

Newsletter of the **Ontario Libertarian Party** 

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7-91 Rylander Blvd. Box 121, Toronto, ON M1B 5M5

416-283-7589 or 1-855-ONT-LIBErty



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Vol. 37 No. 1 Spring 2017 **Editor: Jim McIntosh** 

# June 7, 2018 – General Election Preview Edition #1

#### Full Slate

If you haven't heard before, we are planning to run a full slate in 2018. This means a candidate in every one of the 122 ridings (up from 107 in 2014). Why? Because for a party to be credible, it must demonstrate that it at least has the size and organizational capacity to have a candidate on the ballot everywhere. I know of no case in Canada where a party has run a full slate and where that party has not won one or more seats in a subsequent election. The Green Party federally, and Quebec Solidaire provincially are examples from the

As you know, we are the 5<sup>th</sup> largest party in Ontario, and if we plan and execute well, we will run a full slate in 2018. This will move us out of the group of 14 or so fringe parties in Ontario into the group of 5 credible parties - parties that conceivably could form the Government – along with the Green, PC, NDP, and Liberal.

In simple terms, we need about 600 hours of effort, and about \$35,000. We can save money, and we have been. We have about half or so of what we need already. We cannot save up the hours of effort. We have about 300 members, so we need about 2 hours of effort on average per member. It takes about 4 hours of effort to collect the signatures (25 minimum per riding, 35-40 recommended to be safe) and get signed up as a candidate. Most people can do it all themselves in an afternoon. Some prefer to do it as a team of two, or as a small group. Either way, it just takes a little time and requires no special skill other than to ask people "Will you sign my form for the election?" Some do, some don't some will ask a few questions. A few hours later, this job is done.

# **Libertarian Pub Nights and Events**

Toronto Pub Night - April 12, 7:00 PM (2nd Wednesday of each month) - Scallywags, 11 St. Clair Ave. W. For more information email Jim McIntosh (cfo@libertarian.on.ca) or phone him at 416-283-7589. The next Pub Night is Wednesday May 10. .

Kitchener-Waterloo Pub Night - March 16, 7:00 PM (3rd Thursday eachmonth) - Benny's Family Restaurant 183 Weber St. N.. Waterloo. RSVP to Paul Herriot (519-208-8379 or paulforfreedom@outlook.com) so he can reserve a large-enough table. The next Pub Night is April 20, 2017.

Ottawa Pub Meeting - April 2, 2-4 PM (usually 1st Sunday of each month) - O'Brien's Eatery and Pub, 1145 Heron Road. Everyone welcome. For more information contact Damien Wilson, j.damien.wilson@gmail.com. Next meeting is May 7, 2017.

Peterborough Pub Night -Saturday March 11, 12:00 PM The Black Horse Pub and Restaurant, .450 George St.N...Peterborough. Contact Jacob Currier, jakecurrier33@gmail.com or 705-808-2308. If you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Nightin your area, please contact Jim McIntosh by email (cfo@libertarian.on.ca) or

For the latest, visit http://www.libertarian.on.ca/pub\_nights

## 2018 Campaign War Chest Fund

If you haven't already seen it, we have a 2018 Campaign War Chest Fund Raiser. All the dollars are being saved up to fund the General Election - June 7, 2018. Please chip in regularly. If you chip in about \$30 per month, it adds up to a lot for the party, and you will get a rebate of about \$300 when you file your tax return. What a deal for everybody involved!

## Riding Types

phone 1-855-ONT -LIBErty.

For our full slate plan, we have identified ridings as either Type A, Type B or Type C.

Type A is where a local member runs and takes care of the paperwork themselves, with little need for help (about 4 hours effort). No money is needed. There is no campaign deposit. You just collect the signatures, sign a couple of forms and hand things in to the local Returning Office.

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### **Leader's Report** — By Allen Small

"Full Slate in one eight!" That phrase is stuck to the edge of my computer screen on a Post-It note. It's more than just a reminder; it's become a target.

I've been in five elections now, both Federal and Provincial. One of my most active election campaigns was the 2011 Federal Election held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

With the financial help of the federal party and for-LPoC vicemer president John Shaw, we posted signs right across the riding. I remember having a radio interview from a Toronto disc jockey that had seen a sign during his commute and was intrigued. That interview is still somewhere YouTube.

But one memory stands out

for me from that election. I was handing out fliers in a local plaza and had a long chat with one fellow. He seemed genuinely interested in the Libertarian Party, which he had just learned about during our chat. I felt like I was closing the deal, earning his vote, until he asked: "how many candidates are running in the party?" I had to say 23 (of 308), including me. Well, he laughed and with a dismissive wave of his hand he walked away saying "good luck." I was crushed, all that

work, all that effort, all those good ideas, we were not credible and he knew and I knew it.

In November of that year I became Leader of the provincial party and in my head I had set for myself the goal of credibility or bust for the provincial party! I didn't know how, I didn't know when, but I did know we

needed a full slate as a start.

We did a terrific job in the 2014 General Election with 73 candidates and we have had candidates in every by-election since then except one. In that case our candidate withdrew just before nominations closed and it was too late for a substitute.

Since our last Bulletin there were two by-elections. Both Dean Harris in Otta-

wa-Vanier, and Stefanos Karatopis in Niagara West-Glanbrook did an outstanding job representing us and maintaining our fifth place position among parties.

We have been credible and we will continue to be. At this writing we have more than enough candidates to run a full slate but many ridings are blank, we need even more to act in the event that someone needs to withdraw. Credibility won't be easy, but we can do it, we have Rob Brooks on our team!



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Type B is like Type A, except we don't have anybody living in the riding. The candidate will live in a nearby riding. They do the same things as Type A. They are responsible for gathering the signatures, filling in the forms and handing them in.

Type C is where the challenge lies. In this case we have no local member running and no member living close by. However somebody is willing to have their name on the ballot – but they might live hundreds of kilometres away – so they really cannot collect the signatures or hand in the paperwork. In these cases we have a plan; our Nomination Support Teams will come to the rescue!

## **Nomination Support Teams**

This is the most important part of our 2018 Campaign Plan. It will make or break our full slate objective. We know from experience we will have many Type C candidates – perhaps about one-third of all ridings. Without help, they won't get on the ballot. We have a plan! We will be hiring 6 teams of 2 people each – students, paying them \$100 per day + reasonable expenses, to get on the road and go to the riding where we need the signatures collected and then hand in the paperwork. The six teams will be home based from Ottawa, Toronto (x 2), London, Sudbury and Thunder Bay. Each team will work 5-10 days total and once all the ridings are done, they are done. They don't even have

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to be members or supporters of the party. They will like a road trip and a good experience after just finishing the year at college or university. If you know somebody that might like this experience contact Dean T. Harris by email at dean.tea.harris@gmail.com.

## Campaign Plan Outline

At the party Executive Meeting, March 13, 2017, the Executive approved the following Campaign Plan Outline.

#### **Campaign Spending Budget**

\$15,000 Nomination Support Team \$5,000 printing for booklets / platform flyer \$5,000 printing for bag signs (qty 1,000) \$3,000 Facebook ads, \$200 per day, after nominations are completed

\$4,500 Active candidate materials, est 30 x \$150 avg.

#### **Campaign Fundraising**

We should raise about \$15,000 during May and June 2018 (60 days)

#### 2018 General Election Countdown

June 7, 2018 is the date of the next General Election. The party has installed a countdown timer on its website, so you will never forget and you can check how many days are left. It is right above the 2018 Campaign War Chest thermometer on the upper right side of the page. About 430 days left – I can't wait!

#### 2018 Election Platform

After working on this for over a year, we have our 2018 general election platform ready to go. Platform development has been a big job, with the party Leader, Allen Small, the Campaign Director, Rob Brooks, and many other members helping along the way. We have been holding monthly member conference calls where we have discussed different elements of the platform. We have tried it out in the by-elections. Lots of tweaking and fine-tuning have happened. It is ready to go! The only remaining step before the election is to have it approved according to the rules of our Constitution and Bylaws this summer. If we have it done by Paolo's BBQ, we will have some copies of hand-outs ready to distribute.

## Rapid Response Team

In the run-up to June 7, 2018, we want to make sure we are as effective as we can possibly be. In part, what this means is that every single member, no matter where they live, or what preferences they have for communications – be it rotary phone, text message, Facebook or email – is fully involved and fully in the loop.

# Ontario Libertarian Party 2018 Election Platform

The theme of our 2018 Libertarian Election Platform is very simple – "Explore New Possibilities".

- ⇒ Hydro Rates "Cut Your Hydro Bill in Half"
- ⇒ Education "Put Parents Back In Charge"
- ⇒ Healthcare "End Healthcare Rationing"
- ⇒ Jobs and the Economy "Make Ontario a Job Magnet"
- ⇒ Property Rights "Back Off Government"
- ⇒ Youth "Prevent Youth From Becoming Generation Screwed"
- ⇒ Democratic Reform "Modernize Our Democracy"
- ⇒ Government & Taxation "Reduce the Size and Scope of Government"

There is descriptive text for all of these items on our website. Have a look and don't be shy to share it! https://libertarian.on.ca/platform/platform2018

Over the next couple of months, under the leadership of Phil Rackus (prackus@pcrglobal.ca), we will be putting this together and trying it out. If you are old enough — think of an old fashioned telephone chain. We want to make sure that when we send a message out or an action request to our members, nobody is left behind and everybody is completely in the loop. This will be one of the most important new capabilities that we will build as a party and into our culture as we evolve from fringe party status to credible party status. Stay tuned!

#### Candidate Selection

Between now and February 2018, we want to have a name assigned to every one of the 122 ridings so we know in advance if it is a Type A, Type B or Type C situation. Our candidate dashboard is kept up to date. Feel free to refer to it any time you want. Our prospective candidates are the most important asset we have. We need everybody that can possibly be a candidate to offer their services. I have never met a person that said it wasn't one of the best life experiences they ever had - and it knocks another item off the bucket list. And you know what - a lot of people that do it for the first time become hooked and can't wait to do it again! From a name on the ballot with no campaign to a full on campaign where you answer media inquiries and go to debates - the choice of involvement is yours.

Whatever you can offer – we need you! <a href="https://libertarian.on.ca/utilities/nominations/">https://libertarian.on.ca/utilities/nominations/</a> nomination-dashboard.php

## Statement of Income and Expenses—Unaudited

2016 compared to 2015—Excluding donated Goods and Services

9	January 1 - December 31				
INCOME	2015 2016 Notes		Difference		
Contributions	19,850	17,863	1	-1,988	
Interest Income	139	105	4	-34	
Other Income	215	90	6	-125	

TOTAL CASH NON-ELECTION INCOME 20,204 18,057 -2,147

					2016	2017
OPERATING EXPENSES				Notes	Budget	Budget
Advertising	1,056	1,051	11	5	1,900	2,400
Bank Charges	663	872	13	-208	600	640
Brochures, Newsletter	626	1,783	14	-1,157	1,580	3,000
Fund Raising Expenses	436	-	16	436	300	600
Furniture & Equipment	73	382	17	-309	-	
Insurance & Utilities	851	881	18	-30	900	900
Interest Paid	15	-	19	15	-	
Meetings Hosted	1,231	1,804	20	-574	3,000	2,000
Office & Equipment Rental	403	149	21	254	150	150
Office Supplies	1,506	1,883	22	-376	1,210	1,300
Postage & Courier	1,354	2,599	23	-1,245	2,275	2,600
Professional Fees	475	1,870	24	-1,395	1,870	1,970
Telephone	602	527	25	74	700	600
Signs	-	201	26	-201	-	3,500
Social Functins	82	705	27	-623	400	600
Travel Expenses	-	30	28	-30	295	600
Web and Internet	487	786	29	-299	795	800
Prepaid Expenses Increase (Decrease)		(1,170)	30		(1,170)	(1,170)
TOTAL CASH OPERATING EXPENSES	9,861	14,353		-5,663	14,805	20,490

INCOME less OPERATING EXPENSES	10,343	3,704	-6,639

Election Income	-	2,959	32	2,959		
Election Campaign Expenses	-	(2,473)	33	2,473	8,000	1,000
Bank Balance January 1	18,680	25,202		6,522	22,805	21,490
A/P January 1	(1,115)	(859)				
A/P December 31	859	-				
A/R January 1	785	1,426				
A/R December 31	(1,426)	(310)				
Bank Balance at December 31	28,128	29,649		1,521		

#### **NOTES:**

- 1. 2015 Donations included \$4,812 to reimburse the Party for an ad run by a candidate during the 2014 General Election. Had this been received in 2014, donations last year (including Election donations) would have exceeded 2015 by \$5,783.
- 11. The Party plans to spend \$200/mo for ads on Facebook, plus \$1,000 for materials for active candidates (e.g. buttons, etc)
- 14. We plan to send *Bulletin* to all current members and donors (\$1.800 for printing) plus \$1,200 to print brochures for new members and candidates.
- 24. 2017 Budget includes \$800 for folding, stuffing and mailing Bulletin plus \$1,170 for Online Media Training course
- 27. 2017 Budget of \$600 is for the Annual BBQ
- 29. 2017 budget includes \$250 for the Party's Web Site and \$250 for our Meetup subscription to promote Toronto and Ottawa Pub meetings.
- 30. The Prepaid Expense of \$1,170 offsets the \$1,170 in Professional Fees since it does not affect the bank account.,
- 33 The \$1,000 is budgeted will allow the Party to respond quickly when a by-election is called.