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"Mission accomplished"

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I woke up this morning to a New York Times article that roared off the page, saying Americans were angry with the escalating gasoline prices. There is clearly an energy demand that is not being met, the article said.

So while I was primed up to defend Alberta's environmental record to the D.C. media, that wasn't the case at all. In fact, most of the dozen or so media outlets I spoke to at an availability at the Canadian embassy were more curious about how Alberta would meet that demand.


So still no polar-bear suited protestors despite pre-trip media predictions that we'd be dogged by them. All we saw were two young, polite people who handed Alberta's Washington representative Gary Mar and I some environmental literature as we entered the embassy. I'm pretty sure they didn't know who we were.

In any case I found the trip to be extremely successful. Among several meetings today, one with Canadian Ambassador Michael Wilson resonated the most. It emphasized the need to go beyond D.C to speak to legislators in individual U.S states to advance Alberta's interest. And that's something Gary and I and members of our government plan to do.

Finally I'm happy to report that Gary's office is quite utilitarian... in a Triple A location, mind you. I'm proud of Gary for not ordering any marble fountains or statues of himself for the office.

Mission accomplished!

posted by Deputy Premier Ron Stevens at [8:33 PM](#) on Apr 29, 2008

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No personal attacks. It is OK to disagree with a position on an issue. It is not OK to question the other person's character.

No abusive comments. In particular, malicious responses that insult others based on race, gender, nationality or sexual orientation will not be tolerated.

The bottom line: We want to encourage thoughtful and intelligent discussion. But the unwritten rules of decorum and civility still apply.

In the meantime, may I congratulate you on the title of your blog: "Mission Accomplished". It was exactly five years ago tomorrow that those same words were used to describe a mission that was not accomplished and was based on lies and distortion. A very apt analogy to your \$25 million PR campaign indeed!

Best to you and Ed, see you soon.

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