

Dear Liberal Supporter:

The Biennial Convention in Ottawa January 13-15 ushered in some bold changes for the Liberal Party and the way that it does business. A new category of supporters was added who personify the Liberals' desire to reach out to those who wish to be involved with the Party but who have not yet committed to full membership.

This issue of the Newsletter focuses on the reaction of your delegates to the events in Ottawa. I wanted you to hear directly from them their response to the very empowering and inspiring events that took place at the Convention.

The Convention sessions or Critic's Corners were very popular with the delegates and presented the opportunity to ask pressing questions and to have caucus critics answer them. Individuals such as Romeo Dallaire, Dr. Carolyn Bennett, Paul Martin, Bob Rae, Kirsty Duncan, Wayne Easter and of course Justin Trudeau all took part in panel discussions on topics of concern to the Delegates.

In this information dense newsletter, we are inviting feedback to us on issues that are of concern to you. Please take a moment to send us an email/snail mail with your thoughts and concerns to pehliberals@gmail.com or call us at 1 888 554 2372. We want to hear from you.

Lenore Begley, President



A dozen Prince Edward Hastings Liberal Association members attended Ottawa 2012 Liberal Biennial Convention Jan. 13-15. From left, Theresa Van Luven, member of the Electoral District Association; Eric Wilkinson - Youth Director; Brandon Bell - Director at Large; Peter Tinsley - Past Candidate; Lenore Begley - Association President; John Duggan - Association Executive Vice-President, and six other members, not shown, including directors and members of the Association from all parts of the riding.

Peter Tinsley Interviewed by County Live

"Convention for Policy and Re-building"

A dozen Prince Edward Hastings Liberal Association members joined more than 3,000 party members in the nation's capital last weekend for the Liberal Biennial Convention. Peter Tinsley, PEH federal Liberal candidate in last year's election, said the newly re-built Ottawa Conference Centre is a huge complex, "but seemed to burst at the seams with the positive energy of more than 3,300 delegates from across Canada and of all ages - one third of the delegates were under 30 years of age and they made themselves heard. While these conventions are normally policy development oriented in theme, this one was dual-themed for both policy development and Party development or re-building," said Tinsley. "As was said many times - just because we lost an election doesn't mean we lost the party. It has been clearly recognized that significant re-orientation is required and this convention was a major step in that process both in terms of re-structuring and policy initiatives." Tinsley said the election loss served as a catalyst to galvanize people into action. "Locally, our riding membership has almost doubled since May 2nd and for the first time in many years we have a full and active executive of 24 members and this was the largest delegation in memory to attend a biennial convention. This is important as a major thrust in the Liberal Party's structural reform is an emphasis on the importance of Electoral District Associations, particularly in the matter of policy development from the grassroots up and evidence-based, not from the top down and ideologically driven." Mainstream news reports focused on the party's votes Sunday to make the legalization of marijuana a party policy and rejected a motion to sever ties with the monarchy. "It should be understood that the Party's philosophy is to encourage people to bring forward ideas for discussion and the achievement of consensus," Tinsley said. "The resolution re: the Monarchy was one such idea presented that did not achieve any degree of consensus that it is what Canadians want or that it would be good for Canada - it was soundly defeated. "On the other hand, the resolution regarding the legalization of marijuana did receive the support of 77 per cent of the delegates after vigorous debate, including the involvement of two physicians and one veteran police officer," Tinsley said. "There is much empirical data to the effect that its effects are no more harmful than alcohol (some say less) and, as important, that no regime of prohibition anywhere in the world has been successful - they have only served to feed organized crime. So, the Liberal Party has resolved to give the alternative of legalization and careful regulation consideration, including seeking the views of the provinces and all Canadians." Delegates also voted to open the party to outsiders by creating a new, free category of membership. A U.S.-style process of choosing party leaders through a primary voting system was rejected. Delegates supported changing the way Canadians elect their representatives with voters ranking candidates in order of preference.

The party's leader, however, keeps veto power over the election platform. The event was not a leadership convention but interim leader Bob Rae was questioned many times over the weekend about whether he would run for the job. Other names mentioned as possibilities included David McGuinty, (brother of Dalton); Gerard Kennedy, Marc Garneau and Dominic LeBlanc. The election for Liberal party president was won by Mike Crawley, 42, after a tight race with Sheila Copps.

John Duggan Invites Collaboration

Liberals ready to take the risk of change...."

The Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) has turned the corner without going into the ditch. It was evident from the Convention that Liberals are proud of their past. The presence of 1000+ delegates under 30 at the Biennial shouts out that the Liberal movement has a future. Rooted in its history of effective governance Liberals have the confidence that they can continue to be a vehicle to promote the good of society and the values and aspirations of Canadians into the future. However, I say thank goodness for the decisiveness of the electoral defeat in the 2011 election. Liberals are ready to take the risk of change. They are prepared to shift from an insular party to an open movement.

Why the need for change? The Internet and the associated social media have opened up new demands and new possibilities. TV shapes its audience to receive. The Internet opens the possibility of both receiving and acting.

Bob Fair Voice of Experience

"It bodes well for the Liberals...."

The Ottawa Convention Centre was packed with 3300 paid delegates making decisions affecting the Liberal Party of Canada. One third of the delegates were youth whose enthusiasm for moving forward with new ideas, new policies, and new members within the executive was evident. The youth energized us all. This came through in the debates around Aboriginal Affairs, International Trade and Cooperation, Intergovernmental Affairs, Foreign Affairs, National Defence, Environmental Issues, Justice and Natural Resources -- and many other policy areas. The first of two keynote speakers, Don Tapscott, spoke on rethinking government, democracy and politics for the age of networked intelligence. He signaled a new collaborative direction for the Liberals and received a standing ovation. He was followed by Munir Sheik, former Chief Statistician, who had resigned in protest from Statistics Canada when the current government decreed the long form census no longer mandatory. Sheik called for evidence based policy. It bodes well for the L.P.C. if enthusiasm, good debate, sound policy decisions and the strong role given the voice of youth are some fundamentals for success.

Theresa Van Luven



Speaks to the Point

The 2012 Liberal Convention should be considered a success in every facet. The presence of 3,200 delegates, the spirited and productive debates, the election of a new and invigorated executive and the passing of innovative resolutions and amendments to the Party's constitution are all evidence of the health and well-being of the Party.

Perhaps one of the most telling events of the convention, however, was the passing of a resolution seeking the legalization of marijuana. This idea, on its own, is not particularly new or innovative. Taken in the context (or shadow) of Harper's "great Omnibus Crime

Bill", however, it takes on the proportions of both a symbolic and real shift in everyday Liberalism. The message taking centre stage for the historically "central Party" is that we are on a road of renewal, rethinking, revamping, rebranding the Liberal Party. This resolution, more than any other passed by the members of the Liberal Party during the convention, demonstrates a clear intention to approach today's issues in a practical and progressive manner, in tune with the tenor of today's society. It flies in the face of the Harper Government's staid, right-winged ideals of crime and punishment. Let the reformation begin!

From Sue O'Brien's iPhone

"Sometimes we get what we need....." 3200 gathered to change together. How cool is that! Some agreements and some not. Majority ruled after thoughtful discussion. New executive. New resolutions. New spirit. Sometimes we get what we need.

Kay Manderville Ready to Put on Drive for New Members

"Convention ... a boost to everyone's morale"

The Convention was very successful and a boost to everyone's morale. Is the executive willing to follow up by asking people to be supporters or do we wait until later? I will help; let me know if and when you are putting on a drive for more members/ supporters.

Mike Bossio's Analysis

"...a collective Phoenix rising from the ashes"

I feel as a party we went from a collective Armageddon to a collective Phoenix rising from the ashes. It was my first convention and will not be my last. I think it was one of those conventions where in a number of years we will look back nostalgically and say "were you at the 2012 convention?"

It was billed to be transformative and it certainly was transformative. The Liberal Party has once again shown that it can be bold, it can set the agenda, and that it will go to the farthest lengths to be inclusionary. It was an amazing experience, a highly charged, emotional, energetic buzz. If we could get everyone involved in conventions like that who would need worry about legalizing marijuana, that was buzz enough :):)! I left there feeling positive, and excited about sharing with friends and family the experience. It makes it easier to talk about the party when people recognize that the Party is willing to change, willing to join the 21st century, to open a fresh new dialogue; that is willing to listen and learn and grow!

A lot of people were very concerned about the supporter initiative; that it would tear apart the party; create a 2-tier system, etc. In my view those individuals that want to be actively involved in the party, defining the policies, direction (strategically and tactically) will always be members of the party. The supporter initiative is not going to dissuade those individuals from taking an active role. But the supporter initiative does

enable us to create the next generation of members. Some individuals need to be brought into the family in a slow methodical way. They initially hear member and immediately think obligation and responsibility and they shy away. By becoming a supporter it gives the Liberals an opportunity to get to know them and them the opportunity to get to know the Liberals, and most importantly people who become supporters, whether they all get out and vote or not, if they do vote, will likely vote Liberal. That potentially adds to our vote count and we need to get as many votes, in as many different ways, as we possibly can. Some felt OK, let's include supporters, but why should we let them decide the next leader; that should be up to the members. In my opinion, you have to dangle a carrot. If you can get them involved in choosing the next leader, the greater the chances are that they will become more actively involved in getting that leader elected, and thereby draw them in closer to the party and once again increase voter turnout and liberal votes. I see it all as a win win, above and beyond the great press coverage.

Moving forward, we can use the energy and positive buzz to increase dialogue in our communities, amongst friends and family to continue to build momentum to the next election. Harper is providing us a tremendous opportunity. He is implementing all of the negative exclusionary policies that we warned and now we can promote the inclusive positive policies that will differentiate us from the rest. We need to continue to be bold and visionary to take our country forward so that the next generation Canadians can be as proud of our generation as we are of our forefathers.

Eric Wilkinson “.... Speaking as a Young Liberal”

“... confident in the future of the Liberal Party....”

This was for me, as it was for many liberals across Canada, my first biennial convention. Given this, I approached the event with no expectations or preconceptions, hoping to get a thorough look into the heart of the party. With the convention behind us, I cannot say I was disappointed. In spite of the heated presidential race, the technical malfunctions and the decisive discussions, a shared feeling reverberated throughout the conference, one of unity and hope.

As a young liberal the first session I participated in was naturally the young liberal commission, and it was there that I first got a sense for just how much the party values the young liberals. The speaker who made this sentiment most clear to me was former Prime Minister John Turner, who had chosen only to speak at the young liberal commission during the convention. Mr. Turner expressed his view of us as the architects of the party's future and encouraged us with anecdotes about the adversity the Liberal Party had faced under his leadership when confronted with the Progressive Conservatives. This theme of the young liberals being key to the party's reconstruction was common throughout all of the speakers, hammering home the message that youth were not only important but crucial to rejuvenating the Liberal Party.

The biennial convention presented to me a portrait of a party prepared to leave behind the problems of yesterday and embrace bold new solutions for tomorrow. Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the convention was the decorum and joviality of the discussion, even when passions flared over important issues. To see hundreds of other liberals

respectfully and candidly share their thoughts and opinions affirmed my faith in the strength of the Liberal Party as a unified whole. With the convention now behind us and this sense of unity and hope remaining, I can feel confident in the future of the Liberal Party as the champions capable of bringing this enduring sentiment to every corner of this great nation

Margaret Walsh is Optimistic

“...so many young people...”

It was very good to see so many young people at the Convention in Ottawa. The fact that there were so many young people attending the convention bodes well for the Liberal Party.

How Do I Make a Donation?

- * **Call 1 888 554 2372 for local information**
- * **Visit Liberal.ca and click on the donate button**
- * **Mail your cheque to**

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P.O. Box 20084
Belleville ON K8N5V1**

2012 Contribution Limits

Your donation may be eligible for a tax credit!

Here are some examples of tax credits:

Contribution	Tax Credit	Actual Cost to You
\$20.00	\$15.00	\$5.00
\$50.00	\$37.50	\$12.50
\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
\$250.00	\$187.50	\$62.50
\$400.00	\$300.00	\$100.00
\$750.00	\$475.00	\$275.00
\$1,100	\$591.55	\$508.45
\$1,200	\$625.00	\$575.00

Contribution	Amount	Eligible Tax Credit	Maximum Credit
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First \$400.00	\$0-\$400.	75%	\$300.00
Next \$350.00	\$401-\$750.00	50%	\$175.00
Amount over \$750.00	\$751-\$1200.00	33.33%	\$175.00

Limits per year have increased

(a) A maximum of \$1,200 per year to the Liberal Party of Canada

(b) A maximum of \$1,200 per year in total to the Liberal registered associations, nomination contestants and candidates

Here are some of the Accomplishments of the Liberal Party of Canada

- 1927 - Old Age Pensions Act
- 1936 - Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- 1940 - Unemployment Insurance
- 1966 - Universal Medicare
- 1966 - Canadian Pension Plan
- 1971 - Status of Women Office
- 1982 - Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- 2002 - Ratified the Kyoto Protocols
- 2005 - Kelowna Accord
- 2005 - Tabled 8th consecutive balanced budget



While Canadians gently sleep ... CBC will quietly disappear

by Alan Coxwell

Dear Editor:

Kory Teneycke (pronounced Ten-ike). Chances are you have never heard of him. In 2008 Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed this 34-year-old Saskatchewan farm boy as his Director of Communications. Teneycke had the right connections, having worked on many Conservative election campaigns. He was also a former advisor to Preston Manning, leader of Harper's old Reform Party.

I first noticed his name while reading Lawrence Martin's book titled *Harperland*. As director of communications Teneycke was extremely influential in shaping Harper's public image. Then after little more than a year he resigned "because of the time constraints and the needs of his young family."

Upon reading this excuse for "resigning" I wondered what Teneycke and Harper were really planning. The answer came rather unexpectedly when his name reappeared shortly thereafter involving an online petition created by a group called Avaaz. Avaaz means "voice" in several languages and has 12.5 million members in its global movement "to bring people-powered politics to decision making everywhere." This particular petition was protesting Quebecor Media's application for a television broadcasting licence to set up SunTV, dubbed Fox News North by those who knew what was really going on. The newly minted Vice President of Quebecor in charge of this application to the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) was none other than Kory Teneycke. Naturally there were suspicions about the value of Teneycke's connections to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) concerning this application for a new television station.

In September 2010 Teneycke responded to criticism being led by Avaaz, suggesting via Twitter that Avaaz numbers were being inflated by illegitimate signatures. Avaaz signees are not published and when the CBC's Kady O'Malley questioned the source which Teneycke had cited in his Toronto Sun article "Teneycke admitted he had a source who had provided false names to prove a point." Avaaz executive director Ricken Patel indicated "the fake signatures Teneycke cited were all from the same IP address in Ottawa and were recorded at a similar time to when Teneycke had published the Sun article critical of the petition."

Consequently, on September 14, 2010 Avaaz requested Ottawa Police and the RCMP to begin an investigation to determine the identity of the individual responsible for adding the fraudulent signatures from an Ottawa IP address to the organization's petition dubbed "Stop Fox News North". In his letter to law enforcement on behalf of Avaaz, civil rights lawyer Clayton Ruby called for a full criminal investigation.

The next day, September 15, 2010 Teneycke's departure from Quebecor Media was announced.

On November 26, 2010 the CRTC granted a Category 2 licence to Quebecor after the

network aborted a highly publicized attempt for a Category 1 licence, which would have given it mandatory access on digital cable and satellite providers across Canada. Two months later, in January 2011, Teneycke returned as VP of Development for Quebecor. Connecting the dots here is pretty easy when one digs into the details. Harper rules with a majority of seats based on 39.6 per cent of the vote. Harper also knows that all good dictators need to control the media. That is exactly where he and Teneycke are headed. Anyone who has spent 15 minutes watching SunTV's right-wing zealots, Ezra Levant and Charles Adler, rage on about the irrelevance and cost of CBC on a daily basis knows they want all funding cut off to the CBC. Last week the Conservatives complied with three more Members of Parliament tabling petitions to defund the CBC. Typical of the Conservative mindset was MP Cheryl Gallant's statement as recorded in Hansard: "Mr. Speaker, I am presenting a petition on behalf of the people who want to see the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which is being overfunded at \$1.1 billion per annum, sold."

Conservatives conveniently ignore telling Canadians a 2010 Deloitte Touche LLP study states: "We estimate that the contribution of CBC/Radio-Canada to the Canadian economy, or the Gross Value Added (GVA) in 2010 was \$3.7 billion, arising from an expenditure of \$1.7 billion. CBC/Radio-Canada's net additional contribution to the economy, or Net Value Added (NVA), is estimated to be \$1.3 billion. This means that the direct government funding of \$1.1 billion in 2010 not only contributed to the GVA for CBC/Radio-Canada of \$3.7 billion, but also created additional value of \$1.3 billion to the Canadian economy."

The upcoming Harper budget will tell us if the next shoe is about to drop. With their right-wing propaganda machine now in place the next logical step is to kill the CBC. Kory Teneycke exposed his true character on May 14, 2010 when he wrote on his Twitter account that he wondered if Marc Emery, a Canadian currently held as a political prisoner in a United States prison after Conservative Justice Minister Rob Nicholson signed his extradition papers, "was enjoying group showers as much as he enjoys pot? Three cheers for the DEA!"

Marc Emery's wife Jodie said Teneycke's comment "shocked and disgusted" her, adding "It's a common perception that prison rape happens in group showers. It is a cruel comment." Jodie Emery asked Teneycke for an apology. She never got one.

Teneycke's character represents the type of people we are allowing to control Canada. Harper is right on one thing he said ... "You won't recognize Canada after I'm done with it."

And he will never apologize to us for destroying our CBC.

Alan Coxwell,
Stirling, Ontario

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