

Alberta cabinet minister admits COVID-19 policies were about "political control and power" and not based on science

Description

CANADA: A cabinet minister for the Canadian province of Alberta has admitted that the Wuhan coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic lockdowns and vaccine mandates were never based on science, but rather were focused on centralizing "political control and power."

"It was never about science but about political control and power," tweeted Alberta's Minister of Labor and Immigration Kelechi "Kaycee" Madu, a member of the ruling United Conservative Party (UCP).

Madu was reacting to a tweet by *CTV News* announcing the end of the federal COVID-19 vaccine mandate for people entering Canada by the end of September.

His comment predictably received massive backlash. The Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP), the province's leading left-wing opposition group, called on Premier Jason Kenney to remove Madu from his cabinet.

"Frankly, it's a new low for this minister," claimed provincial lawmaker Irfan Sabir, a member of the Alberta NDP. "These comments are way over the line. They're disrespectful to many, many Albertans who fell sick, who lost loved ones, who lost jobs and businesses."

Madu thanked people who stood up to "tyrannical" COVID policies

In addition to criticizing COVID-19 lockdowns and vaccine mandates, Madu also thanked Freedom Convoy protesters and other demonstrators "who had the courage to mobilize against these tyrannical policies."

"They endured a lot of hate, name-calling, suffered and vilified on behalf of all of us," wrote Madu. "I thank them!"

These comments in support of the health freedom protests similarly received strong criticisms. Duane Bratt, a political scientist from *Mount Royal University*, claimed that Madu's comments are hypocritical because he served in the cabinet of Kenney, who imposed vaccine mandates and lengthy lockdowns on Albertans.

"Did he support provincial COVID restrictions? Or were provincial COVID restrictions about science and not political control? After all, he was a member of that cabinet. He's still a member of that cabinet," said Bratt.

Bratt went further to suggest that Madu, who he called a "lightning rod" for controversy since his election in 2019, could lose his seat in the next election. He even suggested that Madu could cost the UCP other seats in Edmonton, the major urban center of Alberta and where 27 of the provincial Legislative assembly's 87 seats are elected. The UCP currently holds seven of the 27 seats in Edmonton.

"He is not going to win his seat in Edmonton. The UCP is not going to win a seat in Edmonton," claimed Bratt.

Lori Williams, another Mount Royal political scientist, agrees with Bratt. "This is a very extreme position for Kaycee Madu to be taking and one that could jeopardize the future electoral fortunes of the UCP," she claimed.

Kenney has so far declined to comment on Madu's criticism of COVID-19 policies and gratitude to health freedom protesters, telling local media that he doesn't monitor the lawmaker's Twitter account.

"If you want to hear Minister Madu's views, or clarification from him, I suggest you talk to him," he said.

Watch this clip and learn how the leading cause of death in Alberta is listed as "unknown."

By Arsenio Toledo

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