property owners are encouraged to contact the Assessment Department, Main Floor, City Hall, or phone (403) 529-8114, to resolve any concerns and possibly avoid a formal complaint to the Assessment Review Board.

GAS, ELECTRIC, WIND ENERGY RATES SET FOR MAY

Medicine Hat – The City of Medicine Hat has set its March energy commodity rates.

Natural Gas

The May natural gas commodity rate of \$2.2720 per gigajoule (GJ), down from the previous month of \$2.2860 per GJ, for all customers is based on the average of the monthly gas charges set by Alberta gas distribution (pipes) owners.

May 2020 (per GJ)	Rate per GJ
Direct Energy Regulated Services (North and South)	\$2.5640
AltaGas Utilities Inc.	\$1.9800
City of Medicine Hat Rate (based on the average)	\$2.2720

The City of Medicine Hat calculates the Monthly Reference Price based on the average of the rates approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission.

Electricity

The May electricity rate of \$0.05607 per kilowatt hour, down from the previous month of \$0.05736 per kilowatt hour, for Residential, Farm, Small and Medium Commercial, Unmetered Services and Rental Lighting, is based on the average of the rates for owners whose regulated rate tariffs are approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission under section 103(2) of the Electric Utilities Act for that calendar month as posted by the Alberta Utilities Commission on its internet page under *Regulated Rate Option Regulation*.

May 2020 (per kilowatt hour)	Rate per kWh
Direct Energy Regulated Services	\$0.06046
ENMAX Energy Corporation	\$0.05529
EPCOR Energy Alberta GP (Edmonton)	\$0.05465
EPCOR Energy Alberta GP (outside Edmonton)	\$0.05389
City of Medicine Hat Rate (based on the average)	\$0.05607

The City of Medicine Hat calculates the Monthly Reference Price based on the average of the rates using the four Regulated Rate Option providers approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission under section 103(2) of the Electric Utilities Act.

The May default electricity rate for Large Commercial, Industrial and Street Lighting customers is based on the monthly average Alberta Power Pool price as established and published by the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plus \$0.02 per kilowatt hour. The rate for April was \$0.04892 per kilowatt hour.

The City of Medicine Hat also offers a fixed electric commodity price for Residential, Farm, Small and Medium Commercial customers. The fixed rate for 2020 is \$0.06800 per kilowatt hour.

The Gas Utility offers a fixed natural gas commodity price for all rate class customers. The fixed rate for 2020 is \$3.50 per GJ.

Going Green Charge

Customers also have a "Going Green" surcharge on their bill. This surcharge is for renewable energy purchased for residential, farm, small and medium commercial customers.

The Going Green surcharge is calculated monthly to recover costs incurred to purchase renewable energy.

The Going Green surcharge for May is \$0.0040 per kilowatt hour.

For further information, please contact:
Brad Maynes, Commissioner Energy & Utilities Division
City of Medicine Hat • 403.525.8614.



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