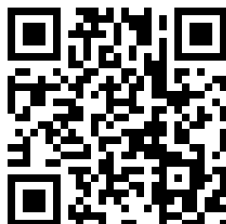


libertarian bulletin

Newsletter
of the Ontario
Libertarian Party

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



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Jim McIntosh, Editor

How can you help? The Top 6 Ways

By Jeffrey McLarty, Campaign Director

Our party is growing. We need your help more than ever. Below are the current top 6 ways you can help us prepare for the probable election next spring, and indirectly get more freedom in Ontario, right now.

1. Give the party a free option. We're on the verge running a full slate. That means a few candidates might not necessarily get their first choice for which riding they get nominated in. We're going to do everything in our power to get names on ballots in familiar ridings, however if you have the means to be more flexible. Giving the party a free option to put you in a neighboring riding could mean the difference between covering 70 ridings and 107 ridings. This flexibility takes the strain off the volunteers trying to make sure we cover the map. It will be orders of magnitude harder to cover the map if candidates want to stick to their home riding. You don't have to live in the riding to get on the ballot.

2. Take initiative. If you've volunteered to be a candidate, we need you to take as much initiative as you can. We will struggle with holding people's hands at the 11th hour of the nomination cycle. This is guaranteed. So, if you've run before, maybe try to connect with somebody who is running for the first time and act as a mentor. If you've never run before, reach out to your regional coordinator. Get to know them. Make sure they have your #1 and #2 riding preferences written down. If you don't know your regional coordinator, and want to be a candidate, e-mail or call me.

3. Be a candidate, with legs. You know what's better than a Candidate who can't get their own signatures? A Candidate who can. But we still need both. Conservative numbers indicate we have between 70 and 90 candidates ready to go. However, many ridings are only covered barely by a name. It's often the case that we need to pair names with somebody who can go get signatures. Getting both is the largest obstacle to getting somebody on the ballot.

4. Add insight to the 2013 platform. If you're a member in good standing, you can create a log-in on our wiki, at <http://wiki.libertarian.on.ca>. An admin will happily approve your account. Just follow the instructions if you don't

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, including our preparations for the election expected in the spring. Order dinner and/or drinks and pay your own tab.

HAMILTON - Saturday January 19, 7:00 PM

The Snooty Fox, 1011 King St. W. Contact Adam Hyde at 905-356-6359 or adam@niagarafallstours.com Next Pub Night is February 16.

WATERLOO - Thurs December 20, 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 January 17.

OTTAWA - Saturday January 12, 2:00-4:00 PM

O'Brien's Eatery and Pub 1145 Heron Road. For more information contact Andrew Philips (613-733-8948 or andrewmp@rogers.com). Next meeting is February 9.

STOUFFVILLE - Wednesday January 23, 6:00 PM

The Lion of Stouffville: 5917 Main St. For more information contact Allen Small (small4357@rogers.com or 905-477-4357). The next Pub Night is February 27.

TORONTO - December 12, 7:00 PM

The Granite Brewery & Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Ave. E.. Contact Jim McIntosh (cfo@libertarian.on.ca or 416-283-7589). Next Pub Night is January 9.

If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, contact Jim McIntosh at 416-283-7589 or 1-855-668-5423.

already have one. The search "Status of Platforms". You'll see the work in progress on Tax, Jobs, Energy, Health, and Education. Add your thoughts on the Discussion tab. The platform re-write will be finished later this year, so get your thoughts in soon if it's not too late.

5. Donate. As much or as little as you can. Go to our web-page. If you don't have it bookmarked, google "Ontario Libertarian Party", we should be the first hit. Click Donate Now.

6. Thank a volunteer & try to compromise. Our volunteers are amazing, and doing the best job they can. Sometimes, things are not perfect or morale drops when two or three libertarians don't see eye to eye. Nobody is

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View from the fringe: *The Liberty Weekend* – Nov. 3 & 4, 2012....and beyond - by Allen Small

If you missed the party's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and events around it here is part of what happened.

The AGM was held at the University of Toronto's Victoria College the day after *Liberty Now*. Many of you know that *Liberty Now* was a gathering of various liberty-minded groups and individuals, meant to be a sort of Canadian liberty fest. I was the originator and primary organizer of that not-for-profit event, which was designed to be an apolitical networking and information event.

From my perspective, *Liberty Now* was extremely successful. Nine different organizations, paid for display tables helping to defray our costs, and we attracted over 100 participants to hear panels of speakers discussing various topics around liberty in Canada. It was a great day; we even made a surplus that will be seed money for next year. Check it out here: libertynow.ca.

Having the two events on the same weekend was meant to attract more Libertarian party members to the AGM. We may try it again next year.

Last year at the 2011 AGM & Convention, I presented a ten-point platform of "promises," and this year I presented a self-evaluation as a measure of our progress. Here are the ten points followed by my letter grade and some comments:

1. The Party needs active, full-time, leadership. The Leader must be the voice of the Party, and be seen and heard particularly during election campaigns. Just as important, the Leader should be aware of everything that goes on where the Party and the Public are involved. **"B"** As a retiree, I spend a considerable amount of time each week writing, reading, planning, and posting information on our website, Facebook, and Twitter all related to advancing the Party.

2. Fund Raising is essential to political action. This is a priority issue that requires year-round effort and expertise. Monetary incentives could be used to encourage fund raising. **"C-"** We have done an online "Money bomb," but this is an area that needs much more work.

3. By creating a "speakers bureau" to sell libertarian ideas and policy, we can infiltrate communities and local volunteer groups within electoral ridings, and plant ideas to nurture grass roots support, while finding new members. **"NA"** No action has been taken here yet, but the idea is sound.

4. Push libertarian policy ideas using available media resources. Use community radio, TV, YouTube and the Internet, to get the message out. **"B-"** I did a short interview on CFRB 1010 Toronto, a

lengthy interview on CFRA 580 Ottawa, a couple of appearances on my local Rogers Cable TV channel, and I have been a guest panelist on several Ed & Ethan podcasts, produced media releases on behalf of the Party and YouTube clips etc.

5. Connect various local and regional liberty-minded groups and create a "liberty conference" where these groups and their constituency, come together to share ideas with one another to advance our respective causes. Invite the media to this event, and try and get some publicity. Make it an annual event. **"A+"** Of course, this was *Liberty Now* and I hope to make it an annual event and a focus for the liberty-minded community in Ontario.

6. Develop links to media by nurturing contacts so that media sources will use our press releases or ask for opinions from the Leader or party members on issues of the day. **"A-"** I have made contacts with media-types at CFRB, CFRA, National Post, and SUN MEDIA. I send media releases to them and many other media outlets.

7. Create an annual charitable event that we promote and sponsor to advance our model for volunteerism in the public sphere. Invite the media. **"NA"** No action taken on this as yet, but we would appreciate volunteers stepping up to take the lead on such a project.

8. Shift the resources used to publish the *"Libertarian Bulletin"* away from our members, to the general public. Send the membership electronic copies, but print flyers as local newspaper inserts on a quarterly basis at first. **"NA"** The last 3 issues of the Bulletin were mailed only to those that do not have an email address. Newspaper inserts are expensive; I would like to re-evaluate this idea.

9. The position of Party CFO currently concentrates too much work and responsibility on a single individual and that needs to be delegated to executive members and other volunteers who are guided by the CFO. **"C-"** A great deal of information regarding the position of CFO has been transferred to our wiki (by the CFO). This will continue, and we are discussing ways to simplify the job and distribute aspects of the job to others.

10. Strive for a full slate of candidates in the next election. The next election may be soon. We need to be ready. All active candidates will be required to undergo some training in order to deal with public events and media. **"B-"** I'm in frequent contact with Jeff McLarty, our Campaign Manager, regarding the Platform and the 80 plus potential candidates, we have at the ready.

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Fundraising in a Political Party - By Rob Brooks, Vice-Chair

Does it really matter that our ideas are better than those of the other parties – if our ideas are not seen and considered by the people that can vote?

The six basic words in the vocabulary of a political party are – persuasion and mobilization, along with money, member, message and machinations. In essence a political party only engages in two high level activities that matter – persuasion and mobilization. The other four words – the four Ms as they are called, are used to accomplish the first two. Persuasion is accomplished by the conveying of Message to persons that are expected to be voters in order to cause them to be more likely to vote for our candidate. Mobilization is the activities that cause a voter to physically move from where they live to the voting place to cast a ballot for our candidate. We are all Members, so that is clear. Money is funds available for spending. Members + Money gives Message – which gives persuasion. Money + Members gives mobilization which delivers votes into the ballot box. For smaller parties like us, we concentrate mostly on persuasion since it has the much bigger bang for the buck and we have limited funds. Machinations are the administration and logistics needed.

So, why is fundraising so important – quite simply – because it is the ONLY source of Money for a political party. There is no other source. There is no external funding. The only funds available to a political party for use have to be raised by asking. Without money, there is little activity, little persuasion and little success. Money is like the gas that fuels the political party car – with no gas, the car cannot go anywhere unless you push it.

Remember, there is no “they” in our party. It is “we” – what we each do individually adds up to what our party does. No-one is expected to do more than anyone else. No one is excluded from being asked to help if they can. When it comes to fundraising we are all the

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There has been some good progress made over the past year, but clearly much more work needs to be done. The intent of the 2012 AGM was to present a first draft of our platform, discuss talking points and the language we should be using in the coming election. This process is on going; party members are invited to add their contributions or criticisms online at: wiki.libertarian.on.ca. Please contact me via our website with any other suggestions or ideas. The platform will be ready in January 2013 for all members to vote on at our wiki.

We expect a general election early in 2013. With your continued support financially and otherwise, we will be ready with a strong platform and a full slate of candidates when the writ is dropped.

same – Leader, Executive, Member – we all can help. Money is the most important determinant of success of a political party. The parties with the most money have the most capacity to spread Message and persuade voters. People join and support a political party because they want to help. Donating money when asked – if you can – is really one of the most effective ways any of us can help.

I think when people ask for money they ought to tell you how it will be used and they ought to ask you in a respectful and courteous way. I almost always help when I am asked, because I understand how important money is in a political party – and I want my party to succeed and I want to do my part to help. Sometimes I only give \$10, sometimes if I can spare more, I give more – but I always want to give, because I always want to help our party to succeed. Fortunately, there are tax benefits to political party donations – for Ontario residents that give to a Provincial political party, for the first \$372, you automatically get 75% back after you file your tax return. So what I like to do is budget for \$100 net after taxes, about \$1 per day, and top up to my budgeted amount around November or December.

Our ideas do matter, and they need to be seen by the voters. Successful fundraising and donations from members allow that to happen.

Your New Executive Committee

At the Annual General Meeting on November 4, 2012, the Delegates elected a new Chair, Vice-Chair, 2 Members at Large and 2 members of the Ethics Committee.

Leader	Allen Small
Deputy Leader	Paolo Fabrizio
Chairman	Jean-Serge Brisson
Vice-Chair	Rob Brooks
Secretary	Phil Bender
Recording Secretary	Matt Belanger
Treasurer	Jim McIntosh
Campaign Director	Jeffrey McLarty
Members at Large	Christin Milloy, Andreas Marouchos

Ethics Committee

Sam Apelbaum	John Shaw
Chester Brown	Mark Tordai
George Dance	Nunzio Venuto

(Continued from page 1)

paid, and we are all in this together. So come to a pub night and give a volunteer a pat on the back. Behind the scenes your current elected executive is working on projects spanning things such as the 2013 platform, IT solutions to leverage economies of scale, trying to organize 107 candidates, balancing the expenses with fundraising, web development, improved branding, candidate training, conferences, and things like this *Bulletin!*

Property Rights And Unions - By Gene Balfour

I doubt that many would argue with me over the statement that property rights, and their protection, are an essential feature of a civil society. Without property rights and the institutions needed to enforce them, the strong could take from the weak with impunity.

People who have been raised in a free society will instinctively act to protect their most fundamental "property" – their bodies, thoughts and feelings. A closely related category of "property" includes the things that they produce – their creations and the outputs of their labor and investments. Another fundamental claim to "property" is our individual claim to our share of the natural world. None of us could survive without access to the material resources supplied by the earth and sun which are essential to all of us so that we can be fed, clothed, sheltered and much more.

Let's apply these property concepts to the work place.

An employee's job is not his/her personal property. The job belongs to the employer. It is created due to increasing demands on the enterprise and can only be authorized by the enterprise owner. The employee, who is approved for the job, accepts the work offered by the employer in exchange for mutually agreeable terms of trade. The employment contract serves to clearly document the remuneration that the employee will receive in exchange for the prescribed products required by the employer from the employee's creativity and labor.

In such an employment contract, the employer may entrust the employee with the use of the company's assets [money, equipment, intellectual property, proven operational procedures, and other employees who have signed similar employment contracts] in order to conduct a profitable business for the company. However, the employee should never forget who owns these assets.

Violations of property rights occur when one party damages, destroys or steals the assets owned by another party. For example, if someone purposefully burned down your home, this action is punishable by laws that were designed to protect your property rights. When an employee uses his exemplary job performance to negotiate better terms of employment with his employer, he will likely be successful if the job performance warrants it, but unsuccessful if it does not. If the employee chooses to leave his job as the result of a failed negotiation, the employer will likely be inconvenienced by this loss but is unlikely to suffer significant losses to the value of his property – his business. In most cases, the employer will find a replacement.

However, when a group of employees organize to remove their collective labor in a 'strike' action, the impact on the employer's business is likely to be much greater. Strikes can bring long-lasting costs to the business such as: losing customers; paying penalties for not fulfilling the contractual terms that they had signed with their customers; product spoilage and waste; damage to the company reputation and community standing; etc.

These are real losses to the business owners. Since a

strike is a planned action (i.e. does not occur by accident or and 'act of God') the losses are not insurable. Company owners cannot buy protection from the damages caused by a strike.

And yet, the union leaders who orchestrate this destruction of personal property are free to do so under our laws. Amazingly, they have been given the "right" to negotiate the terms of something they do not own – the jobs. This needs to stop!

A strike is described by union leaders as a "negotiation tactic". I see it for what it really is – blackmail. And blackmail is a crime.

There is no crime, however, in employees getting together to discuss ways to remedy workplace issues. But whenever an organized group of workers takes any action that results in any loss to the employer whatsoever, charges should be laid to everyone who takes part in this crime.

Regarding the hundreds of thousands of citizens whose property rights have been violated, think of the untold costs to all taxpayers who are given no option but to pay their taxes and, having paid their taxes dutifully, the unionized public sector worker has either used the threat of job action to "negotiate" costlier employment terms or, worse, have reneged on their side of the employment contract by going on strike.

If we could get a refund on our taxes whenever we are dissatisfied with the public services we receive, this would be a fair arrangement. However, it is a vicious slap on the face to all tax-paying citizens to have to endure these union shenanigans even after we have fulfilled our end of the bargain.

Comment from Jim McIntosh

Gene equates strikes with property damage, and makes the point that they are planned. Most strikes occur after the union contract expires. The union members agreed to work until the end date of the contract and are not obligated to work beyond that date if they don't have a new agreement.

What makes it blackmail is Ontario's Labour legislation which favours unions. In a free market the employer could anticipate a strike and would be able to prepare contingency plans. If it weren't for legislation requiring closed shops he would be able to hire and train alternate workers. The real damage occurs because of labour legislation that prohibits 'scabs' and that allows unions to picket work facilities and harass individuals who (attempt to) cross their line. Of course, if it's a 'wildcat' strike during the term of the contract, the employer should be able to terminate the contract, hire alternate workers, and sue the union for damages due to breach of contract.

Gene seems to be showing a bias against unions, but the real problem is the legislation. As a party dedicated to limited government, that's the message we want to send. We are FOR freedom of association, which is what unions ought to be about. Closed shop legislation makes it FORCED association.