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Editor: Coreen Corcoran

## Libertarian Pub Nights and Events

### OLP Fighting for Freedom

Hopefully by the time you read this, Ontario is fully open for business. I say hopefully because I'm not holding my breath waiting for Doug Ford's government to make the right decision for the people of Ontario.

Over the past couple of months we have been indoctrinated to believe there will be a "new normal" and "social/physical distancing" will continue for a long time. Masks are bad, oh wait, now they are good. We must do what we can to flatten the curve so hospitals aren't overwhelmed, oh, that worked too well so now we need to wait for a vaccine before it will be safe for everyone to go back to work/participate in sports/attend concerts/[insert event here]. Don't go to your cottage because staying put on your own property is going to put a strain on the resources in the small towns around the province. The list of personal freedoms being removed is endless.

One bright spot out of this government-enforced lockdown is that it gave the Ontario Libertarian Party a chance to get their message of freedom and property rights out to a larger audience. We are the only party fighting against the measures taken by the government that restricted our ability to earn a living and make decisions for ourselves. Keith Komar and Matt Dougherty have been in regular attendance at the ReOpen Ontario protests every Saturday at Queen's Park.

And even though we are still two years away from the next provincial election, we are already identifying potential candidates. It is never too early to start preparing. If you are interested in being a candidate or volunteer for the next election, let us know at <https://libertarian.on.ca/contact>

Coreen Corcoran  
Campaign Manager for 2022 Election

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our pub meetups are on hiatus until** restaurant owners are given the all-clear by the Ontario Government and social distancing measures are lifted. This is unfortunate for our party since our best chance for success is meeting people and sharing our ideas. We are also waiting to hear if we will be able to hold our annual BBQ or if it will have to be postponed or canceled this year.

In the meantime, there are a couple of options to connect with members of the Ontario Libertarian Party.

#### Virtual Pub Nights

**Toronto Pub Night - July 8 (2nd Wednesday of each month).** We are currently using Zoom and anyone who wishes to join us should send Jim McIntosh ([jim.mcintosh@sympatico.ca](mailto:jim.mcintosh@sympatico.ca)) their email in order to receive an invitation with the Meeting ID and Password. Or go to <https://www.meetup.com/libertarian-344/> and log in or signup to get meeting announcements. Next meeting is August 12.

#### Ottawa Pub Meeting—July 5 (Usually 1st Sunday of each month)

**New Location:** Tentatively Gracie's, 1151 Ogilvie Road, Ottawa. We're hoping the patio or restaurant will be open in a few weeks. Everyone welcome. For more information contact Jean-Serge Brisson ([ep523@ncf.ca](mailto:ep523@ncf.ca)). Next meeting is August 9.

Pub nights for Kitchener-Waterloo, Bradford, and Mississauga-GTA West are not offering virtual meetings.

*When the lockdown ends, if you would like to organize a Libertarian Pub Night in your area, please contact Keith Komar by email ([leader@libertarian.on.ca](mailto:leader@libertarian.on.ca)) or phone 1-855-ONT-LIBerty or 416-283-7589 in the GTA.*

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

#### Podcasts

You can see some of OLP Leader Keith Komar's recent podcasts on the Libertarian World YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRN1izzYLIBJOYRd77R3f1g>

#### End the Lockdown, Reopen Businesses!

Sign the petition at [www.freethepeople.ca](http://www.freethepeople.ca)

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.

## Why Do You Value One Life Over Another? — By Ken Lewis

Over the last few weeks I have been asked if I value money over lives. **My question to them is, why do you value one life over another?** This is usually met with surprise and confusion, so let me break it down.

**Is the mental health of others not important?** Currently mental health is up 50% in Ontario since the lockdown, while call centre volunteer are down 20%.

**What about an increase in suicides, do they not matter?** Following the SARS epidemic in 2003, which spread to 29 countries including Canada, where thousands were quarantined, hundreds infected and 44 people died mainly in the Greater Toronto Area, numerous scientific studies showed increased suicide rates. Dr. Adriana Panayi, writing on April 3 in the Scientific American blog about the far more contagious COVID-19 pandemic now affecting 190 countries, noted that “news of suicides linked to the COVID-19 crisis have swept the globe and sadly show no signs of abating.”

**What about people’s health, does that not matter?** Hospitals are running at 69%, people are more afraid to go to a hospital than to seek treatment. As of April 27th 53,000 surgeries had been cancelled, resulting in 35 known deaths.

**What about the people being pushed into poverty, do their lives not matter?** The IMF predicts that world poverty will double to half a billion people because of measures taken.

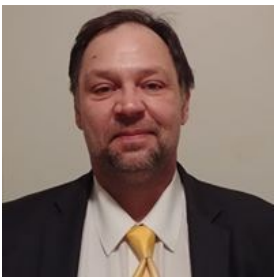
**What about the business owners that have lost everything, do they not matter?** The government is picking winners and losers by allowing some businesses to open and other not. It is estimated that 1/3 to 1/2 of all small businesses in Ontario will not be able to survive the measures taken by the government.

**What about the future generations, do they not matter?** The government is spending future generation’s money, children not even born yet will be paying for this government decision. Our debt is expected to reach a trillion dollars for a country of 36 million, and it might be impossible to come back from that. Adjusting for inflation, the government has currently spent 17 times more than they did on WW2, and that is only the first 7 weeks.

I can continue as the list is long.

**So I ask, why is one life more valuable than another?**

## Leader’s Report — By Keith Komar



2022 has been a crazy year for all of us. Although we have been under a stay at home order, the Ontario Libertarian Party has made some important gains in the air of public opinion. I have personally been out in the streets to help others stand against the lockdowns at protests in both

Toronto and Belleville and the party has hosted similar events in both Ottawa and Waterloo as well.

Our party is gaining traction and I couldn’t be more pleased to see us grow. We have many new people taking an interest from all sides of the political spectrum uniting under the banner of liberty we have so proudly held since the Ontario Libertarian Party was founded 45 years ago.

We have always been ahead of the curve on issues both social and economic, and once again we have been

in front of the issue of the egregious over reach of the Progressive Conservatives during Covid-19.

When I was elected leader of the party back in November, I stated that hard work and boots on the ground will make us relevant. We are seeing that hard work start to pay off. I will continue to work to grow our party and unite the province under a banner of freedom and responsibility. As we move toward the next election I want to remind all of us that our freedoms didn’t disappear overnight. They have been chipped away slowly over decades. They won’t come back overnight either. They will come back to us the same way they left us. Piece by piece.

So let’s stay vigilant and work towards a common goal of putting Ontario on a solid path that will ease us back to liberty.

## Saturday in the Park — By Matt Dougherty

It was a beautiful day at Queen's Park on a Saturday in early May, as the rain clouds held their spring showers and the air was crisp but warm. I hopped out of an Uber a couple of minutes past noon, wishing my driver a busy and safe day after spending the last 20 minutes discussing how slow he had been the past month and his inability to qualify for EI.

I arrived to see at least 400 people congregated on the steps of the legislature. The protest was put together by at least 2 other groups besides ours, with little organization but a common ground of protesting the lockdown and its infringement on Section 2 Charter freedoms, and effects on the health and financial wellbeing of hundreds of thousands of Ontarians.

Taking the now rare opportunity to both get some fresh air AND enjoy social interaction, I made my way around the crowd taking in how diverse the make up of protesters was from all walks of life, young and old, students and small business owners and stay at home moms.

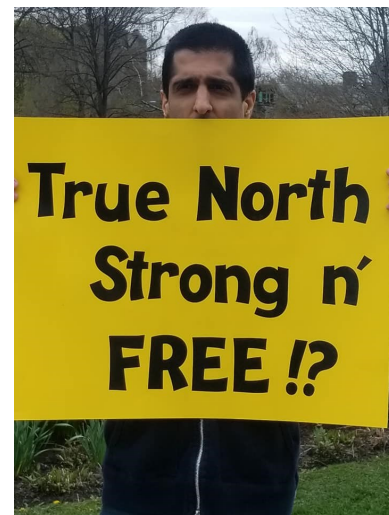


As chants of "Open Up Ontario" rang through the air, the mass of people and signs made their way towards the sidewalk around Queen's Park Circle, where the majority of the protesters spent the remainder of the afternoon. Much to my surprise, the next hour was spent watching the vast majority of passing cars honk in support of the protest.

As with any public demonstration, the day was not without its share of crazies. I got an earful from a woman who I must assume was an outside agitator claiming "I had already been microchipped", there was another young lady with a sign blaming it on 5G, and the media appears to have latched on to man offering free hugs (though I was present the entirety of the protest and never saw him).

The police presence, though unnecessarily heavy, was very peaceful and respectful. No fines or threats were issued by any, and the only verbal interaction I

witnessed was a very polite peace officer asking a group to clear the path to the legislature, which they did immediately without question. Doug Ford claimed afterwards to have no authority over the police and wished they would do their jobs. I would like to then thank Police Chief Mark Saunders, and his officers for taking it upon themselves to be more respectful of our right to peaceful assembly than our Premier.



The conversation ranged from theories about the what and why of the virus, whether the housing bubble would withstand the lockdown, cryptocurrency, agorism, and the recent gun ban. I ran into former candidates from the OLP and PPC, as well as regulars from the monthly Libertarian pub night.

I plugged our petition to end the lockdown (which is at [www.freethepeople.ca](http://www.freethepeople.ca), if you haven't yet signed it please do) to all I spoke to, which also got great reception. The plan is to return next weekend, and every Saturday henceforth until Ontario is actually "Open for business" once again. I will be out there, I hope to see as many of you as well. Be well.

### ReOpen Ontario Protests

Events are running every Saturday from 12-3:00 p.m. until the lockdown is lifted.

Niagara Falls – City Hall – 4310 Queens St.

North Bay – City Hall – McKintrye St.

Ottawa – Centennial Flame, Parliament Hill

Toronto – Queens Park – 111 Wellesley St. W

## What's really wrong with Long Term Care? - By Dan Little

As the NDP calls for a public inquiry into long term care, and the Ford government starts lining up bureaucrats for its independent commission, one has to ponder what is wrong with LTC and what role the government plays in causing and solving these problems.

The role of all government regardless of level (Municipal, Provincial, & Federal) must always be to protect the individual. Our provincial government has failed to protect seniors, who are some of our most vulnerable citizens, from the ravages of COVID-19. Government regulated care homes have become overrun by viral outbreaks and now represent over 80% of the death toll from COVID-19. The cause of these deaths stem from problems that are common to many Ontarians: lack of supply of housing, chronic understaffing in LTCH's, and lack of community-based solutions.

A libertarian government will always strive to protect the individual. The lack of supply of LTCH's, which is causing deaths due to a lack of physical distancing, can be mitigated by respecting private property rights. Any individual who wishes to utilize their own private property and construct a privately run LTCH should be free to do so, provided the natural rights of residents and employees are not violated. This can be done via contract agreements between the property owners (builders), employees, and residents. The rights of residents during this pandemic have been violated. As per the Long-Term Care Homes Act, each resident has the right to have family at their side 24 hours a day if they are dying. A right is absolute and shall never be infringed, at least that is what libertarians preach.

The libertarian solution to understaffing at LTCH's would be to remove barriers to entry and red tape in the healthcare sector. A simple and almost immediate fix would be to recognize out of province credentials for doctors, nurses, and support staff. Competence in one's profession matters not where the individual is from but rather if they are competent in the first place. As per the Long-Term Care Homes Act, nurses and support must be certified and accredited via the Ontario College of Nurses and the Ministry of Colleges Training and Universities. Skilled workers from out of province who can do the job and do it well, but their employment is stymied by bureaucracy and red tape are left out. These out of province workers can be assessed on the job for free not in the government-controlled classroom.

The Long-Term Care Act also critically fails those who wish to enter the industry as Personal Support

Worker (PSWs). A clause in the Act stipulates that "The Home must cease to employ as a personal support worker, or as someone who provides personal support services, regardless of title, a person who was required to be enrolled in a personal support worker program as described above or the educational program for RNs or RPNs as described above, if the person ceases to be enrolled in the program or fails to successfully complete the program within five years of being hired."

The above is a failure of Government run education, not the individual seeking to better themselves and do good work by caring for the elderly. It is especially unfair to young single mothers, many of whom in my experience have entered or at least attempted to enter the healthcare sector as either RN's, RNA's, or PSW's only to have that door slammed shut by an arbitrary timeframe for completing the required schooling. It is a herculean task to balance work with school. Toss in raising a young family and many people are unable to cope and quit school only to lose their job later on regardless of their competence.

There is a total lack of community-based solutions in the field of Long-Term Care. Some 30 years ago Denmark radically changed course on how it viewed Long Term Care. They focused more on home and community-based care as opposed to facility-based care. Denmark over a 20-year period avoided building new Long-Term Care Facilities, closed thousands of hospital beds, and saw a 12% expenditure reduction on healthcare costs for senior citizens during that timeframe. Most OECD countries are doing the opposite and we are now bearing the cost in both lives and dollars.

The blame cannot rest solely on the province, however. Discussions are underway in Ottawa to add Long-Term Care to the mandate of the Canada Health Act. I shudder at what the human and dollar cost will be once an even bigger more inept and inefficient government begins to take control of the life, liberty, and freedom of seniors via central planning. Increasing health transfers will do nothing to mitigate the problem. Shifting money from one branch of government to another via wealth distribution is a long con with no payoff. The answer is to focus on community based free market solutions, not to shuffle lawn chairs on the Titanic via transfer payments.

Yours in liberty,  
Dan Little, Executive Member at Large