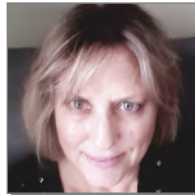


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www.libertarian.on.ca**Vol. 38 No. 4 Winter 2018**

Editor: Scott Marshall

2018 Annual General Meeting Recapby *Judi Falardeau*

This year's AGM was well-attended considering it was held shortly after the municipal elections. Many of the usual participants, as well as some new faces came out to elect our new Executive Committee and hear the current Officers' reports.

Leader, Rob Ferguson gave us an update concerning recent media attention, and an increased growth in the Party membership. Rob outlined some strategies to lead us to more success in the 2022 election. He emphasized the importance of forming Nomination Support Teams to help get candidates on the ballot. Rob addressed some constitutional, as well as internal issues, such as establishing standards for becoming a member of the Executive, and forming a shadow cabinet.

The reports of other Executive Members also provided a positive outlook on the Party's future – which will be achieved with continued efforts in areas of social media. The monumental achievement of a (near) full slate during the 2018 election was noted as a direct result of both behind-the-scenes, and overt efforts of the Executive and the many members who gave up their time and talents.

Deputy Leader Gerry Bourdeau, spoke about the party Facebook page, as well as his willingness to accept articles for publication. Gene Balfour, speaking on behalf of Chairman, Mark Snow, encouraged members to read, learn, and to run as a candidate. He suggested we learn more about Direct Democracy, stating it to be a superior system than first-past-the-post, which is detrimental to smaller parties.

Vice-Chair Mark "Wojo" Wrzesniewski reinforced our need for new members – both skilled and green. Secretary Chris Swift, commented on the good turnout during the 2018 election and echoed the need for increased member contributions to our media accounts.

Jim McIntosh, speaking on behalf of Treasurer, G.J. Hagenars went through the financials, and happily reported that the Party is in a healthy post-election position with \$28,000. Despite that number, Jim raised the question of "how can we bring in more money?"

Libertarian Party of Canada (LPoC) President Coreen Cocoran, appealed for new Federal members, stating that Elections Canada requires 250 Federal members in order to maintain the Party's official registration. She also indicated a need for directors (in both the GTA and Ontario.) Coreen also clarified that there will be no merger between the People's Party of Canada and the LpoC.

The esteemed speaker was Dr. Shawn Whatley who is a country doctor practicing in Mount Albert, Ontario. He has an impressive resume, including Munk Senior Fellow at the MacDonald-Laurier Institute. He is the past President of the Ontario Medical Association – and was considered a "bully" by dozens of status quo medical practitioners. His book, *The Lethal Wait*, describes the current situation in Health Care: that doctors are there to serve the system, not the users.

This statement, is from the Ontario Medical Association's website: "The OMA Board has the legal and fiduciary responsibility to manage the affairs of the corporation with a view to the best interests of the membership."

Dr. Whatley gave many examples of how public health care in Canada is on a downward spiral heading towards catastrophe. Linking physician's obligations to the OMA as the primary cause of the broken public system - and of the countless (and needless) suffering of individuals forced to use said system – Dr. Whatley's presentation was powerful.

He touched on limited hospital budgets vs bloated administrative burdens. Dr. Whatley offered solutions, which were Libertarian in nature: private options and encouraged the Party to push ahead with them.

continued on page 2 ...

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.

Leader's Report

by Rob Ferguson



In this edition, I'd like to talk a bit about the differences between a Convention and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and specifically about the timing of the next convention.

This has been an ongoing topic of discussion at the monthly executive meetings every since Allen Small's resignation and my promotion from Deputy Leader.

Because I was elected Deputy Leader at a convention in November 2017 and was elected by the members of the party rather than by caucus, there is no conflict with me remaining Leader until the next convention. According to the our constitution, the next convention should be in November 2020 (every three years).

That said, it has become clear that we as a party have a need to update our constitution, bylaws and some operating policies before we can move on to platform development and candidate recruitment ahead of the 2022 Ontario General Election.

Because changes to the constitution can only be made at a convention and must be voted on by our membership it is important that we deal with this business sooner than later. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that our next convention will be held in November 2019.

The added benefit of moving the convention forward a year is that all executive positions will be up for election including Leader and Deputy Leader.

The result will be that we will have a fully elected Leader and executive in place a full 2.5 years in advance of the 43rd Ontario General Election which will give us all more time to prepare and improve on our historic 2018 results in both the number of candidates and total votes gained.

If you have any questions on this or anything else you'd like to discuss, I invite you to reach out to me by email: leader@libertarian.on.ca

You are also welcome to contact any other member of the executive committee. After all, we are here to serve you, our members as we work to spread our message.

Finally, on behalf of the Party, I want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Joyous Kwanzaa, or simply happy holidays. May the new year bring health, happiness and prosperity.

Explore New Possibilities

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ONTARIO LIBERTARIAN PARTY



Four Party Leaders at 2018 AGM

L-R: Rob Ferguson (July 2018 - Present), Allen Small (Nov 2011 - July 2018)
Sam Apelbaum (Oct 1996 - Nov 2011), George Dance (June 1995 - Oct 1996)

2018 Annual General Meeting Recap

continued from page 1

Allen Small our (former) Leader, was recognized for his work and dedication the Party, and was presented with the prestigious Marilee Haycock award. Jim McIntosh thanked him for all his great work, and we all expressed our sincere appreciation.

After a delicious lunch, the elections for various openings on the Executive began.

In 2-minute speeches, each candidate defined their skill sets and visions of what they could offer the Party, and how they would attempt to shape our future. The votes were taken according to the constitution, and new members were added to the Executive Committee and Ethics Committee as follows:

CHAIRMAN: Sabile Trimm

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mark (Wojo) Wrzesniewski

SECRETARY: Matt Dougherty

RECORDING SECRETARY: Judi Falardeau

TREASURER: Pieter Liem (incoming January 1st, 2019)

MEMBERS-at-LARGE (2): Jacques Boudreau & Chris Swift

ETHICS COMMITTEE (3): Allen Small, Gene Balfour & Andrew Allison

Finally, member John Finley rose to tell us why he was a Libertarian, and encouraged us to continue to fight for what we believe. Many were moved by his speech.

At 4:30 pm the 2018 AGM was Adjourned.

Politics and Tribalism

by Gene Belfour

I am a big fan of podcasts and audio books. I can listen when driving, relaxing, exercising and doing chores around the house.



My favourite Austrian Economics scholar and author is Dr. Hans Herman-Hoppe. The linked audio book (link at the end of this article) recently offered me many memorable moments as Hans' knowledge and insights swept into my consciousness over a few hours.

Goodreads says: *A Short History of Man: Progress and Decline* represents nothing less than a sweeping revisionist history of mankind, in a concise and readable volume. Dr. Hans-Hermann Hoppe skillfully weaves history, sociology, ethics, and Misesian praxeology to present an alternative — and highly challenging — view of human economic development over the ages.”

One theme that remains with me is the extent to which humans have been “tribal” throughout our evolution - a characteristic that was necessary for primarily physical survival as the book explains.

In our modern Western culture, this “tribal” characteristic seems to have morphed into ‘identity politics’. While fewer than 1 million humans lived on earth 3000 years ago and belonged to tribes for physical survival, 7.2 billion souls are alive today compliments of scientific and technological advances that ancient man could not imagine. Has ‘tribalism’ in the form of identity politics and alliance with specific ideological memes become a necessary survival strategy for modern man? If so, why is it necessary and why has it become so super-charged within our contemporary culture?

One explanation could be that political allegiance is the one over-arching manifestation of identity politics that represents the only legal and culturally acceptable way to fight the “oppressive” forces of conflicting tribes. The LBGTQ community, for example, has been a growing political force for decades in order to overcome the perceived, and real, constraints imposed on its members. Besides “gay rights”, the widespread “rights” movement has produced numerous public agencies, clubs, NGOs, ad hoc public demonstrations, violent clashes, and more.

Meanwhile, tribes like Libertarians and ‘right wing’ Conservatives advocate for LESS disruptive tribalism and MORE individual responsibility to counter the growing “victim culture” that undergirds the notions of the “oppressed/oppressor” meme of cultural Marxism. These contrarians, especially the Libertarians, are vocal opponents of the strategies of ‘left wing’ politicians who back Special Interest Group ‘tribes’ for their own selfish political gain and survival.

Populism in politics is another example of contemporary tribalism. The success of Donald Trump, Doug Ford, and the UK’s Brexit are examples of the “have not” portions of society engaging in political warfare with the “have yachts” citizens - those who belong to the “elites’ that have allegedly, or actually, become rich and powerful at the expense of less privileged ‘tribes’.

As a casual observer of people in society, it seems to me that all tribes seem to be fighting over a greater share of the spoils of progress, whether they have earned it or not. In some ways, we behave collectively like pack wolves hunting, killing prey and then fighting over the carcass until only the bones remain and it’s time to move on to another prey.

Are we really as civilized as we like to think, or are we just a much bigger mosaic of pack animals fighting for survival? Read or listen to this book and see to what conclusion you come.

Link to *A Short History of Man* can be found at the following link on YouTube. <https://youtu.be/svONILe3o>

The preceding article is an opinion piece that has been shared by the author and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the Ontario Libertarian Party or its members.

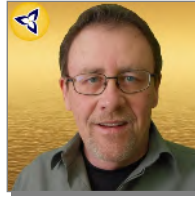
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Year-End Fundraising

by Scott Marshall



As you know, we came incredibly close to fielding a full-slate in the 42nd Ontario General Election this past June and received the most votes in our history.

Much of our success was the result of an inspiring effort put forth by a dedicated group of members, volunteers and of course the candidates willing to put their name on the ballot but the **ongoing financial support from you**, our members and donors, provided the requisite grease to keep our wheels rolling towards the finish line.

It's no secret that changes in election financing rules beginning in 2017 have seen the four largest parties receive millions in per vote taxpayer subsidies. From 2017 to June 2018 those parties benefitted as follows:

Liberal	\$7,426,072	If not for the magic threshold favouring the top four parties we would have received ... \$155,201 during the same period!
PC	6,011,103	
NDP	4,560,971	
Green	926,423	
Libertarian	0	

Libertarian Pub Nights and Events

Toronto Pub Night

Wednesday December 12th, 2018, 7:00 PM

(Normally 2nd Wednesday of each month)

Location: The Granite Brewery and Restaurant, 245 Eglinton Ave. E. (entrance/parking on Mount Pleasant Rd. east side, just south of Eglinton.)

Everyone welcome - bring a friend. Parking is FREE available beneath the restaurant. For more information email Jim McIntosh (cfo@libertarian.on.ca) or phone 416-283-7589. Subsequent meeting will be Wednesday January 9th, 2019.

Ottawa Meetup

Sunday January 12, 2019, 2:00 PM

(Normally 1st or 2nd Sunday of the month, depending on holidays, etc)

Location: O'Brien's Eatery and Pub, 1145 Heron Road., Ottawa

Everyone welcome - we always have fun! There is no charge to attend, just pay for your own food and drink. For more information email Mark Snow (marksnow@rogers.com) or just show up.

Kitchener-Waterloo Pub Night

Thursday December 20th, 2018, 7:00 PM

(Normally 3rd Thursday of the month)

Location: Angel's Family Restaurant, 190 Weber St. N., Waterloo (corner of Weber N and Lodge St.)

Everyone welcome - invite your friends. There is no charge to attend, just pay for your own food and drink. Please RSVP to Paul Herriot (paulforfreedom@outlook.com) or phone 519-208-8379 to ensure he reserves a large enough table. Subsequent meeting on Thursday January 17th, 2019.

For more visit: libertarian.on.ca/pub_nights

Okay, the truth is the Ontario Libertarian Party is against this type of subsidy by Elections Ontario (government) but I mention it to highlight the worst kept secret of all: a) that the deck is seriously stacked against us (not to forget the other 23 registered political parties) and; b) voluntary donations are essential to our existence.

We require approximately \$15,000 a year just to cover our basic day-to-day operating expenses (insurance, telephone, website hosting, office supplies, postage, the Bulletin, AGM's, Annual BBQ and more). We rely on our members and volunteers and do not have paid staff.

On top of this we need to save any additional resources we can to support candidates for by-elections that may happen from time to time as well as build our war chest for the next Ontario General Election.

The one tool that is available to us and all other parties are the refundable Political Tax Credits for individual donations to the party. To qualify for next year's income tax, donations must be made by December 31st, 2018.

Donate now before the hustle and bustle of the holiday season takes over. If you already have. Thank you!

Year-End Donations Wanted!

Ontario Political Tax Credits are 75% refundable on the first \$406 donated and 50% refundable over \$406 up to the maximum of \$1,222 / Year!

Total Donation (\$1,222 max/year)	Tax Credit (refundable)	Actual Cost (after tax refund)
\$ 25.00	\$ 18.75	\$ 6.25
50.00	37.50	12.50
75.00	56.25	18.75
100.00	75.00	25.00
150.00	112.50	37.50
200.00	150.00	50.00
250.00	187.50	62.50
300.00	225.00	75.00
406.00	304.50	101.50
500.00	351.50	148.50
600.00	401.50	198.50
700.00	451.50	248.50
800.00	501.50	298.50
900.00	551.50	348.50
1,000.00	601.50	398.50
1,100.00	651.50	448.50
MAX 1,222.00	712.50	509.50



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