

Ontario Libertarian Party
7-91 Rylander Blvd., Box 121
Scarborough, ON M1B 5M5
416-283-7589 1-888-ONT-LIBertarian

www.libertarian.on.ca

Bulletin Vol.28 No. 2
Winter 2007
Doug Burn, Editor

LIBERTARIANS WIN OVER 9,000 VOTES

Candidate	Riding	Votes	%
Philip Bender	Simcoe-Grey	718	1.5%
Mike Green	Toronto-Centre	675	1.5%
Sam Apelbaum	Scarborough-Guildwood	487	1.4%
Alan Mercer	Scarborough-Rouge River	492	1.4%
Robert Alexander	Carleton-Mississippi Mills	693	1.3%
Marco Dias	York South-Weston	382	1.2%
Doug Patfield	Beaches-East York	518	1.1%
Heath Thomas	Willowdale	469	1.1%
David Predovich	Scarborough Centre	349	1.1%
Josh Insang	Pickering-Scarborough East	380	0.9%
George Dance	Scarborough Southwest	296	0.9%
Mark Scott	Toronto-Danforth	347	0.9%
Aaron Parent	Essex	358	0.9%
Caley McKibbin	York-Simcoe	349	0.8%
Zork Hun	Parkdale-High Park	327	0.8%
Jean-Serge Brisson	Ottawa South	383	0.8%
Marty Gobin	Whitby-Oshawa	411	0.8%
Tom Gelmon	Eglinton-Lawrence	296	0.7%
Larry Stevens	Kitchener-Conestoga	245	0.6%
Craig Hodgins	Newmarket-Aurora	268	0.6%
John Kittredge	St. Paul's	238	0.5%
Nunzio Venuto	Davenport	148	0.5%
Paolo Fabrizio	Barrie	150	0.3%
Dane Raybould	Simcoe North	112	0.2%
Sam Zaslavsky	Ancaster-Dundas- Flamborough-Westdale	65	0.1%
Total Votes/Average %		9156	0.9%

The Ontario Libertarian Party ran 25 candidates in the October 10, 2007 General Election and received 9,156 votes. We could have received even more. Due to administrative problems, Dane Raybould and Sam Zaslavsky did not have the party name on the ballot.

The vote count is only one reflection of the increasing interest in the Libertarian Party and its message. Seven of our candidates joined the party this year. Since the campaign started in early August we have added 13 new members and five new donors. Another 20 people requested information and may yet join the party.

CBC provides free time to all parties. We were given 2 minutes on French and English TV and radio networks. Our Leader, Sam Apelbaum, made a two minute speech which resulted in several phone calls requesting more information. Several of our candidates in the Toronto area took advantage of CFRB's Riding Profiles to give a one minute speech. Rogers TV aired presentations for many of our candidates.

We have four years to prepare for the next Ontario election. Our objective is to run at least 50 candidates. Let us know how you can help.

Annual General Meeting — By Jim McIntosh

The Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Libertarian Party was held on Saturday November 3, 2007 at the Ramada Hotel, 185 Yorkland Blvd., in Toronto. Twenty people attended including all but one Executive member who had to work, and a Doctor from Gravenhurst who drove two hours with his young daughter to hear and talk to Avril Allen about her court challenge.

Sam Apelbaum, our Leader, welcomed the delegates and guests to the meeting and thanked them for coming. He reflected on the recent election campaign and declared that it is important for us to keep the message pure

and not offer compromises in order to win more votes. He pointed out that we need help to spread the message, and thanked the candidates for taking the time to do just that. Sam is not optimistic about Canada becoming libertarian any time soon. A significant crisis could be an opportunity for us, but is more likely to lead to an even more authoritarian government.

Our first speaker was Brett J Skinner, Director: Health, Pharmaceutical and Insurance Policy Research for The Fraser Institute in Toronto. Brett pointed out that we are getting declining value for our health care dollar. Canada's population is relatively young compared to other countries. When you adjust for age, Canada is the second highest in health care expenditures of 27 countries with universal access to health care. But we are

(Continued on page 3)

Libertarian Party of Canada—Convention

May 17-18, 2008, Holiday Inn Express Downtown
10010 104 St. NW, Edmonton, AB 780-123-2450

Leader's Report — by Sam Apelbaum

Another provincial election season has come and gone, and the circus has left town, not to return for another four years. This time, I am pleased to report that we had good success while it was here. Overall participation in the campaign was excellent. We had 25 candidates in all. Surprisingly, several of them garnered as much as 1.5% of the votes cast in their respective ridings.

There were many others who also helped from the sidelines, in keeping with our recent experience of steadily increasing enthusiastic participation in party activities. A good time was had by all and I congratulate and thank our candidates and supporters.

Special thanks as well to campaign manager Paolo Fabrizio and treasurer Jim McIntosh, each of whom devoted a great deal of time and effort to make everything happen.

This is heady stuff indeed for our party relative to past experience. We would need a good deal of analysis to fully explain the improved election showing. However, there is no doubt that the libertarian brand is recognized by more people today than some ten years ago. It is becoming far more common than previously for people to describe themselves as having libertarian views on certain matters.

All of this is good news and bodes well for the future development of our party. However, when all is said and done, we are still a long way from reaching the critical mass of supporters needed to have a serious impact on the course being set by the Ontario or, for that matter Canadian, governments. There is much to do over the next four years to build the party and to increase its impact on public affairs and public education.

Unfortunately, in spite of our small victories, the trend to ever-greater authoritarianism in Ontario and elsewhere continues unabated, countenanced by a public that seems ever ready to invoke the apparatus of the state to provide security from the vagaries of life. This is whimsical and dangerous, but leaving well enough alone is not the motto of our times. Unless some major catastrophe comes along to more quickly push us over the edge, in the absence of ideological resistance we will continue to witness the slow inexorable decline of liberty and a corresponding growth of the bullying, thieving and incompetent state.

Libertarianism is a minority taste and we need the help of everyone who agrees with us. For those who simply wish to help financially, year-end is an efficient tax time to make your donation. I thank you for your support.

Chairman's Report — By George Dance

One of the Chairman's jobs, each year-end, is to remind our members of our need for your ongoing financial support, and to find the words to inspire you to give that support. This year that job is easier than ever.

We have just completed our most successful election campaign in a more than a decade. Our vote increased dramatically, from under 2,000 to over 9,000. That was thanks to the 25 Libertarians who stepped up as candidates, putting their time and money on the line for their and our ideals. Those 25 are the stars of our party.

Many candidates had web pages linked to our site, <http://www.libertarian.on.ca>. I recently spent time reading those pages, and came away impressed at the commitment expressed there. I'd like to let those stars tell you, in their own words, about the ideals that inspire them.

"I am inspired by our party mission, which is to enable endless possibilities through recognition of, respect for and protection of individual liberty." (**Sam Apelbaum**, Scarborough Guildwood)

"I am inspired by our party's values: personal responsibility, individual liberty, recognition of property rights, free and voluntary associations, freedom of expression, and voluntary mutual aid." (**Philip Bender**, Simcoe-Grey)

"Jean Serge ... believes that government should not be telling peaceful citizens what they can and cannot do, so long as they are not interfering in the lives of other individuals." (**Jean Serge Brisson**, Glengarry-Prescott-Russell)

"I'm running for the Libertarian Party to minimize government spending and bring choice back into the political

system." (**Marco Dias**, York South-Weston)

"The Ontario Libertarian Party shares my beliefs in personal responsibility and individual choice.... Voters want a new leadership that will give the power of choice back to the people." (**Paolo Fabrizio**, Barrie)

"I am running to promote a respect by the government for the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (**Marty Gobin**, Whitby-Oshawa)

"I will fight for: individual freedom with personal responsibility; transparency in all business, government and legal transactions; and reduction in bureaucracy and its red tape." (**Michael Green**, Toronto Centre)

"Craig believes in personal freedom, individual responsibility, and less government." (**Craig Hodgins**, Newmarket-Aurora)

"I am a libertarian because I believe that individual freedom and responsibility are the most important prerequisites of a good society... because I abhor oppression, violence and coercion.... because I believe in the amazing power of the market to create prosperity." (**Zork Hun**, Parkdale)

"Josh intends to campaign on a platform of personal responsibility, liberty, less government, and fewer taxes." (**Josh Insang**, Pickering-Scarborough East)

"John has been a champion of less government meddling in the lives, economy and freedom of Canadians for over 40 years and a Libertarian Party member for decades." (**John Kittredge**, St. Paul's)

"I am a candidate for the Libertarian Party because it

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

advocates protection of property rights and equality before the law. These are the foundations for civilization.” (**Caley McKibbin, York- Simcoe**)

“Vote Libertarian if you believe that government should stop dominating our lives.” (**Alan Mercer**, Scarborough-Rouge River)

“Aaron ... came to embrace the libertarian ideology; imagine a society with freedom of choice, freedom of movement, freedom of advancement, and freedom of will.” (**Aaron Parent**, Essex)

“David has a passion for economics, and understands that the residents of Ontario would be much better off with less regulation, less government, and more personal and economic freedom. (**David Predovich**, Scarborough Centre)

“I support responsible individual choice and seek to make a positive change in our government.” (**Mark Scott, Toronto-Danforth**)

“I feel very strongly that we must stop all bullying. To do so, we must start with the adult bullies. Only when we have stopped adults from bullying others into giving up

their money or their liberty, will we be able to convince children to stop bullying those smaller than themselves.”

(**Larry Stevens**, Kitchener-Conestoga)

“I am running in Willowdale because I believe that government is too large and I wish to see it reduced to its core functions; the protection of individuals and private property.” (**Heath Thomas, Willowdale**)

“I am running as a libertarian because only the Libertarian Party truly believes in minimal government and low taxes. After years of failed government policies it is time for a real change.” (**Nunzio Venuto**, Davenport)

Do the ideals on this list inspire and enthuse you? Then, please sit down and decide how much you can give to support them. Then give four times as much. (Remember that, under our generous political tax credit regime, up to three-quarters of your donation will come back with your next income tax refund.)

Don't stop there. Please share your enthusiasm with your family, friends, and associates. What we need, for the final triumph of our ideas, is to have enough Ontarians as inspired by them as our 25 stars. Nothing else will be sufficient, and nothing more is necessary.

(Continued from page 1)

fourth from last in terms of Doctors per 100,000 population and about average in terms of diagnostic equipment. Health expenditures are growing faster than government revenues, which means it is unsustainable.

Government wants to shift the blame. They try to blame the Doctors, but Ontario physicians' wages have declined in real terms since the 1970s. Nurses earn only two-thirds as much as their counterparts in the United States. Expenditures on drugs are growing by over 12 per cent, but this is a very small portion of public health expenditures and they help to reduce other health expenditures.

Avril Allen, our second speaker, is a litigator with Toronto law firm Boghosian & Associates, and is an advisory board member of the Canadian Constitution Foundation. She has filed a suit against Ontario Health Insurance on behalf of Mr. Lindsay McCreith and Ms. Shona Holmes.

Lindsay McCreith experienced seizures in January 2006. He waited seven hours in ER before getting a CT scan that showed a brain tumour. He was advised he would need to wait over four months for an MRI to determine if the tumour was malignant or benign. He was able to obtain an MRI in Buffalo through Timely Medical Alternatives within 24 hours! His family Doctor advised him he would need to take the results to a neurosurgeon for a diagnosis. The wait time was three months, and there would be another 84-day wait before surgery. Lindsay decided to go back to Buffalo and had the operation within a month. He was able to afford the \$27,000 in medical expenses (plus travel costs) thanks to an inheritance.

Shona Holmes had a history of endocrine problems. In May 2005 an MRI showed a 9mm brain tumour. She would have to wait two months to see a neurologist and

four months for an endocrinologist. Instead she opted to go to the Mayo Clinic in Arizona where she was examined by three specialists in one week. All agreed that she needed immediate surgery to avoid blindness and possibly death. When she provided the results to the neurologist here in Ontario, he wanted further investigation. Instead of waiting, Shona went ahead with the surgery in the U.S. at a cost of \$95,000, which represented extreme financial hardship for her.

Ontario will cover out-of-province medical expenses based on a recommendation by a specialist and prior approval. Wait times are involved, for both the specialist and for approval. Lindsay did not seek pre-approval, and Shona's application was denied since it was not supported by her neurosurgeon.

Avril is expecting an uphill battle. Quebec was not prepared for the Chaolli case, but Ontario is. In addition, some sympathetic judges have since retired. Shona is getting good media coverage, especially on talk shows.

Gerry Nicholls is a Senior Fellow with the Democracy Institute and formerly Vice-President of the National Citizens Coalition. He explained how John Tory lost the election in three simple steps. First, he ran on a 'red Tory' platform. If voters want a liberal government, why would they vote for a 'pseudo liberal' party? Second, he chose a really bad issue as his main plank. Faith-based education funding was too complex an issue and had little support even within his party. The ideal issue will solidify your base and split your opposition. Free Trade did this for Mulroney on 1988. Third, he didn't change the debate to another issue, mainly because he didn't have any other issue to differentiate the PCs from the Liberals.

Gerry believes Libertarians should market themselves as the "anti-red Tories." Polling is critical to political par-

(Continued on page 4)

Friends and Foes — By Larry Stevens, MSc

Who are our friends and who are our foes? To answer this, we need to define friend and foe. A friend is an ally — someone who cooperates with us. A foe is an enemy — someone who uses force against us.

We can start by classifying people into very broad categories: fellow citizen, violent criminal, employer, trade union, business, government, and the media. And then, consider whether each is a friend or a foe.

A fellow citizen is someone we might meet on the street. If we interact at all, we might say, "Hello," or "How are you?" If we associate with them socially or expect to do so, we might spend some time talking with them or even participate in some activities with them. When either of us has something else to do, we go our separate ways. There is no force involved, just normal social interaction. Cooperation not force — definitely a friend.

A violent criminal is someone who uses force against us — a robber, rapist or murder perhaps. Force not cooperation — definitely a foe.

An employer pays us for work we do for them. We are not obliged to work for them, we can leave whenever we like. Cooperation not force — another friend.

A trade union provides a service. However, sometimes, unions use intimidation to persuade people to sign union cards, and when they have enough people signed up, the company is unionized. In some cases there's no secret ballot. If a company has been unionized, membership in the union may be compulsory — every employee is forced to join. This relationship is enforced by the government, not the employer. Force not cooperation — a foe.

A business offers a product or service. If we like what they offer and the price they ask, we buy the item; otherwise, we go elsewhere. Cooperation not force — again a

friend.

Government also provides services, but it's definitely not a business. Often it prevents others from offering the same service, so we can't go elsewhere. Even if we can and do go elsewhere, we still have to pay for the service government provides. If we refuse to pay, government takes the payment by force or forcibly confines us for not paying. Force not cooperation—definitely a foe.

The media appears to be just another business. It doesn't use force, nor does the government use force on its behalf. So, the media would appear to be a friend. Looking more closely, however, it is evident that this is not true. The media is generally anti-business and anti-employer while being pro-government and pro-union. So, if you consider the foe of a friend or the friend of a foe to also be a foe, then the media is, in reality, a foe.

So, our friends (relationships based on cooperation) include fellow citizen, employer and business while our foes (relationships involving force) include violent criminals, governments, trade unions and the media.

The Libertarian Party will limit the government use of force by limiting government to protecting the liberty and property of their citizens from domestic and foreign aggressors. This will turn the government from a foe into a friend.

The Libertarian Party will also prevent the government from granting monopoly privileges. This in turn will stop trade unions from using force and will turn them from a foe into a friend.

Under the Libertarian Party, the only foe left will be violent criminals and we will have government and private security forces as well as our own efforts to protect us from them.

(Continued from page 3)

ties. We need to identify where our principles intersect with what people want. Voters care about the quality of life. We should be able to appeal to their desire for better health care and education.

Thirteen of the 20 attendees were candidates in the October 10, 2007 election. Zork Hun kicked off this session with a PowerPoint presentation entitled "What is Right and What Works." He started by asking us to decide if we are a philosophy club, educators, evangelists, champions of Liberty, commentators, or a political party.

Each of the candidates at the meeting was given an opportunity to comment on the election. Paolo Fabrizio works in a deli and his boss allowed him to use the deli as his campaign headquarters. As a result he received many requests for lawn signs and help distributing pamphlets. He blames his low vote count on a close race between the incumbent Conservative and the Liberal candidate who beat him. Most of the candidates present reported that they attended the All Candidate Meetings, were taped by cable TV, and responded to media inquiries, but did not distribute pamphlets door-to-door.

Elections were held for five positions. Executives are

normally elected at Convention for a three-year term. However, the position of Recording Secretary has been vacant for over a year and can be filled at an AGM. Peter Radzio, a new member, was elected. Phil Bender and Mark Scott were elected for one-year terms as Members at Large. Craig Hodgins and Alan Mercer were elected for three year terms to the six member Ethics Committee.

YOUTH LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Youth Parliament of Canada is designed to engage Canadian youth (ages 14-24) in the political process of our country. It is made up of 308 MYPs (Members of Youth Parliament) and 65 Youth Senators (5 from each province) who are elected to represent the youth of Canada at a federal level. Elections are scheduled to take place in November 2008.

The Youth Parliament of Canada is an opportunity for the Libertarian Party to actively work with Canadian youth and encourage libertarian principles in these young, receptive minds. If you or someone you know is interested in running for the Youth Parliament of Canada as a Libertarian candidate please send an email to Dean T. Harris: dharris@mdsolutions.ca.