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Winter 2009

Doug Burn, Editor

Annual General Meeting—November 7/09

The Annual General Meeting, held at the Yorkland Hotel, was attended by 19 members and five 'guests.' Two of the guests joined the party and two more are considering it. The fifth guest was the owner of Freedom Press, publisher of Gerry Nicholls' book, *Loyal to the Core*. He had several books on sale, including Gerry's, and is looking for libertarian and conservative writers.

The meeting got underway about 9:30 with Sam Apelbaum's Welcome speech. He reported we have Pub Nights in several cities, providing a good base for recruiting members. The Party held several events during the year; a caucus Meeting in April, our annual BBQ in May, and the Ezra Levant speaking engagement in September. We also ran Operation Politically Homeless at three events. Sam also completed his "Flag Project" with the design and development of the "Liberty Flag," available to anyone who can use it to our advantage.

Our first speaker was Fred McMahon, Director, Centre for Trade & Globalization Studies, The Fraser Institute. He declared himself to be a social Libertarian, in favour of legalizing drugs, prostitution and gambling though he acknowledged that Canada could not act on drugs unilaterally. He gave a PowerPoint presentation based on the Economic Freedom of the World report for 2009. This report demonstrates that countries with more economic freedom grow faster than those with less, and that economic freedom forms the basis for other freedoms. The rule of law and respect for private property are essential to economic freedom. You can find out more at www.fraserinstitute.org.

Our second scheduled speaker, Alison Myrden from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP, www.leap.cc) had to cancel on short notice due to illness.

Craig Hodgins, our Campaign Director, gave a presentation on our Plans for the October 2011 provincial election. The objective is to gain credibility and increased media exposure by running 60 candidates. We also want to double our membership. The Party will provide support for candidates, including training. We need members to run as candidates, and we need money for pamphlets, signs and other materials. We also want to experiment with radio advertising in smaller markets like Barrie and Kitchener-Waterloo if we can have candidates in all ridings in the area. See Craig's report elsewhere for more details.

After lunch, Gerry Nicholls, President of Libertas Post (<http://libertaspost.com/>), spoke on "How to Fight for Free-

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LIBERTARIAN PUB NIGHTS

TORONTO - Wednesday December 9 - 7:00 PM

Location: Scallywag's, 11 St. Clair Ave. W. (on the 3rd floor, phone 416-922-3737). For more information contact Jim McIntosh (cfo@libertarian.on.ca or 416-283-7589). The next Toronto Pub Night will be January 13.

BARRIE - Tuesday December 15 - 6:30 PM

Location: Mullies Bar & Grill, 17 Mulcaster Street, Barrie, (Phone: 705-719-0466). For more information email PaoloTheBaker@yahoo.ca or call him at (647) 300-8555. The next Barrie Pub Night will be January 19.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO - Thurs December 17 - 7:00PM

Location: Benny's Lounge, 183 Weber Street, Waterloo (one block south of University Avenue, Phone 519-884-8074). For more information about events in this area, please contact Phil Bender at 905-703-6248 or phil.libertarian@gmail.com. Next Pub Night date (and location) to be determined.

HAMILTON - Sunday December 20 - 7:00 PM

Location: The Bean Bar, 1012 King Street West, Hamilton. Phone 905-524-2326. For more information email Anthony Giles (anthonygiles1976@gmail.com) or phone him at (905) 691-0818.

STOUFFVILLE - Wednesday January 27, 7:00 PM

Location: Earl of Whitchurch Pub, 6204 Main St., Stouffville (north side of Stouffville Rd/Main St. just east of the GO Train line - Phone 905-642-EARL (3275) www.TheEarlPub.ca) For more information contact Allen Small by email (small4357@rogers.com) or phone (905) 477-4357. The next Stouffville Pub Night will be February 25.

OTTAWA - Saturday January 9, 3:00 PM

Location: South Side Bar and Grill, 1670 Heron Road, (Heron Gate Mall, Phone 613-526-2192). For more information, please contact Andrew Philips (andrewmp@rogers.com or 613-733-8948).

CHATHAM-KENT - Saturday January 30

Location: Glitters Fun Eatery, 162 King St. W. Chatham, ON (519-352-0820). (Check with Jim Austin to confirm.) Come on out and meet other Libertarians from the area in a relaxed, informal, friendly atmosphere. We will discuss whatever is on your mind. Visit our Facebook page or www.cklibertarians.com. For more information email Jim Austin or call 519-354-9045.

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.

Legalize Raw Milk — By Karen Selick

In December 2007, Ontario farmer Michael Schmidt was sentenced to pay \$55,000 for contempt of court. He had persisted in delivering unpasteurized milk to the members of his cow-sharing program, contrary to a court order. He goes to trial on January 26 on his main charges of violating the Milk Act and related legislation.

What's a person to do when the laws themselves are contemptible, and the people who hold the power to change them are behaving contemptibly?

Twenty years ago, Toronto furrier Paul Magder answered that question this way: you continue doing what you believe is right until the lawmakers finally smarten up. Magder racked up huge contempt fines merely by opening his store on Sundays. The province finally yielded to public pressure and legalized Sunday shopping. The sky didn't fall, and today Ontarians take Sunday shopping for granted.

I see Michael Schmidt as the Paul Magder of this era—the unsung hero who will make it possible for us, twenty years hence, to say, “Was it not always thus?”

I've spent an inordinate amount of time reading up on raw milk to avoid embarrassing myself in case it was simply a harebrained idea. Having done so, I'm convinced that Schmidt is right and the lawmakers are wrong.

In a nutshell, the position in favour of raw milk is this. Pasteurization is not necessary to ensure milk safety. While it may have been the simplest way for inspectors to ensure that certain pathogens were killed back in 1938 when Ontario made it mandatory, we now have better ways of testing to ensure the absence of disease-causing organisms in milk. Pasteurization doesn't eliminate harmful bacteria, it just kills them—or at least, most of them. Dead bacteria floating in your milk create their own panoply of health problems, most notably allergic reactions. Meanwhile, unpasteurized milk produced by grass-fed cows under proper hygienic conditions contains beneficial bacteria and digestive enzymes that can markedly improve human health. Such milk is also, apparently, quite delicious, although more expensive than factory-farm milk. Consumers should have the option to choose whichever product they prefer.

Ontario Agriculture Minister Leona Dombrowsky is one of those contemptibly-behaving lawmakers who apparently has not seen fit to do the research I've done even though she's the person responsible for this portfolio. Her position on raw milk is that legalizing it would be

“tantamount to manslaughter.”

Does Dombrowsky really think the governments of the United Kingdom, Italy, France, Germany and 27 states in the U.S., all of which allow the sale of raw milk, are committing manslaughter? In parts of Europe, certified raw milk is even sold in vending machines. European consumers aren't dropping like flies.

What level of safety would satisfy Dombrowsky and her Ontario government colleagues? If their answer is that only a history of zero illnesses is acceptable, then the government should ban all milk—pasteurized, too. The U.S. Center for Disease Control documented 41 illness outbreaks affecting 19,531 people attributable to pasteurized milk and milk products between 1980 and 2005.

And milk is far from the worst offender. Seafood, beef, poultry, pork and even vegetables cause significantly more illness than milk. Within recent memory in Ontario, consumers have been warned not to eat tomatoes, mung bean sprouts, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce and spinach. But the government has not reacted by banning such foods altogether, or insisting that they only be sold pre-cooked, as they insist with milk. That would be absurd. Rational remedial action consists of tracking down and recalling the contaminated product, and testing diligently to prevent recurrences.

We allow food processors to deliberately add bacteria to milk to produce products such as yogurt, kefir, butter-milk, sour cream and cheese. Obviously, we trust these manufacturers to ensure that the bacteria they inject are the beneficial ones, not the killer ones. If the precautions they use are sufficient, surely there must be comparable precautions for raw milk. Michael Schmidt has, in fact, produced raw milk for 25 years without a single incident of illness.

Given these facts, it's incumbent upon the government to at least conduct an inquiry into whether the laws passed 70 years ago could stand updating to take advantage of technological change. Conservative MPPs suggested this in December, 2006, but Liberals responded that it was a “crazy idea.” They've never heard of progress, apparently. Contemptible? Absolutely.

© 2009 Karen Selick. Reprinted with permission. *The Canadian Constitution Foundation, where Ms. Selick is Litigation Director, has announced that it will represent Mr. Schmidt in ongoing litigation challenging the constitutionality of the raw milk ban.*

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dom.” He learned a lot from Arthur Finkelstein, a political consultant who worked for the NCC while Gerry was there. You have to be able to get your message across in 15 seconds or you lose. Appeal to the emotions; you want people to react to your message, not to think about it, so skip the details and rational. Find an issue that resonates and package it properly. For example, the NCC wanted to attack government handouts to companies and organizations. They test marketed with examples of government waste in Dawson Creek and got no response. Then they

came up with “Tales of the Trough” featuring pigs and got a huge response. Gerry also advised us to stick to our principles and not compromise. The war of ideas is important and McGuinty's policies are vulnerable. We should run candidates in ridings were the conservatives won by a small percentage, so they might decide to steal some of our platform. You can read the full text of his message at <http://www.libertaspost.com/article/2009/11/libertarianism-and-me>.

We then held elections. Amazingly, we had five candi-

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Election Plans for 2011 — By Craig Hodgins, Campaign Director

The following campaign strategy was presented at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Libertarian Party. I thought I would share the goals we hope to achieve in 2011 and the tactics by which we hope to achieve those goals.

The Party intends to run candidates in sixty ridings. This is more than double the number of candidates who ran in 2007 (twenty-five). By running more candidates we expect to receive more votes – the goal is 18,000 province-wide. Again, this is double what we received in the last election. The sheer number of candidates will help us garner media attention, and the resulting increase in votes will help the public and other parties realize that Libertarian ideas are legitimate, timely, and powerful.

We intend to run a full slate of candidates in certain key regions where the situation warrants. With this “saturation” tactic we can spend money on one regional media campaign but receive multiple coverage for our advertising dollars.

Candidates do not have to be experienced – only passionate for liberty. “Paper only” candidates help the cause

simply by getting the Libertarian name on the ballot and providing an alternative choice for those who will not vote for the big-government parties. For those candidates who want to be more active, support will be available. This support will take the form of a candidate training school, help with getting nomination signatures, the filing of paperwork, the provision of signs and pamphlets, the aforementioned media blitz, and other campaigning tactics to be discussed in future *Bulletins*.

This is an ambitious strategy. As well as candidates, we need financial support. Our proposed campaign budget for 2011 is \$30,000.00, plus an additional \$5,000.00 per region for radio advertising. To raise that money we need more and larger donations. One way to achieve that is by reaching more people and enrolling more members. Another way is for existing members to donate more than they have done in the past. A combination of the two will be awesome. And a successful campaign in 2011 will help create more interest, more members, more donations and set the stage for an even better showing in 2015.

Candidates do not have to be experienced – only passionate for liberty.

Full day Kindergarten in Ontario equals ‘Free’ Full time Unionized Daycare—By Allen Small

Prior to the 1960’s it was common for families to be supported by the pay cheque of just one spouse. Due to the rapid increase in the size of government, taxes have increased much faster than the cost of living as a percentage of income in Canada, according to the Fraser Institute. Today young parents are faced with the dilemma of two working spouses and day care for their children.

Most school districts in Ontario offer optional half-day or full-day, alternate day Junior and Senior Kindergarten, and children are eligible to start in the year they turn 4. Kindergarten is a two year program and parents are obliged to provide care before and after school. Many schools have such care on site run by private groups at reasonable prices. In November 2007, Premier McGuinty appointed Dr. Charles Pascal as special advisor on early learning to recommend the best way to implement full day Kindergarten in Ontario. Pascal’s report was published in June 2009 and needless to say it received glowing praise from teachers, education related unions and young cash strapped parents.

Pascal’s report called for Kindergarten classes of 26 students supervised by a teacher and an early childhood educator (ECE). Daycare would also be offered and supervised by ECE people at a reasonable fee at the same location from 7 am to 6 pm outside of the regular school



day. This day care could be extended to 6 to 12 year olds if there is sufficient demand. The recession has delayed full implementation, but it will be phased in starting in Sept. 2010 and completed by Sept. 2015 with initial costs of \$500 million in the first two years and likely beyond the recently revised estimate of \$1.5 billion.

Superficially it may appear that this program identifies children’s problems earlier so they can be dealt with earlier, but the evidence for that is scant. Even if there was good evidence, is it really cost effective or desirable? Why not just remove the children at birth as one wag suggested? This way parents will have no influence in bringing up their children.

What’s wrong with Ontario’s full day Kindergarten plan?

1. It increases the government’s monopoly on education, while increasing the size of the public sector at the expense of private sector day and child care, and reduces choice.
2. It replaces market incentivized child care workers with less accountable, less competitive, unionized teachers and ECE employees at greater cost.
3. It further increases the dependence of citizens on government sponsored programs.
4. It creates a new government-union partnership that invites province-wide daycare strikes in the future when the partners disagree.

As long as educators have no incentive to make substantive improvements, most will continue to behave as before and Ontario schools will strive to reach mediocrity at a high price. Oh, and by the way, how will Ontario pay for all this? Can you say HST?

Scandals are 'helping' Libertarians - letter published November 21, 2009 in the Barrie Examiner

I'm smiling and it's all thanks to Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty waking up the masses.

My endless babble of big government being no good is paying off.

Just read the letters to the editor of this paper and you can feel the shift to, 'I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore.'

The countless tax hikes, the steady scandals such as eHealth, OLG, stimulus funding and the very popular harmonized sales tax (HST) have made myself and my small, but very quickly growing party, very popular and a very good looking alternative to any other party out there today.

What's that, you don't think it's a good idea to raise your taxes?

Oh well, your government does and it is going to raise them again and again and again, unless we all take a stand together.

Big government and big taxes have never helped us, and never will. That's unless you're one of the major parties which have stolen your money for oh-so-long.

Joe Kane, one of your readers who wrote a letter to the editor, so nicely put it, "We need less government."

It's such a good feeling to have people say, 'now I know what you meant by less government.'

My hard work is finally paying off. Thank you Barrie.

Check out www.barrielibertarians.com, and join my e-mail list. I can use your support in the fight against big government.

Paolo Fabrizio, Libertarian Party, Barrie

Paolo Fabrizio – Tireless Libertarian — By Jim McIntosh

Paolo Fabrizio, our Vice-Chairman, has been a member of the Party since 2003 and a candidate in Vaughan, Barrie and, most recently, in the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock by-election this past March where he attended All Candidates Meetings and distributed pamphlets in spite of being ill. He is also President of the Barrie Libertarian Constituency Association, one of our three Electoral District Associations.

Paolo the Baker gets up around midnight to go to The Italian Bakery to bake bread, cakes, cookies and all manner of goodies. Around 10 AM he goes to his second job. About 3 PM he leaves to pick up his three young kids from school. Before and after dinner he might get some time to answer emails or update his web site, www.barrielibertarians.com before he catches a couple of hours rest. That is, unless he has Barrie Libertarian Pub Night the third Tuesday of each month, or he has to attend an Election Planning Meeting, or the Barrie Chamber of Commerce, or Barrie City council meeting which he attends every Monday evening. In his 'spare time' he and his wife dress up as elves, the kids as reindeer, and Darren Roskam is Santa Claus while they collect donations for the Salvation Army at a Kettle. Paolo plans to challenge the other parties to raise more money than him. They also donate 20 loaves of

Paolo appears frequently in the Barrie Examiner, even on the front page.

bread each week to the Salvation Army since they can't depend on the government. On Canada Day he and his family passed out coupons redeemable for a cookie at the Italian Bakery. They were much more popular than the flags Barrie MP Patrick Brown was giving away.

He has fought city council on their decision to give prime waterfront land to the YMCA instead of using it for a tourist development. He is currently fighting two by-laws they are considering. One would make it illegal to be in a city park after 11:00 PM. (Paolo pointed out this could put the kybosh on many city sponsored events that attract a lot of tourists.) The other would make it illegal to light fireworks within 50 feet of a residence. Paolo is considering running for council next November.

Paolo appears frequently in the Barrie Examiner, even on the front page. One of his letters, which indicates the impact he is having, is reprinted in this newsletter. He received recognition as the sponsor of the Barrie chapter of the La Leche League Canada when the government stopped supporting them. In addition to paying for ID bracelets, he provided refreshments for their Family Fun Day and Silent Auction on November 21.

So keep up the great work Paolo, but be sure to get enough rest.

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dates for the two Members-at-Large positions and four candidates for the three positions open on the Ethics Committee! Gene Balfour (11 votes) and Allen Small (10 votes) were elected to one-year terms as Members-at-Large. Brendan Conway-Smith received 7 votes, Rob Alexander 4 votes and Anthony Giles 3 votes. Joining continuing members Alan Mercer, Professor Jan Narveson and John Shaw on the Ethics Committee were Nunzio Venuto (17 votes), Anthony Giles (16 votes) and George Dance (16 votes), Alwyn Weiss received 5 votes.

At the Members Quorum, John Kittredge talked about his experience in the September 17 by-election in the St. Paul's riding. His objective was to get as much exposure

as possible. He had about a dozen volunteers who helped distribute over 4,000 pamphlets. It helps to have a good understanding of the issues in the riding. One volunteer set up a Facebook page, but it was too little to late. We should focus more on electronic outreach. While his vote count was not impressive, his percentage was better than his last two campaigns. John highly recommends the experience of being a candidate.

The meeting adjourned about 4:00 PM. There was a brief meeting of the new executive to set the date for the next Executive meeting – January 10, 2010, 1:00 PM at Eastern Sense Restaurant in Woodbridge. Anyone interested in attending an Executive meeting should call the Party at 416-283-7589.