

Prince of Wales Elementary School  
253 Parkland Way SE  
Calgary, Alberta T2J 3Y9

March 15, 2005

The Right Honourable Ralph Klein  
Office of the Premier  
Room 307, Legislature Building  
10800 - 97th Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Re: **Commemorate Alberta's Centennial**

Dear Mr. Klein,

Over the past few months we have been learning about grain elevators in our class with our teacher Mrs. George. We have even built an 8 foot tall cardboard grain elevator in our classroom!

While working with the Galileo Educational Network, we have written stories about grain elevators and have painted spectacular water colour pictures. We have attached a picture of our class grain elevator as well as some of our stories, and paintings to this letter for you to see.

This study of grain elevators has taught us a lot about Alberta and its centennial. We think that the disappearing grain elevators have stories that we HAVE to tell. Do you think the pioneers 100 years ago ever dreamed that their grain would be sent out to feed people all over the world?

- We know that grain elevators are being knocked down.
- We know that old grain elevators can be dangerous because they blow up and burn down.
- We know that Alberta needs larger elevators in order to process the over 20 million tones of grain that we ship to other countries every year.
- We understand that we now live in a world with lots more people than we had 100 years ago.
- We understand that the small wooden elevators of the past are not strong enough to handle all the grain we need.

We understand all of this Mr. Klein. But what are we doing to preserve this part of our province's history and heritage for future generations? What will you do to make sure that future generations know what grain elevators are and how important they were to the growth of this province?

Here is what we think you should do Mr. Klein. In honor of Alberta's centennial we think you should:

1. Have a coin made by the Canadian Mint with a grain elevator on it.
2. Save a grain elevator near each of the larger cities and turn it into a museum that students can visit (after all, our teacher says that it is part of the new Alberta Learning Social Studies Curriculum).
3. Don't destroy any grain elevators this year or next in honor of the centennial.
4. Design a stamp for Canada Post with a grain elevator on it. You could use children's artwork....maybe ours.

5. Give money to the High River Historical Preservation Society so they can build the grain elevator replica museum that they have designed. Then students can visit it. You can reach them at (403) 601-4961.
6. Do another centennial series on TV about grain elevators.

Please send us a letter back saying what you will do about this. We need to keep the legacy of the grain elevator alive.

Sincerely,

Grade One/Two Students (Room 9)  
Prince of Wales Elem. School – Calgary  
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Enclosure (1)

cc: Prime Minister Paul Martin  
MLA Heather Forsyth  
Calgary Herald  
Calgary Sun  
Canada Post  
National Post  
Globe and Mail  
CTV  
Global  
Royal Canadian Mint  
A-Channel  
High River Historical Preservation Society  
Calgary Grain Academy  
Alberta Wheat Pool  
Alberta Agriculture