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www.libertarian.on.ca

Bulletin Vol. 31 No. 1 Fall 2010 Doug Burn, Editor

Newsletter of the Ontario

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, November 6, 2010 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Yorkland Hotel, 185 Yorkland Blvd, North York

Registration: \$50 until September 30 \$60 until October 31

\$70 at the door

Register online at our web site using PayPal or send your cheque or money order to the party. Register now to get the early bird discount.

We have three excellent speakers lined up for this fall's AGM.

Stefan Molyneux - Philosopher of Freedom, essayist, author, blogger, software entrepreneur

Stefan Molyneux has a graduate degree from the University of Toronto in philosophy having done his undergrad at York and McGill. Stefan is the passionate, articulate, funny and irreverent host of Freedomain Radio, the largest and most popular philosophy show on the web, with over 20 million show downloads. He is a popular speaker at libertarian events, including the 2009 New Hampshire Liberty Forum, the 2010 Porcupine Freedom Festival, and the upcoming Libertopia 2010 (October) conference in Hollywood California. He is considered to be an expert on libertarian communication, free market theories, secular ethics and a wide variety of other topics in economics, philosophy and society. http://www.freedomainradio.com

William D. Gairdner - Author "The Trouble With Canada ... Still!" to be released in October 2010

William Gairdner received his Ph.D in English Literature from Stanford University in 1970 and has had a diverse career as a Professor at York University in the 1970's, owner and President of The Fitness Institute (1973 -88), owner and President of Gairspar Investments Ltd. (1979 - Present), and yet somehow finds time to write books like the best-selling classic The Trouble with Canada (1990). His latest book (above) is a completely revised update of that book which looks at Canada today caught between two irreconcilable styles of government: a top-down collectivism and a bottom-up individualism. Dr. Gairdner shows how Canada has been damaged through a dangerous love affair with the former. Recent issues such as immigration, diversity, and corruption of the law are confronted head on as Dr. Gairdner comes to many startling and controversial conclusions.

http://www.williamgairdner.com

LIBERTARIAN PUB NIGHTS

Come on out and meet other like-minded folks 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.

Wednesday September 8, 7:00 PM—TORONTO

Scallywags Bar and Restaurant, 11 St. Clair Avenue West, second floor dining room (Phone 416-922-3737). We have arranged for special guest speaker Stefan Molyneaux of www.freedomainradio.com. .For more information contact Jim McIntosh (416-283-7589 or cfo@libertarian.on.ca). The next Pub Night is October 13.

Saturday September 11, 3:00 PM—OTTAWA

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 October 2.

Thursday September 16, 7:00 PM—K-W

Benny's Lounge, 183 Weber Street North, Waterloo (one block south of University Avenue. Phone 519-884-8074.) We plan to organize a K-W Libertarian Riding Association at this meeting. 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 October 21 in Guelph.

Pub Nights alternate between Guelph and K-W

September 19, 7:00 PM—HAMILTON

The Snooty Fox, 1011 King Street West, Hamilton (Phone 905-546-0000). For more information, please contact Anthony (905-691-0818 or anthonygiles1976@gmail.com).

Tuesday September 21, 7:00 PM—BARRIE

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 October 19.

Wednesday September 22, 7:00 PM—STOUFFVILLE Earl of Whitchurch Pub, 6204 Main St. For more information contact Allen Small (small4357@rogers.com or 905-477-4357). The next Pub Night is October 27

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

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Why your electricity costs are going up and up—By Allen Small

Ontario residents may have noticed that their electricity provider has increased the rate per kilowatt-hour. One cause of the increases can be traced to a report published by the Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA) in March 2008 (*Eliminating Subsidies and Moving to Full Cost Electricity Pricing* by Jack Gibbons) suggesting that subsidies for the production of electricity of almost \$8-billion annually should be eliminated over a ten year period (at 3.5% per year) to bring Ontario more in line with other jurisdictions in North America. Subsidies became policy because it gave Ontario a "competitive advantage". As in any economic situation that only looks at one side of an issue, that "competitive advantage" is coming back to bite

Ontarians. The genius that created the subsidies neglected to consider that they might discourage energy conservation and investment in small-scale generation, and they have. The article from OCAA also points to a resulting "productivity gap" between Ontario and neighbouring competitors such as New York State,

which uses just half the electricity compared to Ontario to produce one dollar's worth of GDP. While the subsidies were a bad idea to begin with, the story behind the additional increases gets much worse.

The local utilities appear to be the villain in this story but they simply distribute electricity for their municipal shareholders to the consumers. The real villains were previous governments who created the subsidies. Now the McGuinty government is compounding those increases in its rush to be green at all costs – mostly yours.

Over 100 years ago competitive cheap hydroelectric power became widely available to businesses and residents of Ontario and it became the industrial dynamo of Canada. We still benefit from that very good start, but today, rather than encourage a competitive market in the production of cheap electricity the McGuinty Liberals are doing the opposite. They have made long-term deals with various companies (like Samsung Corp.) to purchase electric power at rates far in excess of the current market rate of 4.5-cent per kilowatt-hour (a 100 watt light bulb could run for 10 hours for 4.5 cents).

As a result Ontario will be forced to buy electricity at between 13.5 and 44.3 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for the next twenty years from various solar and wind power companies. Recently (Aug. 13, 2010) McGuinty renegotiated a deal with 16,000 solar power project applicants to pay them 64 cents per kWh (down from an initial 80 cents) when they come on-line in the near future. Remember, these are intermittent power sources (no sun, no power), so "back-up" fossil fuel sources will be standing by (at additional expense because McGuinty is closing the cheap coal burning plants).

These massive subsidies to green energy are a result of policy brought about by the Ontario Green Energy Act (2009) which was shepherded through Queen's Park by the powerful lobby group, the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA). Under the new Green Energy Act,

former Energy Minister (now Toronto mayoral hopeful) George Smitherman (also of e-Health infamy), directed Hydro One to connect to the new heavily subsidized solar and wind power generators at a cost of \$2.3-billion (the ones that will get 64 cents/kWh for their power). The OSEA claims to speak for Ontario ratepayers and it has exerted its influence through another group: the Green Energy Act Alliance (GEAA). How do these groups get funded? Well, it's almost incestuous.

A recent article in the *Financial Post* (Aug. 17, 2010) by Parker Gallant points to a list of sponsors including: the Ontario Trillium Foundation (it distributes lottery revenue), the City of Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Ontario

Power Authority, the Ministries of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment, Aboriginal Affairs, Hydro One and on and on. Its largely tax money that is influencing government policy, not public input.

In November 2009 OSEA held its 1st Annual Community Power Conference.

The sponsors above plus a few other branches of government and a very few private-sector sponsors that directly benefited (law firms, equipment importers, unions) paid for the conference whose Honorary Chair was David Suzuki (whose foundation also gets money from Trillium). The keynote speaker was then Energy Minister George Smitherman who is slated for this year's conference, too. Somehow in all this, the word "cozy" seems inadequate to describe how Ontario's electricity policymaking works.

Is it possible to find a more expensive way to produce electricity than the McGuinty Liberals have? I doubt it. Imagine what kind of competitive position this creates for Ontario businesses for the next 100 years. Of course the new HST adds an additional 8% to your electric bill, as it continues to go up and up.

Word on the Street 2010 and OPH — By Allen Small Sunday September 26th is the annual book and magazine festival at Queen's Park in Toronto, called Word on the Street. For the past 21 years WOTS has attracted thousands of educated, affluent, professionally influential individuals from across Toronto and the GTA — mostly women (71%). Is it possible that among this group some may support the libertarian cause?

This year will mark our second consecutive foray into the heart of WOTS, searching for support and educating voters about our existence. Under the banner of the Ontario Libertarian Party, a cadre of volunteers will supervise a small booth at WOTS giving out literature (like this Newsletter), selling some books and presenting the World's Smallest Political Quiz to worthy candidates under Operation Politically Homeless. **We can still use some volunteers.** If you like to interact with the general public and would like to help us out, contact me or just drop by. Our location will be posted on the Party's website before the event. Who knows, you might even pick up a good book, cheap!

Homeowners burnt by Liberty Seminar BBQ - By Peter Jaworski

Orono, ON. August 17: Due to an anonymous zoning complaint filed with the local municipality, husband and wife bed-and-breakfast proprietors Marta & Lech Jaworski may be forced to pay as much as \$50,000 in fines for permitting their son, Peter, to use his family's property to host

the Liberty Summer Seminar, an annual event in support of liberty.

"Our family escaped Poland for fear of reprisals in 1984 after my mom and dad handed out pro-democracy and pro-freedom literature from under my baby carriage," said Peter Jaworski. "It's ironic and upsetting that they may now be facing charges in Canada for allowing me to host an event in support of those very same principles."

The Liberty Summer Seminar is a non-profit event for like-minded students and individuals hosted by the Institute for Liberal Studies, a registered charity in Canada.

The LSS has drawn hundreds of students and young people, prominent academics, like emeritus professor of philosophy Jan Narveson who was made an Officer of the Order of Canada, journalists like CBC's Kady O'Malley and U.S.-based Reason Magazine senior editor Michael C. Moynihan, as well as politicians like M.P. Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, M.P.P. Randy Hillier, and M.P. Scott Reid, amongst many others.

Over the weekend of July 24-25, the LSS celebrated its tenth anniversary with a two-day event on the Orono property. On Sunday afternoon, as the event was wrapping up, a municipal law enforcement official arrived without notice in the car parking area. He quizzed a passing LSS partici-

Libertarian Party of Canada News

The Libertarian Party of Canada has successfully completed the formal re-registration required of all political parties every 3 years. The signatures were complete and into Elections Canada in late June as required, but some administrative details were not done on time resulting in a secondary review process by Elections Canada. This delayed the formal confirmation until August 17. This process took a lot of effort and diverted attention from other issues, but about 137 new members were added to the party membership lists so it was worthwhile.

During this period cheques were not cashed and enquires not acknowledged. My apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused, but there were specific reasons for this. These cheques will be cashed and should have cleared your account (unless they are stale dated) by the time you read this.

Government, like fire, is our most useful servant if fully controlled by us, its citizens! And government, exactly like fire, becomes our most destructive master if not fully controlled by the open majority of its constructive, working citizens! -- George Washington

pant about the event, asking him what had been served for lunch, as well as the cost of the registration fee, and the number of port-a-potties available. After a few minutes, the official left without attempting to speak to the Jaworski family.

On August 12th, Marta and Lech Jaworski were each served with a summons to appear in court on the grounds that they had "allowed the use of land in an agricultural zone for a use other than a permitted residential use; namely for a commercial conference centre," which is contrary to Clarington by-laws. A first offence carries a maximum penalty of \$25,000 upon conviction.

"If we're convicted of letting our son host an educational seminar and barbecue with his friends, these charges could bankrupt us," said Lech Jaworski. "It's hard to have peace-of-mind when you're looking at something like this."

"I will always let my son use our property for what he believes in, and for the freedom we came to Canada to find," said Marta Jaworski. "If he wants to host a seminar to support more liberty in Canada, we're not just happy, but proud to let him do that. That's what you do as parents."

The Jaworskis are expected to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice at 605 Rossland Road East in Whitby, Ontario on the 28th of September at 2 PM in courtroom #103. To draw attention to their plight, they have created a blog (www.willowpondbb.wordpress.com) and have put together a legal defence fund to help pay for their legal fees.

Municipal Elections:

Several Libertarians are running for municipal elections this fall. Here is a sampling. If you're local to any of these candidates I'm sure they can use your support.

Barrie, Ontario – Paolo Fabrizio is running in Ward 9 and is currently the front runner with good support from local media. He has run several times as a Libertarian candidate both provincially and federally and is on the executive of the Ontario Libertarian Party. http://servingward9.com/

Airdrie, Alberta (North of Calgary) Ross Mann is well known to Libertarians in Alberta as the organizer of the local pub nights and he is on the board of directors of the LPC. www.airdriepolitics.ca

Scarborough East – Heath Thomas is Chairman of the Ontario Libertarian Party and has run several times for the federal and provincial parties. http://heaththomas.ca/

Guelph - Mike Wisniewski is running in Central Wellington Ward 6. http://www.cwward6.ca/

Ottawa – G. J. Hagenaar is running for city council in Bay Ward (Ward 8), http://www.bayward.ca/

London – Zach Young is running for Mayor.

Rapid Rail Link to Pearson Airport - Another Boondoggle? - By Jim McIntosh

The Toronto Star ran an article titled "Province vows rapid rail link to Pearson by 2015 PanAms" on Saturday July 31, 2010. "Toronto travelers will finally have a reliable express train service to the Pearson airport from Union Station every 15 minutes says Metrolinx president and chief executive officer Rob Pritchard." The trip is expected

to take only 25 minutes with only two stops at Bloor and Weston.

The article explains that the province called off a deal it had been negotiating with SNC-Lavalin due to financing difficulties. Metrolinx was given full responsibility to build and operate the service for 46 years. One has to believe it's a bad sign if SNC-Lavalin, a respected international engineering company, can't obtain the required financing. Estimates for the link have grown from \$43 million to about \$1 billion, according to Mayor Miller!

Metrolinx estimates that more than five million people travel be-

tween downtown Toronto and the airport: however, there is no indication of how many would use this service. There is already a GO Train from Malton to Union Station that operates every half hour in rush hour, and takes about 30 minutes. No doubt many people who work downtown use this service and are probably included in the count of five million. There is little more than press releases on the Metrolinx web site, so information about if or how they estimated ridership are not available.

Public transit projects are notorious for seriously overestimating ridership and underestimating construction costs. So it is highly likely that, like the TTC, this service will need subsidies to cover its operating costs and will never repay the capital costs.

A sidebar to the article provides alternative costs and times for the trip. The first is "From Union Station to Pearson Airport for one person on a weekday (HST included): \$90." While it doesn't explicitly say so, one would assume this is someone's estimate of the ticket price for the rapid rail link. One can be certain that a very small percentage of the five million travelers will pay this price. A limo would only cost \$52 and take 25 minutes, and you don't have to schlep your luggage to Union Station. And it doesn't cost

anymore if there are two travelers. The government will subsidize the ticket price to make it competitive.

The service would use exiting GO lines. So one has to wonder about a simpler alternative: provide a shuttle service from the Malton GO Station to the airport, only 10 minutes away. The shuttle would stop at all three terminals. Even the rapid rail service would probably require you to hop on an airport shuttle to get to your terminal. Why not have the airport shuttle go to the Malton GO Station to meet trains to and from Union Station? This would certainly be a lot less expensive than \$1 billon capital costs

and \$90 per ride.

One has to wonder if this is an inherent flaw in government appointed bodies. Metrolinx was formed to determine what transportation projects the province should take on in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. Maybe they are only looking for big projects, like the Eglinton and Sheppard subways, built with tax dollars. Instead of a simple cost-effective solution, we'll get another boondoggle.

Make Liberty a Personal Issue

Next time you're debating some government interference in your life with a friend or relative, ask him or her this. "Do you support the use of violence against me?" If this doesn't get them thinking in a different direction, leave immediately. Thanks to Stefan Molyneux of Domain Radio fame for this idea. He will be our guest speaker at Pub Night on September 8 in Toronto. (See page 1.)

(Continued from page 1)

Honourable Justice Marvin G. Morten - Retired Ontario Court Judge now with LEAP

Justice Morten started his career in criminal justice as a Toronto Assistant Crown Attorney in 1974. He worked in the Attorney General's office until 1993, when he was appointed an Ontario Provincial Court Judge. He retired in 2009. Justice Morten believes that "it is poverty that drives most people into criminal clutches, so a punitive society and a war on drugs do not work."

Justice Morten's vision to eliminate racial stereotypes and ensure justice has motivated him throughout his life. "Growing up as a black-Canadian male, I faced the stereotype that folks who looked like me were neither law abiding nor educated and that we had nothing to contribute to society. It has been my life's work to counter those stereo-

types and to be in a position where I can apply the law in a fair manner and in the public interest."

Justice Morten will speak on behalf of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) and is especially concerned about potential laws making sentences longer for drug offences like Bill S-10, yet to come before the House of Commons. http://leap.cc/cms/index.php

In addition we will have a workshop on the Ontario General Election scheduled for October 6, 2011. We will discuss objectives and strategy. Past Libertarian candidates will discuss campaign tactics. Potential candidates will have an opportunity to practice giving a two minute speech.

We will also hold elections for two Members-at-Large and two members for the Ethics Committee. Let us know if you're interested in helping on the Executive Committee.