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Editor: Jim McIntosh

**Libertarian Pub Nights and Events****ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Sunday November 1, 2015, 9:30 AM - 4 PM  
Monte Carlo Inn Toronto-Markham  
8900 Woodbine Ave., Markham, ON L3R 5K6

**Education: Is Anybody Taking Notes?**

By Phillip Richard

As the new school year arrives in Ontario, parents and students alike are experiencing a mixture of emotions as the summer draws to a close, and our learning institutions (hopefully) open their doors again to welcome a new batch of eager pupils.

Not too long ago, I was also one of those pupils, and I look back at my years in the Ontario school system with conflicting senses of joy and frustration. I feel frustrated mostly because of how long it took me to develop an enjoyment and appreciation for learning. In fact, I was only able to develop this after leaving the school system entirely.

My own sentiments reflect one of the biggest contradictions we see today in how our younger generations are educated and groomed to enter the modern workforce. If learning is supposed to be fun and engaging, then it defies logic why so many of us couldn't wait for the school day to be over so we could go home and find better uses for our time.

This contradiction is one of the many reasons why we think it is time to change our approach to education in Ontario, a province with millions of young minds at stake in a rapidly changing global economy. There are excellent teachers who want to make this system work. There are also excellent students who want to reach their potential every day, but are simply bored with a one-size-fits-all curriculum that doesn't accommodate their own learning pace.

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**Kitchener-Waterloo Pub Night - Thursday September 17, 7:00 PM (3rd Thursday each month)** - Benny's Family Restaurant 183 Weber St. N., Waterloo. RSVP to Paul Herriot (519-208-8379 or [paulforfreedom@outlook.com](mailto:paulforfreedom@outlook.com)) so he can reserve a large-enough table. The next Pub Night is October 15.

**Hamilton Pub Night - September 19, 7:00 PM (3rd Saturday of each month)** - FLA Cafe & Bar 660 Barton St E Hamilton Email Contact [RobertYoungHBSc@yahoo.ca](mailto:RobertYoungHBSc@yahoo.ca) for more information.

**Ottawa Pub Meeting - October 4, 2-4 PM (1st Sunday of each month)** - O'Brien's Eatery and Pub, 1145 Heron Road. Everyone welcome. For more information contact Damien Wilson, [i.damien.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:i.damien.wilson@gmail.com). Next meeting is November 1, 2015

**Guelph Pub Night - Friday October 9, 7:00 PM (2nd Friday of each month)** - Bobby O'Brien's, 90 Macdonell St, Guelph. Information [can be found here](#). and people can RSVP to Andrew Donovan, via cellphone 519-362-7660. The next Pub Night is November 13, 2015.

**Toronto Pub Night: Wednesday October 14, 7:00 PM (2nd Wednesday of each month)** - Granite Brewery and Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Avenue East at Mt. Pleasant Rd. For more information email Jim McIntosh ([cfo@libertarian.on.ca](mailto:cfo@libertarian.on.ca)) or phone him at 416-283-7589. The next Pub Night is Wednesday November 11, 2015.

**Stouffville Pub Night - TBA, 6:00 PM (4th Wednesday of each month)** - The Lion of Stouffville: 5917 Main St., Stouffville, ON. For more information visit our Facebook page, email Allen Small ([small4357@rogers.com](mailto:small4357@rogers.com)) or phone 905-477-4357.

*If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, please contact John Shaw by email ([horton@adlib.ca](mailto:horton@adlib.ca)) or phone 905 806 5170.*

*For the latest schedule, visit  
[http://www.libertarian.on.ca/pub\\_nights](http://www.libertarian.on.ca/pub_nights)*

## Founding of the Libertarian Parties — By Jim McIntosh

*Much of the following information was obtained from past issues of Bulletin, the newsletter of the Party. Some information was obtained from long time and past members of the Party.*

### Founding of the Libertarian Party of Canada

The US Libertarian Party was founded in June 1971, prompted in part by wage and price controls and the end of the Gold Standard, implemented by Nixon. The first Convention was held in Denver in June of 1972, attracting 89 delegates from 23 states. Ann Noble and Bruce Evoy flew to Denver to observe. One year later, 15 Canadians attended the second US LP Convention in Cleveland. It was there that Bruce Evoy announced his intention to found the Libertarian Party of Canada. He called 7 people to the founding meeting at his home on Church Street on July 7 (Robert Heinlein's birthday) to begin preparing a Constitution, By-laws and Platform.

The first Libertarian Party of Canada Convention was held October 25, 1973 at the Four Seasons Hotel in downtown Toronto. Eighty people attended and ratified the Constitution, By-laws, Platform and Statement of Principles. Sieg Pedde (still a member of both parties) was elected Leader, Terry Coughlin Deputy Leader, and Steve Jarvis Chairman.

Bulletin #9, September 1975, indicated that 24 Libertarians ran in the federal election on July 8, 1974 and received about 4,200 votes.

### Founding of the Ontario Libertarian Party

Bulletin #1 dated January 1975 reported that the founding meeting was held on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1975 at the home of Terry Coughlin in Whitby. At the federal convention in May 1974 Terry had resigned as Deputy Leader and was elected Ontario Leader by the Ontario Caucus. The following were elected to the Executive:

Chairman	Paul Mollon
Vice-Chairman	Bob Sproule
Secretary	Bruce Evoy
Recording Secretary	Anne Mollon
Treasurer	Vince Miller

At a second meeting additional positions on the Executive Committee were filled:

Deputy Leader	Brian Seymour
Members At Large	Michael Blake, Ken Freeman

Bulletin #1 also reported that a public meeting held in London was attended by 26 people. Party Member Vaidotas Jonynas chaired, while Steve Jarvis, past chairman of the Libertarian Party of Canada, and Phil Spicer spoke. Michael Blake, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Canada, introduced Sieg Pedde, Deputy Leader of the federal Party, who gave a "fairly optimistic" speech about progress in the fight for individual liberty. Phil Spicer addressed students at a meeting in Ancaster to a somewhat hostile audience.

### The 1975 Ontario General Election

The report "FROM THE CHAIR by Paul Mollon" in Bulletin #1 reported that the Constitution and By-Laws had been completed and that the general platform was nearing com-

pletion. He also offered his proposal for the Party in the upcoming Ontario elections. "Our objective should ALWAYS be to communicate Libertarian principles – effectively – to as many people as possible," wrote Paul (emphasis in original). He rejected any suggestion that there is an "irrevocable split" between education and political activities, and that, "a political campaign is the ideal time to make headway in communicating Libertarian ideas." He went on to propose that the party run a full slate (117 candidates at the time), even though the Party had only 60 members.

1975 was a busy year for the Party. In addition to recruiting possible candidates and preparing the election platform, the Party held a fundraising luncheon in February (attended by 18) and a Theatre Night in May (attended by 27). The Executive Committee decided to raise membership fees to \$10 for Regular Members, \$25 for Sustaining Members, and \$100 for Life Members.

In March, 1975, Premier Bill Davis introduced Bill 200, "An Act to Regulate Political Party Financing and Election Contributions and Expenses." Parties with four or more members in the legislature, or who ran candidates in 50% of the ridings (i.e. 63 candidates) in the last general election, or who do so in the next one, are automatically registered and qualify to issue receipts eligible for the generous tax credits. By July 33 members had volunteered to be candidates.

Bulletin #6, July 1975, announced a general meeting, "to discuss the future of the Party as a separate unit, or whether it might not be advisable to dissolve it altogether, at least for the time being." Bulletin #7 reported a large majority of members present at the meeting voted to retain the Party. Bruce Evoy resigned as Secretary and was elected Chairman replacing Paul Mollon who resigned to concentrate on the education sphere. Marilee Haylock was elected Secretary. Eleven members agreed to pay Marilee to staff HQ (4866 Yonge Street, Willowdale) from 9 AM to 5 PM for two weeks prior to the election. (During that time she sent out 250 news releases and 150 Information packages, and answered phone calls from voters, volunteer and candidates. Several members volunteered to staff HQ evenings and weekends to help with this work.)

A general election was called in late August, 1975 for September 18. Bulletin #8, listed 44 potential candidates and advised that nominations would close on September 4. It reported that failure to field 63 candidates would have severe repercussions on the Party's ability to raise money and to support candidates.

In the end, 17 Libertarian candidates collected about 4,500 votes. A "victory bash" was held at HQ on Election night, complete with champagne and pledges for ½¢ to 3¢ per vote. A group of people offered \$120 for Marilee to continue to staff HQ for another two weeks.

On October 1, 1975 a General Membership Meeting was held and the following motions were carried:

Annual financial reports to be made available to all members;

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CANDIDATES (with unofficial vote counts)

DAVID ANDERSON	Renfrew South	408
WALLY BELEJ	Riverdale	58
SCOTT BELL	Scarborough-Ellesmere	295
TERRY COUGHLIN	Durham West	149
GEORGE DANCE	Wilson Heights	372
BRUCE EVOY	St. George	248
DAVID LIDDIARD	Armourdale	583
ROB MCKAY	Parkdale	198
VINCE MILLER	St. Davids	232
ANN NOBLE	High Park-Swansea	217
DON REDEKOP	Eglinton	252
BOB SCHULTZ	Scarborough North	439
BRIAN SEYMOUR	Wellington South	117
DAVID TOOTILL	Scarborough East	539
RAY WHIDDEN	Scarborough Centre	159
JOHN WHITE	York Centre	295
MAREK WIECHULA	Sarnia	192

Form an "OLP Registration Committee" to organize the collection of 10,000 signatures necessary for the Party to become a registered political party;

Form an "Ad-Hoc Election Committee" to organize all election campaign activities;

Form a "Telephone Reminding Committee" (telephone tree) to ensure each member is phoned a few days prior to a meeting or other event; and

Form a "Social Committee" to plan and hold social activities.

It was agreed that General Membership meetings should be held every two months, with the first hour for business and the next hour and a half for "other interesting events."

At the Executive Committee meeting held October 4, Vince Miller volunteered to man HQ Monday evenings when he would draw up a weekly news release to be sent to media contacts. The committee also accepted in principle an 8 page booklet on Libertarianism prepared by Vince, to be used in

(Continued from page 1)

We can do better. In fact, we can do great. This is the starting point for the Ontario Libertarian Party's platform on education – a roadmap for fresh ideas that will give parents and students the services they need and deserve, and will bring innovation back into our classrooms across the province.

Here are some key highlights from our platform:

### Short Term Focus: More Choice

It's time for a more competitive and innovative approach to education in Ontario. We would give parents a tax-directed school choice, to give students the opportunity to attend the learning institutions that best suit their needs and objectives. We would also provide a tax credit to parents who choose to home school their children. No two students are alike, and our education system needs to be built, from the ground up, to

### Libertarian Runs Against PC Leader

Garfield Dunlop, the MPP in Simcoe North for the last 15 years, resigned his seat so Patrick Brown, the new Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, could take his place at Queen's Park. The Premier called the by-election for September 3. Darren Roskam of Barrie responded to the call for a Libertarian candidate. He also plans to be the candidate for the federal Party in the new Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte riding in the October 19 general election.

Darren is 47 years of age and attended Barrie's own Georgian College, from which he graduated as a graphic designer in 1998. He publishes *Crowe*, a local magazine.

Darren has been politically active since 2006 when he run for Ward 2 Councillor. Since then he has run independently for MPP in 2007; managed the Libertarian campaign of Paolo Fabrizio for MP of Barrie in 2008; Mayor of Barrie in 2010; MP for the Libertarians in 2011; MPP for the Libertarians in 2011 and again in 2014.

the Information Package jointly with the Libertarian Party of Canada.

Alex Eaglesham was elected to Member at Large at the Executive Committee Meeting on November 9, 1975.

At the General Membership Meeting on December 4, 1975 Marilee Haylock, Secretary, reported Party membership was up to 91. Terry Coughlin, Bruce Evoy, Marvin Lee, Marilee Haylock and Vince Miller appeared on television and radio programs. Alex Eaglesham reported only about 1300 signatures had been collected so far even with a prize being offered.

In addition to frequent General Membership Meeting and the various committee meetings, the party was quite active. Regular sessions of the Saturday Night Applied Philosophy (S.N.A.P.) Group were held starting in October (or earlier). Bruce Evoy began a weekly Public Speaking Class in November.

recognize and celebrate this diversity of minds and talents.

### Long Term Focus: Direct Accountability

We believe in returning the decision making process to the stakeholders who are most affected on a daily basis: students, parents and educators. In support of this goal, we would eliminate the need for large school boards, and other layers of bureaucracy that interfere in the process of delivering high-quality education to a diverse group of learners. We would also expand the playing field for educators by providing incentives for innovation and performance.

It's time for a change, because you deserve one. Join us today and demand from our politicians a better future for Ontario's next generation of great young minds.

To find out more about our plan for Ontario education, please visit: [libertarian.on.ca/Education](http://libertarian.on.ca/Education)

## The Deficit of Imagination—By Zork Hun

We are facing another election where (I suspect) the majority of voters already feel uncomfortable with the choice they are going to make if they even bother to make it. Everybody across the political spectrum can sense this discomfort and many try to address what could be called “**the democracy deficit**”. The most aggressively promoted alternative to our present system is the **ranked ballot initiative**. The idea behind it is perfectly valid, election results would more closely reflect the percentages of the popular vote, but places with ranked ballot elections do not produce better functioning political systems, a better economy or a greater sense of democracy.

**Term limits** could be the simplest remedy to the problems with career politicians but it is fiercely opposed by the political class.

**The election lottery** is a variation of the term limit idea. If the problem are the career politicians then the solution is simple: modelled after the jury system, we could create a pool of a few hundred qualified applicants in each riding for the job of Member of Parliament and pull a number from that pool once every four years. Pay them well while in office, but once they completed their single term they should return to their civil life. The essence of the idea is to minimize the possibility of corruption.

**NOTA (None of the above)** on the ballot would not solve any problem, but it could expose the overall dissatisfaction with the political class. No wonder they don't like it.

**Educating politicians** is Preston Manning's initiative. Politics is the only profession that requires no qualification whatsoever. Not even a literacy test. We could take his idea a step further suggesting that candidates for any party should pass a competency test as a condition for their nomination.

If we can think about **qualifying** politicians, then why not **voters**? The ballot could have a short questionnaire where voters have to demonstrate their understanding of the options. That they have basic knowledge of the issues. That they understand enough English (or French) to understand what they are asked.

How about a little **Swiss style direct democracy**? In the age of the internet, we could have quite a bit of it. How much actual power we could give to a ‘voter panel’ of a few thousand people could be open for discussion, but whatever the degree is, the very existence of

such forum would be a serious boost to political participation.

**Restricting voters.** While I share some of the concerns about decreasing voter turnout, I must wonder why more people showing up at the voting booths would make better choices. How would more parties in the parliament create better politics? Advocates of voting reforms wish to see higher turnout not to improve but to validate the system. This is why communist countries had close to 100% turnouts to cast a yes vote for the single candidate of the single party.

The problem is that an ever increasing number of people realize how pointless the whole process is, that their vote does not mean much and that even elected politicians are powerless against the entrenched power of the bureaucracy. Many people don't vote out of complacency. They just don't care.

One could ask how would greater involvement of the indifferent and the ignorant result in better decisions. **If anything, the number of the voters should be limited, not increased.**

People who are dependent on the state have a strong interest to vote for those who promise them more of other people's money. **People on social assistance should not be allowed to vote.**

People who work for the government have a strong interest in securing their own future by voting for candidates who promise to increase the size of the government. **Civil servants and government contractors should not be allowed to vote.**

People who work for any sort of government monopoly such as the health care industry, education and the government run parts of the energy sector have a vested interest in keeping their monopoly status. **Nobody working in such industries should be allowed to vote.**

People who are dependent on government benefits such as subsidized education, government guaranteed student loans or subsidized housing have a strong interest in maintaining those benefits. **Nobody on a direct or indirect government benefit should be allowed to vote.**

There is little chance that any of the ideas presented here will ever get implemented. They are not in the interest of the political class. Besides, the real problem is not how we elect our politicians, but what we let them get away with. I address that question in my blog: [zorkthehun.wordpress.com](http://zorkthehun.wordpress.com)

**What we have to correct is not a deficit of democracy but the deficit of imagination addressing its problems.**

