



LIBERTARIAN BULLETIN

Newsletter of the
Ontario Libertarian Party
libertarian.on.ca

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John Shaw, Editor

2014 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Ontario

Sunday November 2, 2014

Following is a condensed summary of the convention events and votes. A more complete version is available on the OLP wiki site.

Welcome

Jean Serge Brisson's opening remarks emphasized 2 prime goals for the party:

1. to achieve a full slate of candidates to ensure greater party credibility and more active media attention.
2. to grow the party membership

Review of agenda for the meeting. Regarding election of officers, three members in attendance whose membership began within the past 90 days are ineligible to cast votes.

The Minutes for the 2013 Ontario Libertarian Party Annual General Meeting had not been approved. Mark Wrzesniewski moved that the 2013 AGM minutes be the first item on the 2015 AGM.

Leader's Report. Allen Small

2014 was a successful year, as indicated by 73 candidates in the June 2014 Provincial election. OLP candidates this year were better prepared and better equipped than ever before with our Platform (The Choice Book) and generic signs. OLP gained more votes in the June election than any other libertarian entity in Canada has ever obtained.

View from the fringe: "Thanks for your confidence."

Allen Small

(Leader of the Libertarian Party of Ontario)

I very much appreciated the vote of confidence I received during the Party AGM/Convention in November, and I'm excited to work with the new Executive Committee over the next three years.

Now that we are assured there will be no General Election until 2018, our focus until the next Party Convention in 2017 will shift to growing the party by increasing our membership to four or five times its present size. If we can do that, we can draw on a larger base for donations, candidates, and volunteers. Even at our present size we did spectacularly well in the June 2014 election, and could have achieved close to a full slate if we had the volunteers on the ground.

One significant difference for the coming election cycle is that we will have a full four years to reach out to Ontarians through our social media assets. Our Facebook and Twitter accounts have been in full operation for less than two years, and the results have been very encouraging. But we need other ways of reaching out to individuals in communities across Ontario. I welcome your suggestions on how we might do that. Please contact me or any of the Party Officers (see "Contact Us" on the website) with your ideas.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I hope you enjoy the forthcoming festive season, and that you and your family have a happy, healthy 2015.

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.

Tea Party of One

The Author's account

The story behind my book, "Tea Party Of One" is my account of how I stopped being an unpaid tax collector and also money collector for both the federal and the Ontario provincial government.

The story covers 23 years of how it started and why it is still going on today. For the past 23 years I have been out of all obligations to those governments and the book explains it. The entire story is based on Slavery and why governments cannot and will not address the issue in a court of law.

The story in the book starts from the very beginning when I started my business, to the day that I decided that enough was enough and it was time to act and kick out all governments of all kinds out of my private affairs and all obligations towards them, simply because of the way I earn a living.

I have made presentations on my story all over Canada, especially in British Columbia. I am presently on a tour of 7 cities in BC and Alberta. Laying down contacts and accumulating information from others who are having their various issues with governments.

Books are now half sold and another tour is in the works.

Jean-Serge Brisson



Income Inequality is not 'Fantastic'

I believe that the principles of liberty have widespread applications that do not limit us to a single side of the political spectrum.

Republicans and conservatives alike have failed to take an attractive position in the dialogue on income inequality. I would allege this is one of the main reasons Rand Paul thinks the GOP needs a rebrand.

When Kevin O'Leary or some other corporate apologist say income inequality is fantastic, they have just branded themselves (to the public-at-large) as caring as the monopoly guy.

This is a mistake. Especially when our goal is to advocate limited government. We need people who passionately care about our less fortunate. Otherwise we will be branded corporate sell-outs who plan on redistributing wealth to the wealthy through cuts to services and privatization.

We cannot expect voters to be familiar with nuanced policies. People elect someone they trust, we can earn their trust by sharing our vision of a prosperous Ontario.

Progressives do not have unshaken faith in government. Often times they simply view public monopolies as preferable to private ones, I don't blame them either. But we can show them that liberty works by talking about successful community initiatives that are far more effective than government.

Income is a very personal issue. There are many over and underworked employees in this economy that believe they are permanently stuck at their job. To many their predicament feels like a veiled form of serfdom. Very few people actually are advocating communism. Many just view it embarrassing that so many struggle while productivity, and the economy are larger than ever.

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Their frustration is valid, and we must be able to communicate that we understand this frustration. Once we earn their trust we can explain our plans for a free and prosperous Ontario. When we show that we honestly do plan on empowering all Ontarians with the liberty they need to succeed, we will appeal even with NDP supporters.

I want to stress that this is not a "left" vs "right" issue. That spectrum only benefits self appointed moderates who manipulate the dialogue in their favour. We can change the discussion on income inequality to one of empowerment and freedom.

We will never be able to do that, by calling income inequality "fantastic".

Damien Wilson

<http://politicsideasandpeople.wordpress.com/>

Convention: Continued on page 1:

Alan discussed the "Overton Window" strategy of gradually shifting public opinion towards our goals (as Rand Paul seems to be doing in the US). We must get away from "smugness" and craft our message better (a simpler message of "limited government"). The goal over the next 3 years is to grow the party!

Treasurer's Report—Jim McIntosh

Jim McIntosh provided copies of the [Income and Expenses](#) Statement as of September 30, 2014. Our bank balance was more than 50% higher after the General Election than it was at the same time last year.

Further to Allen's comments, Jim explained that thirty years ago the members of the Party were focused on Libertarian principles and finding fellow Libertarians. George Dance, former long-time Chairman, promoted a change in the Membership

Oath from "I hereby certify that I believe in and promise to uphold the Statement of Principles of the Ontario Libertarian Party," to "I'm for individual liberty" in an effort to create a "big tent" Party. This is reflected in our motto which has changed from "The Party of Principle" to "The Party of Choice."

The Party's on-line Contact Resource Manager (database) is up and fully running, thanks to Phillip Richard. This has allowed Jim to delegate tasks to John Shaw, like preparing and mailing Bulletin, Inquiry Packages and new Membership cards.

Jim has been busy with paperwork for 75 candidates (including one who was registered but not nominated, and one who had to withdraw after being registered and nominated), and printing and mailing Official Receipts to 116 donors.

Constitutional Amendments

It was moved (Jim McIntosh), and passed, that sections 1 and 2 of Article 4 of the Constitution be amended as follows: (amendment in italics)

1. Anyone who has signed the statement "I'm for individual liberty" *or has indicated agreement with this statement by other means provided by the Party*, and has paid current membership dues, shall be a Member of the Party.
2. Anyone who has signed the statement "I wish to be an Associate of the Ontario Libertarian Party" *or has indicated agreement with this statement by other means provided by the Party*, and has paid current membership fees, shall be an Associate of the Party.

It was moved (Jim McIntosh), and approved, that Section 8 of Article 6 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows : (italics indicate amendment)

All officers *members of the Executive Committee* must sign an oath of office, which shall read, "I support and promise to uphold the Ontario Libertarian Party Statement of Principles."

It was moved (Gene Balfour), and passed, that the wording for the motion to amend Section F, Monetary Policy, in the Statement of Ultimate Goals, which motion was presented by Neil Donnelly in the Convention 2014 Agenda, and reads:

"individuals associations and enterprises may issue their own currency"

be revised/replaced as follows:

"individuals and groups of individuals may issue their own currency"

It was moved (Gene Balfour), and passed, that he fourth and final bullet under Section F, Monetary Policy, in the Statement of Ultimate Goals be replaced with the following:

"Individuals and groups of individuals may issue their own currency."

New Party Colours

A copy of 3 potential logo / banner styles with gold (or yellow), deep blue, and white was presented to the members. The consensus of opinion was that OLP should change its current colours to be consistent with the Federal Libertarian Party, but that GOLD (in place of YELLOW) was highly preferable. No final conclusion was made.



Elections

The following were elected at the convention.

Allen Small—Leader
 Mark Burnison—Deputy Leader
 Phillip Richard—Chairman
 Mark Wrzesniewski ("Wojo") V. Chair
 Scott Marshall - Campaign Director
 Peter Sodhi—Secretary
 John White—Recording Secretary
 Jim McIntosh—Treasurer
 Igor Bily—Member at Large
 Ron White —Member at Large
 John Shaw—Ethics Committee
 Brandon McNulty —Ethics Committee

Full text, from John White, is here:

<http://wiki.libertarian.on.ca/index.php?>

title=Convention_2014_Minutes#Constitutional_Amendments

Libertarian Pub Nights and Events

Virtual Provincial Monthly Pub night - December 3 at 8:00 PM Call-in info <https://libertarian.on.ca/PubCalls>

Stratford Pub Night - Wednesday December 3 at 7:00 P.M. Pazzo Pizzeria 70 Ontario Street, Stratford. Contact Ben and Amy Eby 226-779-1577

Toronto Pub Night Wednesday December 10th, 7:00 PM Location: Granite Brewery and Restaurant 245 Eglinton Avenue East Contact Jim McIntosh at 416-283-7589.

Windsor Pub Night - Thursday December 11 at 7:00 P.M. The Spitfire & Firkin 11828 Tecumseh Rd E Contact Marek mwojtera@eurobasket.com

Guelph Pub Night - Friday December 12, 7:00 PM Bobby O'Brien's. <https://www.facebook.com/LocalsForLiberty> Contact Andrew Donovan, 519-362-7660.



Hamilton Pub Night - Cancelled for December

Kitchener-Waterloo Pub Night - Cancelled for December

Benny's Family Restaurant Contact Paul Herriot 519 208-8379

Ottawa Brunch Saturday December 20th - 2-4 pm 'Brien's eatery and Pub, 1145 Heron Road. Contact Ryan Nixon nixon.ryan.1986@gmail.com

Stouffville Pub Night - Cancelled for December http://libertarian.on.ca/pub_nights