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Election preview

The word is that Alberta will have an election in the near future. A political plum gets tossed here. A promise is made there.

Premier Peter Lougheed has ordered his minions to travel outside the province less often. Meet the people, he says.

Under the pressure of news items such as the death of a Suncor worker, Alberta Environment initiates a new policy of informing the public about pollution matters before "someone slips up." They admit it's for better public relations, although there's no clue who initiated the new policy.

You can simply rest assured it wasn't done by an underling in the ranks.

And then there was that surprising phone call from Ron Liepert, news secretary for the Premier himself.

He requested a moment of our time to pay us a visit.

He came, he listened, he reassured us his home or office phone is always open to us. He wanted us to know he has clout in high places.

Then he drove on to visit another weekly newspaper, leaving us two business cards.

Yes, the scent of The Great Game is rising o'er the heath.