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**Vol. 38 No. 3 Fall 2018**

**Editor: Jim McIntosh**

**Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday November 3, 2018**  
**8:30 AM—4:30 PM**  
**Monte Carlo Inn**  
**8900 Woodbine Ave., Markham**

We will be electing Officers to the Executive Committee as a result of vacancies occurring since the 2017 Convention. These are Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Recording Secretary. We will also be electing two Members at Large to one year terms and 3 members of the Ethics Committee to three year terms. Go to the Registration page, here <https://libertarian.on.ca/civicrm/event/info?id=6&reset=1>

Register early—space is limited to 60 people and we had a full house last year. The fee is \$25 again this year, which only covers one-third of the cost, so we will be looking for donations to help cover the expenses.

**Changes at the Party—by Gene Balfour**

Call me old fashioned but the 1962 song “The Times They Are A Changin’” by Bob Dylan was playin’ in my head while thinkin’ about this topic and the shifts that are occurring within the Ontario Libertarian Party.

It has been only 3 months since Ford kicked Wynne’s butt all over the ballot box and Allen Small rode his white steed to the Ontario Libertarian Party’s broadest provincial showing in history. In what seems the blink of an eye, Allen has dismounted for a well-deserved rest, Rob Ferguson has donned his spurs and ten gallon hat, Mark Snow has taken up the reins of the Chairman’s chariot and been joined by Wojo as his trusty Vice-Chair. These moves made room for two new Members At Large (MaL), Sabile Trimm and Matt

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## Libertarian Pub Nights and Events

**Toronto Pub Night - September 12, 7:00 PM (2nd Wednesday of each month)** - Granite Brewery and Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Ave. Everyone welcome - bring a friend. Free Parking under the restaurant. 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 October 10, 2018 .

**Ottawa Pub Meeting – September 9, 2-4 PM (usually 1st Sunday of each month)** - O'Brien's Eatery and Pub, 1145 Heron Road. Everyone welcome. For more information contact Mark Snow [marksnow@rogers.com](mailto:marksnow@rogers.com). Next meeting is October 7, 2018.

**Kitchener-Waterloo Pub Night - September 20, 7:00 PM (3rd Thursday each month)** - Angel's Family Restaurant, 190 Weber St. N. (Corner of Weber and Lodge). Come out to enjoy friendly libertarian conversation. Invite your friends - all are welcome. Please RSVP to Paul Herriot (call 519-208-8379 or email [paulforfreedom@outlook.com](mailto:paulforfreedom@outlook.com)) so he can reserve a large-enough table. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 18, 2018.

**Other Pub Nights** – If you’re interested in getting together with other libertarians in the following places, contact the person indicated.

**Barrie Pub Night**— Contact: Brett Dorion [www.facebook.com/BMD4LIBERTY/](http://www.facebook.com/BMD4LIBERTY/) OR John Wright [www.facebook.com/WrightToLiberty/](http://www.facebook.com/WrightToLiberty/)

**Harriston-Minto**—Scott Marshall, [scott@harriston.ca](mailto:scott@harriston.ca) or 519-338-3205

**Mississauga-GTA West Pub Night**—Contact Jay Ward 416.799.2699 or by email: [jayward0111@gmail.com](mailto:jayward0111@gmail.com)

**Peterborough**—Jacob Currier, [jakecurrier33@gmail.com](mailto:jakecurrier33@gmail.com) or 705-808-2308.

**Windsor-Essex**—Ian Shalapata [ian@windsorsquare.ca](mailto:ian@windsorsquare.ca)

*If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, please contact Jim McIntosh by email ([cfo@libertarian.on.ca](mailto:cfo@libertarian.on.ca)) or phone 1-855-ONT-LIBerty or 416-283-7589 in the GTA.*

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

**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.**

## My First Report as Leader — By Rob Ferguson, Leader

As the new leader of the Ontario Libertarian party I'd like to first thank Allen Small for the years of leadership, guidance and support he has given to the Party. Allen is more than just a leader; to most of us he is our friend. As his replacement I will work hard to maintain the momentum he has created for the Party.

After our Deputy Leader resigned in 2015 I was elected to that position by the Party caucus. At the 2017 Convention, knowing full well that Allen would be resigning as Leader, I put my name forward and was re-elected to this position. In my duties I found myself engaging other members of the Executive on day to day tasks. As Deputy Leader I assisted our Campaign Director, Leader and Chairman to recruit, train and put in place 116 candidates for the June 7 General Election.

After Allen Small resigned and I took over as Leader I starting setting mandate for myself and the Executive Committee. With the Deputy Leader position now vacant. the first thing I plan to do is to begin the process of electing a new Deputy Leader. It is important to have someone to take over as Leader in the (unlikely) event I am unable to continue. A Deputy Leader could assist me in many areas, so we can accomplish more. Having an elected Deputy Leader is an asset to the party and will make things smoother for me, the Executive Committee and the Party.

Nominations for Deputy Leader will be accepted up to September 9. Bios of the candidates will be posted on our website. Caucus members will vote for a new Deputy Leader from September 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. The vote

will be an online ranked vote. Gene Balfour has volunteered as the election coordinator. Members of caucus will receive instructions in an email explaining how to vote. The position of Deputy Leader is open to all current members but as per constitution only caucus members may vote for the next Deputy Leader. After speaking to many members within the party I feel we will have many great candidates. I looked forward to working with whoever caucus elects.

Gene Balfour was elected Chairman at the 2017 Convention to assist with the Full Slate mandate. His years of experience as a recruiter was seen as a valuable asset. In August, having accomplished the objective, he resigned from the Executive Committee. Gene will continue to volunteer for the party wherever he is needed. The Officers are as follows; Mark Snow as Chairman, Mark Wrzesniewski as Vice-Chair, Chris Swift as Secretary, John White as Recording Secretary, G.J. Hagenars as Treasurer, and Scott Marshall as Campaign Director.

This opened up both Member at Large positions. Seven members were interested in the positions. Many of the candidates reached out to the executive with resumes and letters explaining why they would make the best choice for appointment. Thank you to all of the members who stepped up to join our Executive Committee. We used a ranked ballot method to appoint Matt Dougherty and Sabile Trimm as our two new Members at Large. Our website has been updated to reflect these changes.

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Dougherty, as well as an empty spot for a new Deputy Leader.

To add to all this shuffling, Jim McIntosh prays daily that a candidate(s) will come forward to accept his passing of the Treasurer's baton so that he too can take leave of these duties. Any takers?

Finally, the Ethic Committee is also down three members.

With all these changes, our methods of staffing Executive Committee assignments have also shifted somewhat. As many of you know, I was a professional IT recruiter for over 35 years and see great value in using modern recruiting methods and tools to identify and attract the talent we need to continue our growth as a political party and to function as a "change agent" within Ontario's political culture. In my view, success as a political party can only be achieved by doing the persistent and creative "missionary work" of spreading our

message to the uninitiated masses. People will only vote Libertarian after they have embraced our message.

The recent election of two excellent Members at Large was the result of a proactive recruiting campaign of potential prospects from within the Ontario Libertarian Party Caucus. Seven excellent candidates stepped forward to compete; many were relatively new to the Party. In the past 12 months 158 people have joined the Party, enriching our talent pool substantially, which bodes very well for our future.

Membership growth is crucial to our future success for several obvious reasons. Please keep up this important work by encouraging your friends, neighbours, coworkers and anyone who shows interest to join us and donate generously.

Finally, for the purpose of this article.

By September 16, our Caucus will have elected a new Deputy Leader using a specialized online election service for this purpose. Details will be sent to Caucus

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## Changes at the Party—by Rob Brooks

What is wrong with a government solution to a problem in society?

Well, in simple terms, I think a government solution is almost always the least best way to tackle a problem in society. So why is government successful at getting assigned new and more jobs? Well, quite simply because they make promises and people believe them, and our culture is such that we have a "trust" in government.

We all know government solutions are immoral, inefficient and ineffective. And we all know the trust is misplaced.

So if we have a chance, and 30 seconds to present our alternative, how do we best do it?

Depends on the receiver of the message. If the message is to a person already a libertarian in their attitudes and beliefs, you can go full immoral on them and scream "taxation is theft" and go have a beer together afterwards. Very satisfying - you bond with a fellow traveler in the wilderness and accomplish nothing whatsoever.

Of course you can simply write off everybody else and have a sort of intellectual superiority satisfaction. You can know you are smarter and right and if those idiots only understood, which they never will, then our life would be better. You grab your Hayek and drift off to sleep.

Or you can try to tackle the problems of the overuse of government solutions in society with the tools of a political party. You can say the same things the exact same way as you were saying before out alone on your own, and you may find it quite surprising that in a political party, instead of with a blog in the wilderness, you

are suddenly reaching new and more people. For a time you will think - "hey, I am doing something really great. It is working. More people are listening. But you would be mistaken in your thinking. It is only because you now stand on the platform of a political party, something people also "trust" somewhat, that you are heard by more people.

Eventually, you will plateau with the same angry rhetoric and you will drift away back to your blog and your basement. Or maybe, just maybe, you will learn how political parties work, how voters actually think, and find ways to collect votes, and get elected. Getting elected gets you an even bigger platform and you can reach even more people with your ideas. And if you do this well enough, you may even learn how to win a majority of seats and actually pass laws to put your ideas in place.

That's what credible and viable political parties do. But there are lots of fringe political parties that just make noise in the wilderness and never have any hope or chance of changing anything.

Not worrying about having a full slate is a sure sign that a person has no clue what makes a credible and viable political party. This isn't morally wrong or evil or anything, and if a person's objective is to simply reach more people than they would screaming with a blog, it is a perfectly rational choice.

What each member of this party has to decide is whether they want to be a viable party that is working toward being able to change society, or if they are instead satisfied with simply making a lot of noise and hearing themselves talk about it, and then having a beer afterwards.

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members by email. The election period will extend 3 weeks beginning August 27. During the first two weeks, new candidates will be identified and make themselves and their views known to all. Recently, we have seen lots of activity by Deputy Leader candidate Gerry Bourdeau on our Facebook **LTN Members Only** Page. Gerry has been adeptly promoting himself for the job and responding to many queries from our Members. His pro-active campaigning surely sets the bar for others who wish to compete!

Voting will take place between September 9 -16. It will be limited to Caucus members only, as per our constitution. Please note that next June at the 2019 Party Convention, both the Leader and Deputy Leader positions as well as all Officers will be up for election.

Besides electing leaders, convention meetings are

important inasmuch as they are the only time when changes may be made to the Constitution. In my view, the Ontario Libertarian Party must adapt with the times: with technological changes; with demographic shifts; with disruptions in Ontario's political culture; and with the challenges of our own growth. New Members will introduce new ideas, new perspectives and potentially new paths to success while adhering to our core principles.

The future looks promising. Let's all take these elections seriously and shape our future together

**The first lesson of economics is scarcity: there is never enough of anything to fully satisfy all those who want it. The first lesson of politics is to disregard the first lesson of economics.**

**- Thomas Sowell**

## Reflections on the Ontario 42 General Election—By Jim McIntosh

Now that we've had a chance to recover from the effort required to mount what was probably the biggest and most expensive campaign in the Party's history, what did we accomplish and what did we learn?

Our primary objective was to run a "Full Slate," a candidate in every one of the 124 ridings (or Electoral District as they are now called). This would mean everyone who voted would see the name "Libertarian" on the ballot. It would also mean we were running enough candidates to form the government, not that we expected to, but at least that might count for something with the main stream media.

We knew it was going to take a lot of effort. We had a strong base with almost 150 volunteers willing to be candidates in January. Unfortunately many of ridings had none so it was necessary to find candidates outside the riding, some-time in an adjacent riding, but in 25 cases, nowhere near the riding (Type C candidates).

Allen Small, Gene Balfour and Rob Ferguson were available to spend hours every day recruiting candidates and following up with them. Scott Marshall took time out from his business to prepare a budget, design our election platform and signs, get them printed and distributed. He, too, spent hours recruiting candidates and re-assigning them when some fell through.

One of the changes to the legislation effective for this election was the ability to collect signatures and register candidates with Elections Ontario as "Standing Nominations" long before the writ was issued. This gave us several months to organize Nomination Support Teams to collect signatures for candidates who didn't live in their ridings. Gene and Scott took a three-day road trip to collect signatures in Northern Ontario. Peter d'Entremont collected signatures in three ridings in eastern Ontario and then traveled from Ottawa and collected signatures in ten Toronto ridings with help from Daniel Boivin. Gene and his wife made 13 trips from Fenelon Falls to Toronto and area to collect signatures in 20 ridings. Another ten candidates collected signatures in ridings for non-resident candidates. This effort went from late March until almost the close of nominations on May 17.

So how did we do?

In the end we ran 116 candidates, filling 93.5% of the ridings. We missed 8 ridings. We did manage to fill one of the four northern ridings, but there was no one close to the three north western ridings to collect signa-

tures. Four ridings we thought were covered failed to collect signatures. And one candidate resigned from the Party after nominations closed and the ballots were printed. (Notices were posted at each polling station.)

Meanwhile, thanks to generous donations from supporters, we were able to purchase and distribute to candidates 2,000 lawn signs and 20,000 platforms. We also ran a saturation radio advertising campaign (eight 30 second ads per day) for four days just before the election in five markets (Ottawa, Barrie, Hamilton, Niagara Falls and London). As you can see from the table we spent close to \$39,000 on the campaign.

What will we do differently next time?

First off, we will try to recruit more candidates who live in or near the "Type C" ridings in order to reduce nomination costs and effort. Maybe our 158 new members who joined since January 1 will be what we need. We will also follow up earlier with candidates who aren't collecting their signatures and find someone nearby to help. (Maybe that's you.) Many of our candidates provided profiles with their contact information. However I received many calls from reporters and organizers of All Candidate Meetings requesting contact information for candidates. We will make sure our web site has at least the contact information for every candidate.

We need to do some analysis to determine if our radio advertising resulted in better vote percentages than we received in other areas.

We also discussed how to ensure our candidates agree with and understand our principles. Allen was able to evaluate members who were active on Facebook as good or questionable Libertarian candidates. Allen also held monthly conference calls with candidates and other members to discuss the platform and other issues. These were increased to weekly during the election. Hopefully those who participated were better able to deal with questions they received during the campaign.

Campaign Expenses	Amount
Nomination Expenses	7,795
Advertising	16,448
2,000 Bag Signs	7,729
20,000 Platforms	2,748
Transfers	2,652
Business Cards	465
Postage & Courier	92
Bank Charges	56
Travel	772
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,757</b>

### The Essence of Politics

A politician stands before a crowd and shout, "If you put me in power, I will give you everything you want and you won't need to pay for it! I will force the person standing next to you to pay for it."

And the crowd cheers.

- Richard J. Maybury, *U.S & World Early Warning Report*