

January 1998

Dear Fellow Albertan,

The purpose of *AlbertaViews* is to provide thoughtful commentary on the culture, politics and economy of our province. Each issue also contains arts listings, a short story by an Alberta writer, a glimpse into an Alberta garden, and excerpts from a variety of sources on issues of concern to Albertans. We present diverse viewpoints in order to give expression to a wide range of opinion and to encourage discussion and debate. We believe independent media are essential to a democratic society.

Six media giants dominate world communications. In Canada the control of newspapers, television, radio and magazines is concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. The media feed us entertainment and celebrity news; they treat us as consumers. *AlbertaViews* addresses its readers as citizens, as individuals who want to be informed and active, who take responsibility for the kind of society we live in.

We hope you find this, our first issue, thought-provoking and informative. We encourage you to take part in the discussion of Alberta issues by letting us know your views. Send your comments, reactions and suggestions via letters to the editor, or to our Internet website (www.albertaviews.ab.ca).

If you support our goals and would like to continue to receive *AlbertaViews*, please subscribe. You'll find a form and postage paid envelope in the centre of the magazine. Just peel the label from the front cover, apply it to the boxed area of the form, and insert it with your cheque in the envelope provided. If your copy has no label, please fill in the boxed area. You will receive *AlbertaViews* four times a year—Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Publisher