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Bulletin Vol. 32 No. 2 Winter 2011 Doug Burn, Editor

Candidates, Vote Tally Doubled over 2007 By Jeffrey McLarty

Winning over twice as many votes as in 2007, the 5th strongest party, by vote, with 51 Candidates running in the Ontario 2011 General Provincial Election was the Ontario Libertarian Party. The Freedom party came in 6th, running 29 candidates. Noteworthy candidates included David Epstein, Paolo Fabrizio and Felix Liao for claiming 4th in their constituency, beating the Green Party, while David Epstein, Doug McLarty and Christen Milloy took the highest fraction of votes in their ridings at 2.6%, 2.1% and 2.0% respectively. The party took 19,605 votes, or 68% of the "freedom vote", as defined by the sum of Libertarian and FPO votes. A graphical snapshot of the breakdown of the freedom vote, as a percentage of total votes in each riding, is included below. Collectively, there were only 27 ridings left uncovered by either a Libertarian or the FPO. A table of the Libertarian Candidates and their results is included on the next pages.

Riding	Candidate	% of Total Vote	Votes
York Centre	David Epstein	2.61%	846
Scarborough-Agincourt	Doug McLarty	2.06%	656
Mississauga-Brampton South	Christin Milloy	2.04%	691
Bramalea-Gore-Malton	Joy Lee	1.94%	840
Hamilton Centre	Robert Kuhlmann	1.89%	634
Vaughan	Paolo Fabrizio	1.88%	929

ELECTION continued on p.2

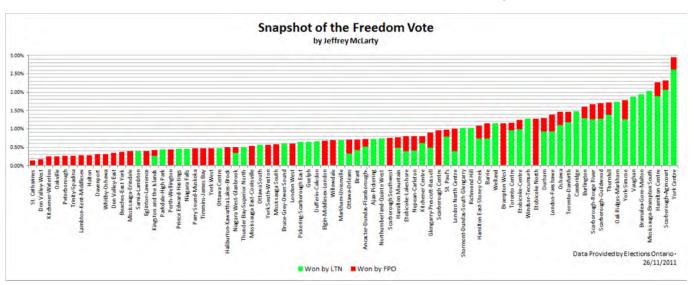
Convention Report by Matt Belanger

On November 5th, 37 members and guests of the Ontario Libertarian Party gathered for the Annual Liberty Seminar and Convention in Vaughan. The morning was dedicated to our two guest speakers – Gerry Nicholls of FreedomForum.ca and former Vice-President of the National Citizens Coalition, and Professor George Bragues of Guelph University. In the afternoon, the members elected a new leadership group and Executive committee in one of the most highly contested elections in Party history.

Mr Nicholls spoke about the recent provincial election, and lessons that we could take from it. He said this election was the Conservative's to lose, and they lost it because of a poor strategy, an uninspiring leader, and a failure to adjust to the Liberals strategy. The PC campaign was built around the idea of change, but their platform - "The Changebook" - did not offer much actual change from the Liberals. The PCs rode this message for most of the election, even when it was proving ineffective. In addition, Tim Hudak is not an inspiring leader – Mr Nicholls compared him to a backup quarterback. The PCs did not adequately respond to the Liberals attack ads, and allowed themselves to be defined by their opponents, as a party that couldn't be trusted in the areas that matter most to people – healthcare and education.

In terms of how the OLP should move forward, he gave seven suggestions:

CONVENTION continued on p.2



ELECTION from p.1

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	Kingston and the Islands	Jamie Shaw	0.27%	115

CONVENTION from p.1

- 1. Provide a real, clear choice
- 2. Define ourselves
- 3. Have values
- 4. Make an emotional appeal
- 5. "Small government" can't be our message; large government as a problem should be
- 6. Pick our targets
- 7. Win the war of ideas

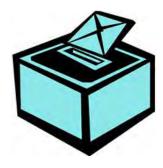
Professor Bragues talked about communicating Classical Liberal/Libertarian ideas with the public, with a focus on the ideas put forward by Aristotle in Rhetoric. He pointed out that prior to World War I, classical liberal ideas were widely accepted as the norm, and that there is hope we will return to those in the future. He gave suggestions on how we can apply Aristotle's ideas as a political Party.

- 1. Have a speaker with character
- 2. Use listener's emotions, and cultivate the right mood and mindset, while avoiding sophistry
- 3. Have a rational, logical, consistent message

After a delicious meal, it was time to get down to the business of the Convention – elections for Party Leadership, the Executive Committee and Ethics Committee. The first vote was for Party Leader, and and four candidates were nominated – Sam Apelbaum, Jean-Serge Brisson, Greg Pattinson and Allen Small. After brief opening remarks from each candidate, including Jean-Serge withdrawing from the race to throw his support behind Allen, the floor was opened for a brief question and answer period. Each candidate performed admirably answering some difficult questions. In the end, Allen Small was elected leader on the first ballot. After a hard fought battle between Paolo Fabrizio and Heath Thomas for Deputy Leader, Paolo won the honour, forming a new Leadership team with Allen. The remaining Party Offices were uncontested (Jeff McLarty withdrew from the race for Deputy Chair), however, the Member at Large election went to a run-off.

The new Executive Committee:

Allen Small, Leader
Paolo Fabrizio, Deputy Leader
Greg Pattinson, Chair
Jean-Serge Brisson, Vice Chair
Phil Bender, Secretary
Matt Belanger, Recording Secretary
Jim McIntosh, Treasurer
Jeff McLarty, Campaign Director
Christin Milloy, Member at Large
Adam Hyde, Member at Large



Leader's Report by Allen Small

I was chosen leader of the Ontario Libertarian Party on the first ballot at our convention in the City of Vaughan Nov. 5, 2011.

I will be working with a new team of executive members who are literally chomping at the bit, they can't wait to make things happen. They are also more diverse, both younger, and older members. They represent a broad swath of the province from the US border in the south, to the Quebec border in the east and north to Lake Simcoe

With their help, I plan to be an activist leader, visible and accessible, responsible and accountable. Both the face and the voice of the party when that is required.

I need your help too. I try to stay on top of the news, but I am not always aware of the local issues, specific to your riding. Whether the issue is wind power or health care, education, or solar panels, whatever, let me know, or contact your local media and tell them, they should be offering a libertarian viewpoint. Let them contact me.

Just remember we are the only political party in Ontario that actually questions the generally accepted view that more government is the solution to our problems.

We are the only party whose primary mission is to protect individual liberty. The only party that recognizes property rights, and seeks to restore economic freedom to Ontarians.

Unfortunately, many Ontarians are either unaware or apathetic that these fundamentals are even missing in their lives. We need to let them know. We need to be seen, heard and appreciated between elections. That will be the challenge of this executive team and I welcome the advice of the rest of the membership.

The current Liberal minority government at Queens Park could fall at any time once political party war chests have been topped up. We need to be ready to hit the ground running.

Our goal in the next election is a full slate of 122 candidates. We had 25 candidates in 2007, which doubled to 51 in 2011. We need another doubling and then some, to achieve our goal. And with your support and participation that will happen.

BTW, gift giving season and the end of the 2011 tax year are almost upon us. Please consider a 75% tax-deductible gift to our party, to help us prepare for that next election.

I hope to present periodic updates via YouTube just like this to keep everyone in the loop. Until then, thanks for your continued support, and thanks for watching.

Allen Small's Youtube Channel

Scan this image with your smartphone or enter the following link:





Attention-getters in the campaign by Jay Miller

In the provincial election, I participated in 9 All-Candidates' meetings, as well as several TV and radio interviews. That first minute was all-important, and this was the message: "Our proposals cost little or nothing, can be implemented quickly, can be added to any candidate's platform, and will give results immediately -results that can be measured."

Perhaps surprisingly, we weren't looking for votes so much as an audience for specific proposals, and for our platform to be remembered. People still come up and say to me: "What you said made sense"; and that was what we were after - not to harp on problems, and especially not to attack cherished Canadian icons. Just to stand out with ideas, good ideas that most anyone could support. Here are three (there are more):

- 1. At no cost to you, we can simply permit a supplementary private health care system. It would be there if you need it, ignored if you don't want it. But if you need it, it is an option. Because if you care about people, you want to let them take whatever steps are appropriate. This would reduce the burden on the existing system and it would also attract health care workers from other provinces, other countries. It will keep jobs and money in this province rather than the U.S. It would help us here because we would have needed medical facilities and that would attract more people to our area.
- 2. The OSSLT the standard literacy test that every student must take to graduate is an indicator of success. In 2004, 82% passed the OSSLT. This year, 83% did. No real improvement. Still, one out of six failing. Graduation results? Still, one out five students who don't graduate high school. For education, we propose the approach in effect in several other provinces: to direct limited public funds to licenced private schools. More choice for parents. More choice for students. Variations in curriculum, school hours, focus, class size, class duration whatever works. Without disturbing the public system. And a saving in tax dollars as well as more potential for improving results in education, by giving students and parents choices that the larger system cannot.
- 3. We propose public referendums whenever government wants to impose a new tax, or change policy. Let them earn their mandate for change, between elections. Let's strengthen democracy and give our representatives direct input. Simple, effective, inexpensive, and important. How would you have voted on the HST, the health levy, or the \$7 billion deal on wind energy? Don't you want to register your vote before new measures become law? And, for the young folks here, who can't yet vote, this is a way for you to make your voice heard if you come of age soon. Four or five years is a long time between elections, and new issues will benefit from public input.

We of course want to get votes, and to get candidates elected. But voters have an interest in very specific issues, and a big interest in lower taxes, and results. Focusing on positive ideas with no associated costs seemed the way to stand out, and especially if the proposals could be adopted by their own candidate. Then we could argue about the issue, rather than an entire platform.

The above is copied from the Party's blog. You can comment on Jay's ideas by going to http://libertarian.on.ca/blogs/jay-miller

Response to the Speech from the Throne 11/22/11

by Allen Small

In the Throne speech delivered today, while the McGuinty Liberals are acknowledging the global financial crisis, their actions are woefully inadequate as a means of averting the same fate. As if totally disconnected from the market turmoil in all of the Western democracies, the McGuinty government's plan pretends that Ontario is immune to such problems. In Europe and in America, governments have grown to the point where they are outspending the productive abilities of their own citizenry. The excessive deficits and accumulating debts are now jeopardizing the credit ratings of these countries while impacting the wealth and well being of their citizens.

Unfortunately for Ontario, it is following in the same path. Since McGuinty has taken power in 2003, Ontario's government has grown much faster than its economy. Government spending has doubled and so has the provincial debt, resulting in Ontario becoming a "have not" province. Those facts are intimately linked cause and effect.

In a recent speech, Dalton McGuinty suggested that Ontario would weather the economic storm with a strong stable plan; this was repeated in the speech from the Throne today. It's as if the government now realizes that the provincial payroll has ballooned out of their control, so they now intend to reduce the Ontario public service by five per cent by March 2012, and a further two per cent by 2014. Add to that another \$200-million in workforce reductions at the 630 government agencies, and they claim this will be sufficient to attack the massive \$250-billion debt. That is pathetic, and does not even begin to address the problem

Despite the newfound appreciation for budget restraint, the government is forging ahead with the expensive and unnecessary introduction of full day kindergarten and a reduction of college and university tuition by 30 per cent for families earning less than \$160,000 per year. This amounts to a subsidy and job security for the teacher's unions. Supporting the education sector is moreover highly questionable, given the teacher's union's active support during this past election campaign.

In the Speech from the Throne, the government insists that it will find improved efficiencies to encourage greater productivity without ever explaining how this can be done. In fact, the government undermines any possibility of this happening by treating the government monopolies of Healthcare and Education as sacrosanct, and never to be touched by the evil practices of competition, so widely and profitably used in every other sector of our economy.

No, the McGuinty Liberals have co-opted the wealth of hard working families and transferred it to government because think they know better how to spend the money of those families. Certainly, those families may prefer to make their own decisions about how best to spend their wealth if they had a choice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Federal Byelection in Toronto-Danforth

The death of Jack Layton has left this riding without a representative. Harper could call a by-election at any time to fill this seat. The Libertarian Party of Canada plans to run a candidate. If you would like to help, please come to the Toronto Pub Night (below) or contact John Shaw (LPC@adlib.ca, 905-806-5170).

LIBERTARIAN PUB NIGHTS

Come out and join other libertarians and friends for lively discussion of issues and ideas. Order dinner and/or drinks, pay your own tab. No additional charge. Visit http://libertarian.on.ca/pub_nights_for_more information.

STOUFFVILLE - Wednesday Nov 23, 6:00 PM 4th Wednesday of each month

The Lion of Stouffville: 5917 Main St., Stouffville, ON, 905-642-1344. For more information contact Allen Small (small4357@rogers.com, 905-477-4357). The next Pub night is December 28.

LONDON - Wednesday Dec 14, 7:00 PM 2nd Wednesday of each month

Blackshire Pub 511 Talbot St, 519-433-7737. We meet upstairs. For more information contact Tim Harnick (byrdland@live.com, 519-617-0982). The next meeting will be January 11.

TORONTO - Wednesday Dec 14, 7:00 PM 2nd Wednesday of each month

The Granite Brewery and Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Ave. E. (at Mount Pleasant, Phone 416-322-0723). For more information contact Jim McIntosh (cfo@libertarian.on.ca, 416-283-7589). The next Pub Night is January 11.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO - Thursday Dec 15, 7:00 PM 3rd Thursday of each month

Benny's Restaurant, 183 Weber Street North, Waterloo (one block south of University Avenue, Phone 519-884-8074). Please RSVP to Phil Bender (phil.libertarian@gmail.com, 905-703-6248). The next Pub Night will be January 19.

NIAGARA FALLS - Friday Dec 16, 7:00 PM 3rd Friday of each month

Boston Pizza Morrison, 7190 Morrison Street, 905-371-1898. Contact Adam (adam@niagarafallstours.com, 905-356-6359). Next Pub Night January 20.

HAMILTON - Saturday Dec 17, 7:00 PM 3rd Saturday of each month

The Snooty Fox, 1011 King Street West, Hamilton (Phone 905-546-0000). For more information contact Greg (greg.pattinson@yahoo.ca, 289-440-4734). Next Pub Night is January 21.

OTTAWA - Saturday Jan 7, 2:00 PM 1st Saturday of most months

O'Brien's Eatery and Pub 1145 Heron Road. For more information phone Dave Paul (djp_dashco@yahoo.com, 613-824-5907). The next meeting is February 4.

If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, please contact Jim McIntosh by email or phone 416-283-7589 or 1-855-ONT-LIBErty (1-855-668-5423).