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Newsletter of the Ontario Libertarian Party

Editor: Scott Marshall



# The 2022 OLP AGM was a great success

by Gene Balfour, Member and Volunteer

Coreen Corcoran, Mark Snow and Serge Korovitsyn all did very well to plan, coordinate and execute the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Libertarian Party. I feel a renewed sense of optimism for the future of the Party.

As most everyone is aware, the Party suffered a few dark years after Allen Small stepped down as leader in 2019. After this AGM, I am confident in the quality of the Executive Committee team to undertake the efforts needed to "rebuild" going forward. (Side Note: I suggested the theme of "build back better" but had to duck the flying debris immediately after that suggestion.)

The snowy weather conspired against a larger in-person AGM attendance. This, however, is did not impede the friendly camaraderie that quickly arose among all eight in-person attendees. Thank goodness for Zoom. This allowed an equal number of remote attendees to also join in.

Party Leader Mark Snow kicked off the session with a warm welcome. He emphasized the need to focus on Party growth: new members, more fundraising and better communications within and beyond our membership community.

The officer's reports came next and were presented by Serge Korovitsyn, Jim McIntosh and Scott Marshall. The takeaway from an update of the OLP's current financial and operational state was that party growth is certainly our top priority!

Next, I was given time at the podium to introduce the upcoming release of my eBook: 'What to do about Climate Change - a Libertarian proposal' which I hope to release in December. The book is dedicated to the memory of a great Libertarian and friend, Allen Small. It extends upon the Freedom of Choice theme that runs through their OLP election platform on our website. My goal for writing it is to spread Libertarian ideas for a better Democracy as far and wide as possible. If the OLP EC wants to use it for fundraising purposes, I would be honoured. AGM continued ...

# 2022 Annual General Meeting **ELECTION RESULTS**

# **Vice Chair**

Michelle Lashbrook (E)	15
None of the above	0
TOTAL	15

# Secretary

Scott Marshall (E)	15
None of the above	0
TOTAL	15

# Member at Large

Michael Gimera (E)	16
None of the above	0
TOTAL	16

# **Ethics Committee** - 3 to be elected

Mark Dickson (E)	15
Gene Balfour (E)	14
James Jolley (E)	14
None of the above	0
TOTAL	15

# New Executive Committee (all)

Leader - Mark Snow

Deputy Leader - Coreen Corcoran

Chairman - Serge Korovitsyn

Vice Chair - Michelle Lashbrook

Treasurer/CFO - Jim McIntosh

Secretary - Scott Marshall

Recording Secretary - Margaret Locher

Member at Large - Dean O'Reilly, Mike Gimera

Campaign Director - OPEN

# New Ethics Committee (all)

Jean-Serge Brisson (2020),

Mark Dickson, Gene Balfour, James Jolley (2022)

Jeff Bogaerts, President of the Ontario Landowners Association (OLA), delivered an excellent Zoom presentation on property rights. Clearly, the goals and values of the OLA align closely with those of the OLP. Defending and protecting property rights from government overreach is at the heart of everything the OLA does. It raises funds and expertise to take on legal challenges that individuals and small business owners face from public authorities who interfere with property rights. It would be easy to think of the OLA as an OLP 'partner' that possesses legal and fundraising clout. The topic of Crown Land Patent Grants was of particular interest to me. On Jeff's advice, I plan to investigate it so that I will be better prepared to defend my 2 acre country home if ever the grubby hands of some government agent tries to encroach on it.

The election of new additions to the Executive and Ethics Committees went smoothly: Michelle Lashbrook is our new Vice Chair and brings a variety of freedom fighting experiences and organizational talent to compliment and backup Chairman Serge Korovitsyn. Michelle made the five hour drive from North Bay to attend the AGM and she was a delightful addition to the meeting. I suspect that Michelle and Serge will share some of the 'Chair' responsibilities according to their individual abilities and interest.

Joining the EC as Member at Large is Mike Gimera from the Parry Sound district. With a degree in Philosophy and an IT background which includes developing websites and working with PHP and MySQL, I am confident that Scott now has a new 'resource' for sharing the development and expansion of the OLP's Internet presence.

Speaking of Scott, he has wisely shifted EC chairs from Campaign Director to Secretary. This is the best place for him to apply his talents for our Party's rebuild efforts over the next few years prior to the next election.

In the Ethics Committee, we have three new additions: myself, James Jolley and Mark Dickson. James is a new OLP member who fit in well with the attendees of the AGM. Mark has been an OLP member for several years and joined the meeting by Zoom. I have past experience with the Ethics Committee.

Mark Snow offered the closing comments and they were excellent. It displayed how far he has come as a public speaker, a Party Leader and as our top ambassador for the Libertarian message he presents to our citizens. Mark's outreach efforts to groups like the OLA have paid off in his ability to speak knowledgeably to a wide range of issues that arise within our legal system as well as our provincial and federal government institutions.

Serge offered a few finals comments before officially closing the OLP's 2022 AGM.

Thanks to all who were able to attend.



# TREASURER WANTED!!

Many of the most important jobs are not glamorous, but they are essential. Jim McIntosh has volunteered for over 30 years and wants deserves an opportunity to retire!

The Treasurer is a key member of the 10person Executive Committee (EC). The Treasurer manages the funds of the Party.

The Treasurer also prepares the Official Receipts for all Party donors so they can claim their political tax credit.

At year-end, the Treasurer works with the Party's Auditor to prepare and submit the annual financial statements and supporting schedules required by Elections Ontario.

**Could you be the next OLP Treasurer/CFO?** (You will be trained and mentored to succeed)

The position takes 2-3 hours per week plus 3-4 hours per month to prepare your financial report and participate in the monthly online Executive Committee meetings.

A weekend or two will be needed to prepare the annual financial statements for Elections Ontario. The CFO (aka Treasurer) is the primary contact with Elections Ontario.

It costs you nothing to discuss this opportunity and to explore how it may fit into your future.

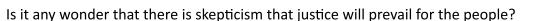
Interested? Please call Jim @ 416-474-9482

# **LEADER'S UPDATE**

by Mark Snow, Leader of the Ontario Libertarian Party

Hello fellow Libertarians, with year end fast approaching, it is time to reflect on the last year. From last winter's Freedom Convoy to the June election, it has been a challenging year for Liberty lovers.

The ad hoc POEC (Public Order Emergency Commission) continued to display the contempt sitting politicians have for the people they are purported to represent including full redactions of staffers and the appointment of the sitting government's own Commissioner to chair the report.





Mark Snow, Leader

Our own Premier refused to show up and explain his role or the province's role in this fiasco. That said, I have a certain level of respect for Ford NOT being made the scapegoat of inaction.

The Provincial Election only showed how the power of the media is able to silence parties like New Blue, Ontario First and the Ontario Libertarian Party.

People are still not waking up to the message of change and rights. It will be interesting to see if the New Blue and Ontario First will still be around in 2026, I suspect not, like Trillium. Meanwhile Libertarians will always be here, working away to win your support. Ironically that support takes money and we are always looking for new members and financial contributions – bonus you get a great "tax" credit (from your stolen money), to reduce your taxes and help fight back.

In November we had a small Annual General Meeting in Kingston, at a great venue which had a few party members come forward to serve on the Executive and Ethics Committees to help rebuild the party. It takes time and effort to keep the Party going, and I thank all those who stepped up to challenge.

2023 will see lots of changes, with refreshed communications in social media, more updates on our website and of course a thorough policy review. Please stay tuned for the next 3 years election readiness.

# Did you know?

In 2022 the top 4 political parties in Ontario receive an annual \$2.54 / vote subsidy from the taxpayers?

The top 3 parties get millions each and even the Green Party receives almost \$673k ... with one elected member in the legislature?

## SURPRISE!!! The game is still rigged.

Even more shocking was the Ford government advancing 3 quarterly payments at the start of 2022 as we headed to the June election.

The only tool we have in our arsenal are the existing refundable tax credits to offset the generous donations by our members and supporters. We couldn't do it without **You!** 

Please consider a year end donation before the bubbly pops at midnight New Years Eve.



Join • Donate • Volunteer libertarian.on.ca

ONTARIO

Help us send a clear message in 2023

LIBERTARIAN "We've Had Enough of Big Government!"

# Political contribution tax credit for individuals

To get the refundable tax credit, you need to:

- be an Ontario resident on December 31 of the tax year, and
- have made a contribution that year to a candidate in an Ontario provincial election, or to a registered Ontario political party, registered constituency association or registered leadership contestant.

## Donate before 12/31/2022 for your 2022 Tax Return All Ontario Residents Qualify! WARNING ABOUT BIG GOVERNMENT **SINCE 1975** Tax Refundable Total Donation Tax Credit Your Cost Ontario Political Tax (cumulative yearly) (refundable) (after tax refund) Credits are 75% \$ 100.00 \$ 75.00 \$ 25.00 refundable on the 200,00 150,00 50,00 first \$437 donated. 500.00 359.25 140.75 50% between 1,000.00 609,25 390.75 \$437 and \$1,457. 852.08 1,500.00 647.92 33.33% between \$1457 and \$3,315. 3,315,00 MAX 1,457,00 MAX 1,858.00



Donate at: https://libertarian.on.ca/donate or send an etransfer to donations@libertarian.on.ca or mail a cheque to: 7-91 Rylander Blvd., Box 121, Toronto ON M1B 5M5

# LIBERTARIAN PUB NIGHTS & EVENTS

Ottawa Pub Meeting - January 8th, at 2:00 PM (usually, 1st Sunday each month, except Holiday weekends) at: O'Brien's Roadhouse, 730 Industrial Ave., Ottawa

# **Everyone Welcome!!**

Info contact: Jean-Serge Brisson (ep523@ncf.ca) Follow us on Facebook:

Ottawa Libertarians - News, Views, and Meetups https://www.facebook.com/groups/405849880583377

# **GET INVOLVED, SPREAD LIBERTY**

If you would like to organize a **Libertarian Pub Night or Meet Up** in your area, please contact:

leader@libertarian.on.ca or phone 416-823-7589

For the latest information, visit: https://libertarian.on.ca/meetups



THERE IS NO LEFT OR RIGHT. THERE IS ONLY TYRANNY AND FREEDOM!!!

# The Ontario Libertarian Party wishes you health, happiness, and peace during the holiday season and a prosperous 2023! FREEDOM OF CHOICE Personal Liberty & Economic Freedom. A journey of the wise.