

libertarian bulletin

Ontario Libertarian Party
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Newsletter
of the Ontario
Libertarian Party

www.libertarian.on.ca

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Spring 2010

Doug Burn, Editor

Your Invitation to the 2010 Caucus Meeting

The Ontario Libertarian Party will hold its annual caucus meeting on Sunday April 25 (see details below). The caucus meeting is open to all members who were candidates in the 2007 election, as well as members who are considering being a candidate in the 2011 election. "Paper candidates" are also welcome.

The focus of this year's caucus meeting will be on candidate training and planning for the next election. Those who attend will have the opportunity to learn about campaigning tactics from experienced candidates, get ideas on campaign themes and topics, and learn how the party can assist them in their efforts to represent freedom to the people of Ontario.

One of the skills important to campaigning is the ability to communicate. Candidates are encouraged (but not required) to bring a prepared two minute speech so they can practice in front of a real (and friendly) audience.

Although the final agenda has not been formalized, here is an outline of what to expect:

- Leader's address
- Review election plans and objectives
- Technical aspects of campaigning (How to...)
- Experiences from the field
- Campaign strategies and tactics
- Speech test run

Join your fellow Libertarians for brunch and an afternoon of discussion, education, and refreshing political talk.

CAUCUS MEETING DETAILS

Sunday April 25, 2010 - 11:00 AM- 4:00 PM

The Granite Brewery & Restaurant

**245 Eglinton Ave. E. at Mt. Pleasant Ave (S.E. corner)
Toronto, ON**

**Brunch will be provided free for members
Donations accepted**

Annual Libertarian BBQ—May 16, 12-4 PM

16812 Humber Station Rd., Caledon Hills—Rain or shine

\$15 per person for burgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and dessert
↑ North on Hwy 400 to Hwy 7, ↖ West to Highway 50,
↑ North to Patterson Rd., ↖ West to Humber Station Road,
↓ South to 16812 (number posted on white mail box and gate.)

If you get lost, call 416-283-7589 or 905-880-4848 for help.

**Call 416-283-7589 now
so we will order enough food and beverage**

LIBERTARIAN PUB NIGHTS

Come on out and meet other Libertarians from the area in a relaxed, informal, friendly atmosphere. We will discuss whatever is on your mind. Order dinner and/or drinks and pay your own tab.

BARRIE - Tuesday March 16 - 6:30 PM

Mullies Bar & Grill, 17 Mulcaster Street, For more information contact Paolo Fabrizio (PaoloTheBaker@yahoo.ca or 647-300-8555). The next Barrie Pub Night will be April 20.

CHATHAM-KENT - Saturday March 27, 7:00 PM

The London Room in the Travelodge at 555 Bloomfield Rd., Chatham. Coffee, tea and snacks provided, For more information contact Jim Austin (519-354-9045 or info@cklibertarians.com). Next Pub Night is April 30

GUELPH - Thursday April 15, 7:00PM

Delaney's restaurant 930 Woodlawn Rd. W. For more information or to make sure you are on the local contacts list, contact Phil Bender (phil.libertarian@gmail.com or 905-703-6248). Next Pub Night is May 19

Pub Nights will alternate between Guelph and K-W

KITCHENER-WATERLOO - Thursday March 18, 7:00PM

Location: Benny's Lounge, 183 Weber Street, Waterloo For more information about events in this area, contact Phil Bender (phil.libertarian@gmail.com or 905-703-6248). Next Pub Night is May 19

LONDON - Wednesday March 24, 7:00 PM

Palasad/Fiamma Restaurant, Adelaide & Oxford. For more information contact Dave Barnesky (dave.barnesky@gmail.com). Next Pub Night is April 28

OTTAWA - Saturday April 3, 3:00 PM

South Side Bar and Grill, 1670 Heron Road, (Heron Gate Mall). For more information contact Andrew Philips (andrewmp@rogers.com or 613-733-8948). Next meeting is May 1

STOUFFVILLE - Wednesday March 24, 7:00 PM

Earl of Whitchurch Pub, 6204 Main St. upstairs room. For more information contact Allen Small (small4357@rogers.com or 905-477-4357). The next Pub Night is April 28.

TORONTO - Wednesday March 10, 7:00 PM

The Granite Brewery & Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Ave. E.. For more information contact Jim McIntosh (416-283-7589 or cfo@libertarian.on.ca). The next Pub Night is April 14.

If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, contact Jim McIntosh at 416-283-7589.

THE PARTY OF CHOICE – Our Vision is communities of freedom, harmony and abundance.

The Mission of the Party is to enable endless possibilities through recognition of, respect for and protection of individual liberty.

The G20 Summit: Global Compact to Descend on old York—By Todd Howe

“The promises of yesterday are the taxes of today.” – William Lyon Mackenzie

Crusading publisher, republican rebel, and first Mayor of Toronto, William Lyon Mackenzie was an ardent supporter of the patriation of sovereignty to the colony of Upper Canada from the distant British Crown. One can only imagine then what he might think these days if, scanning his city's dailies, he were to lay aside his old friend George Brown's Globe and Mail and come upon the following headline in that recent upstart, The Toronto Star: *G20 Security Could Strangle Downtown* [<http://bit.ly/a04en5>]

Though he may not have been above a bemused grin at the thought of a *de facto* occupation of the city centre, accompanied by “thousands of police and endless kilometres of security fencing” (history, it seems, has a way of repeating itself) it is certain that upon reflection and a closer look at the nature of the G20, the dour publican's old indignant fire would start to rise.

Managed by a ‘troika’ of three rotating chairs and consisting of national leaders, finance ministers, and central bankers from global economic institutions such as the IMF and World Bank, the G20 is no abstract debating society. Its power is as real as its accountability to Canadians is tenuous: At the Pittsburgh summit in September 2009, the G20 declared itself the world's new ruling economic council. At the time Gordon Brown, UK Prime Minister announced that “The old system of international economic co-operation is over, the new system, as of today, has begun.” [<http://bit.ly/2Tkoaj>]

So what is this ‘new system’ that the G20 promises to bring? A slow but steady trickle of pronouncements in the media from the chief boosters of globalization provides a reasonably clear view. During the London summit in April 2009, Robert Zoellick, president of the World Bank, stated “If leaders are serious about creating *new global responsibilities or governance*, let them start by modernising multilateralism to empower the WTO, the IMF, and the World Bank Group to *monitor national policies*.” [<http://bit.ly/d7rqn7>] Gordon Brown, never shy of venturing his opinion upon the global stage, concurred by stating “I think a new world order is emerging with the foundation of a new progressive era of international cooperation”. [<http://bit.ly/UktC6>] And the august pronouncements continue, with calls for a global currency, new global levies and taxes to be handled by the IMF, and ongoing ‘stimulus’ as central banks continue inflationary policies.

It is in terms of multiple crises—the financial crisis, the terrorist crisis, the climate crisis, the hunger crisis, the rising European currency crisis and so on — that these calls for a strengthened international layer of ‘governance’ are being framed. Economist Milton Friedman famously observed that “Only a crisis – *actual or perceived* – produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around.” Mackenzie would have recognized the truth in this, having played his part in the political turmoil of the early 19th cen-

tury which led directly to the union of Upper and Lower Canada.

Libertarians, of course, do not view the modern world through the lens of 19th century sensibilities. Some ideas, however – accountability and the decentralization of power, to name just two – are evergreen and worthy of debate. While Mackenzie may have viewed the G20 as yet another manifestation of the political oligarchy he pledged his life to resist, others might reasonably argue that incremental centralization and economic union bring their own advantages too, with Canadian federalization and the European Union offered as examples. To this, the obvious response must be that not all political unions have been so fortunate as to enjoy the political traditions which, though seriously degraded, still underpin much of the freedom we enjoy in Canada and the western world. Libertarians have much cause for concern at the ideas that are “lying around” and available for use in the culture today – collectivism, statism, authoritarianism, not to mention a general political apathy of the sort that allows global summits to pass without much comment.

While it's not possible to expand upon these ideas any further in this short article – in fact, the G8 in Huntsville deserves its own column – it should suffice to say that now, more than ever, the ideas and ideals of Libertarians need to be heard. Look into the G8 and the G20, read and research voraciously online, and raise awareness in your community. While these institutions purport to be for free capital markets, sound fiscal management and free trade, this is a far cry from the truth as their approaches to managed trade and the ongoing merger of private central financial institutions with governmental bodies makes clear.

We've seen this before. On the global stage, economic treaties are the vanguard of political union, and the empty promises of today are certain to become the institutional taxes of tomorrow if we allow a new political order to be erected beyond the reach of representative national parliaments.

Are you interested in continuing the conversation or in helping the Libertarian message be heard at the Toronto G20? Email the author at tehowe@signaltonoise.ca

Libertarians Run in 2 By-Elections

by Jim McIntosh

On January 6 Premier McGuinty called a by-election for February 4 in Toronto Centre to replace George Smitherman, former Minister of Health and current Toronto Mayoralty candidate.

Heath Thomas, who had recently moved out of the riding, volunteered to carry the flag for the Party. I agreed to be his Official Agent and prepared the required Candidate Registration form. Leader Sam Apfelbaum sent in the Endorsement letter so “Libertarian” would appear on the ballot next to Heath's name. Heath collected 30 or so signatures and visited the Returning Office to complete the nomination procedure.

(Continued on page 3)

Government is not the Solution — Book Review By Allen Small

To introduce the eighth chapter in his book *Fearful Symmetry: The Fall and Rise of Canada's Founding Values*, Brian Lee Crowley compares the actions of governments in Canada over the last fifty years with the 1960's television sitcom *The Beverly Hillbillies*. Those of us of a certain age will remember the accidentally oil-rich Clampett family of the rural Ozarks suddenly transported to suburban luxury in a Beverly Hills mansion, and completely ignorant of every modern household convenience. A frequently used gag was the ringing doorbell that sent the perplexed Clampetts searching for the source, but never associating the bell (effect) with a visitor (cause), and always being distracted from the search when the visitor finally relented and knocked. The Clampetts never connect the effect with the cause.

Crowley uses this effect-cause conundrum to portray Canadian governments reacting to perceived social problems by always using government as the solution for unemployment, family dysfunction, regional disparities, child poverty, and poverty in general, all of them broadening governmental responsibilities and increasing the bureaucracy.

"They hear these bells ring and they reflexively search for a government program to respond. But in fact it is the government programs that are causing the bells to ring."

Government is not and should not be the solution for all that ails us. This is the message that Crowley delivers in this book and it should warm the hearts of any libertarian minded individual (although Crowley is no libertarian).

Crowley refers to the old Canada (pre 1960's) as a "making state" of limited government, personal independence and responsibility, with productive citizens of strong character and work ethic. He considers marriage and commitment to the family as the most important social institution, and he devotes an entire chapter to it called 'Family and the Audacity of Love', not what you would expect to find in a text about politics and the economy.

The new Canada (1960's to the present) has become a "taking state" of big government, rent-seeking, personal

dependence on social assistance programs, the breakdown of the family structure, and a large proportion of unproductive citizens.

Crowley's thesis is that Canada was once, even more so than the United States, a country of self-reliant hard-working individuals governed by parliamentarians who eschewed big-government. As a result of the baby-boom generation entering the workforce and to placate Separatist Quebecers, governments of the 1960's and beyond have grown so much that at one point (1992) their size exceeded 50% of Canada's GDP though it has shrunk somewhat since.

Crowley continues the comparison with the United States by pointing out that 50 years ago both countries spent about the same proportion of GDP to support government and enjoyed a similar standard of living. Today Crowley might say our social safety nets and bloated government spending has not produced a kinder gentler society as so many think, but rather a less productive and poorer one.

Crowley offers hope that as the influence of the baby-boom generation and Quebec separatism wanes, so will the size and scope of government. We may yet return to the values we cherished prior to the Second World War with the accompanying social and economic benefits. I would rather this change be quicker and more revolutionary than evolutionary as he suggests, but it's difficult to fault his reasoning given the obstacles that must be overcome.

This is a scholarly work, heavily footnoted and referenced (60 pages worth) and certainly required reading for anyone interested in Canadian governance; however, there are some annoying flaws. There are no graphs, charts or other effective eye-relief, yet this kind of book screams for just that. There is no topic index, also a helpful tool if the book is to be used as a reference. I found the book to be long and repetitive in places and it dragged as a result. It could do with some skillful re-editing, but overall I would encourage everyone to read it.

Mid-afternoon on January 25, Heath received an invitation to appear on Goldhawk Live on Rogers cable. Only 2-3 of the 7 other candidates made it in person, and 1-2 of them spoke by phone. Heath got better than usual face time. Heath also attended meet and greet events at the Fred Victor Mission and at U of T. We printed up 2,500 election pamphlets. Heath distributed 300 in Cabbage Town (resulting in an inquiry), Gene Balfour distributed 200 in his neighbourhood, and we paid a company to distribute 2,000 in the Rosedale area.

Voter turnout was 28.1%. The Liberal won with 47% of the votes (i.e. 13.2% of eligible voters). We got 0.4% of the vote, ahead of the Freedom Party and John Turmell.

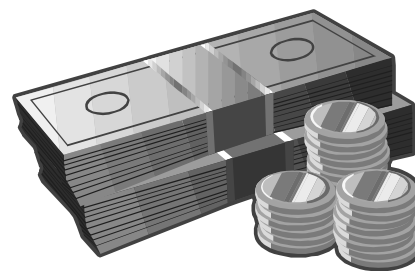
The day before this election, McGuinty called two more by-elections for March 4. Two individuals were ready to join the Party and be our candidate in Ottawa West-Nepean, but both backed out due to pressing family mat-

ters. (Unfortunately not before I had prepared Candidate Registration and Nomination forms for each of them.)

We had only one member in Leeds-Grenville and he was too busy to be our candidate. So Anthony Giles, federal candidate in Hamilton in 2008 and past Member at Large, volunteered as a paper candidate. More forms. I drove to Brockville and collected 35 signatures in an hour and a half outside a supermarket. I took the Nomination form to the RO and got Anthony on the ballot. Then I visited two of the local papers and subsequently placed a 1/8 page ad in the St. Lawrence EMI weekly on February 18 and 25. A reporter interviewed Anthony and posted an article in the *Recorder & Times* exclusively about our candidate. Anthony submitted written answers which were read at the All Candidates Debate in Gananoque February 23. On March 25 you can find the "unofficial" results on the Elections Ontario web site, www.elections.on.ca.

2009 Financial Report (Unaudited)—by Jim McIntosh, Treasurer

	January 1 - December 31			
INCOME	2008	2009	Notes	Diff
Donations - Cheques/VISA	9,846	10,869	1	1,023
Goods & Services	5,456	5,592	2	136
By-Election Donations	0	300	3	300
General Collections	30	130	4	100
Other Income	0	0	5	0
Interest Income	394	153	6	-240
TOTAL INCOME	15,726	17,044		1,319



					Budget	
EXPENSES	2008	2009	Notes	Diff	2009	2010
Accounting & Audit	4,400	2,500	11	1,900		2,500
Advertising	894	3,131	12	-2,237	4,200	1,200
Bank Charges	451	409	13	42	500	500
Brochures, Newsletter	1,061	2,020	14	-960	1,000	1,500
By-Election Expenses	0	448	15	0	1,000	600
Fund Raising Expenses	0	0	16	0	400	400
Insurance & Utilities	1,188	1,188	17	0	1,300	1,300
Meetings Hosted	2,365	3,054	18	-689	3,750	3,000
Office & Equipment Rental	139	140	19	-1	150	150
Office Supplies	496	1,058	20	-562	500	1,000
Postage & Courier	1,616	1,626	21	-10	1,000	1,600
Professional Fees	1,860	1,965	22	-105	2,000	1,900
Telephone	922	983	23	-61	950	950
Travel Expenses	1,057	3,444	24	-2,388		
Web and Internet	376	424	25	-48	700	200
TOTAL EXPENSES	16,824	22,391		-5,118	17,450	16,800
INCOME - EXPENSES	-1,099	-4,898		3,800		
Nomination Deposits refunded	5,000	200				
SURPLUS (DEFECIT)	3,901	-4,698				
Bank Balance January 1	12,230	16,182		3,951		
Accounts Payable at January 1	-2,656	-2,656				
Accounts Payable at December 31	2,656	2,500				
Bank Balance at December 31	16,132	11,327		-4,804		

**NOTES**

- 2 Audit and most travel expenses are Contributed Goods and Services
- 11 2008 included \$1,806 for audit of 2007 Election Campaign Financial Return (contributed services)
Audit Fee is shown as an expense (and Accounts Payable) in the current year but not paid until the following year,
- 12 2009 Advertising Expenses include \$1024 for 100 Liberty Flags, \$307 for 100 copies of The Law, \$700 for a booth at the Manning Convention, \$460 for 2 rollup Banners, \$210 for booth at Halton Eco Festival and \$431 for a booth at Word on the Street.
2010 Budget includes Manning Conference and 1 other booth (Halton, WOTS)
- 13 2009 includes \$147 for PayPal (3.65% of \$4027) and \$230 for VISA (10.80% on \$2130)
- 14 2009 spending included \$889 for 1,790 copies of Bulletin, \$648 for 5,000 general pamphlets, \$288 for 400 copies of Year End fundraising letter, \$108 for Environmental pamphlet and \$152 for 2400 Quiz Cards (WOTS)
2010 Budget includes \$1,000 for 2,000 Bulletins, and \$500 for pamphlets
- 15 2010 Budget includes provision for 2-4 by-elections (pamphlets, travel, signs). 2009 was for 2 by-election (5Mar, 17Sep)
- 18 2009 spending included AGM (\$1512), Executive Meetings (\$875), Ezra Levant room rental (\$338), Caucus Meeting (\$372),
2010 Budget includes AGM (\$1,600), Caucus Meeting (\$500) and Executive Meetings (\$900)
- 21 2009 spending included \$904 for mailing 1,579 Bulletins, \$170 for Caucus mailing and \$170 for AGM mailing
2010 Budget includes Bulletin, Caucus and AGM mailings
- 22 2010 Budget includes \$600 for folding and mailing Bulletin, \$1,300 for (contributed) Web Site services
- 24 2009 spending is mostly contributed travel expenses. \$481 was reimbursed for Manning Conference travel and living expenses for organizer (included in Advertising budget).
- 25 2009 spending included \$217 for Meetup Subscription (\$200 budgeted) and \$206 for web site.
2010 Budget includes Web Site and Meetup subscription charges.

Items not covered in this budget must be approved by the Executive under separate motions.