Message from the President

Liberals have consistently risen in the polls since Justin Trudeau became our leader and recent surveys this summer show that the Liberals have widened the gap over the governing Conservatives.

The hope and the hard work continue! Your association is getting ready for the election in 2015 as we speak with our election readiness committee in full swing.

We will be calling on all of you to come to a nomination meeting early in the new year, to engage in promoting a policy platform, and to contribute in any way you can to see Sarnia Lambton send a Liberal to Ottawa.

So, fasten your seatbelts — we are in for an exciting time!

Enjoy this edition and remember that you too can contribute items if you wish. After all, this is YOUR Compass!

Yours in Liberalism,
Eileen Viola—President, SLFLA

MONTHLY PUB NIGHTS:

SLFLA Pub Nights are held the first Thursday of each month from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. They are hosted by a volunteer member and the intent is to provide a gathering place for our members, supporters and friends to meet and socialize. It’s informal and fun. Email announcements will arrive in your Inbox approximately 2 weeks prior to each event. If you don’t use Email please mark your calendars and come on out and join us.

December 4’s Pub Night hosted by Joan Brydges is scheduled for the Sarnia Golf & Curling Club, RSVP if you will be joining us for dinner afterward at the Green Side Dining Lounge.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE:

Website: http://sarnia-lambton.liberal.ca
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SLFedLiberals
Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/SLFedLiberals
Fundraising

Your fundraising team would like to offer a sincere “Thank you!” to all contributors for your ongoing support.

The Results are in for Fundraising!
Of the 23 Ontario Ridings Southwest of Kitchener, Sarnia-Lambton ranks solidly in the top 10 for the number of Victory Fund contributors and total contributions via Victory Fund. Our focus on increasing contributions through Victory Fund is being noticed!

Those who contribute $240 annually through Victory Fund were rewarded in May with a Mackenzie Club event featuring the brilliant and congenial Dominic LeBlanc, MP Beauséjour, New Brunswick.

He delivered a frank and rousing speech and, even more delightful, was the fact that not one person went unattended during the mingling. Monsieur LeBlanc remarked that it was “a great event” and that was evidenced by the fact that his handler finally pulled him from the venue almost one hour later than intended. A well-deserved “Thank you!” to Mackenzie Club members and an enjoyable highlight of the year for our association.

Don’t worry, we do not plan to rest on our Laurels. Your fundraising committee will be meeting to develop plans to meet an objective I am tentatively calling “Operation 100/50/5”.

We will need your help to get our total 5 for Southwestern Ontario for both number of Victory Fund contributors and total contributions via Victory Fund.

If you would like to join the Fundraising Committee, please contact the Vice President and Chair, Alex Palimaka, at alpal@cogeco.ca.

Please remember, though, that the best way to help is to talk to your friends about contributing through Victory Fund and share with them the benefit of joining Mackenzie Club with a monthly contribution through Victory Fund of $10 nationally and $10 locally; it’s easy to join and we would be pleased to help them through the process.

Alex Palimaka, VP Fundraising

HOW TO DONATE:
If you are interested in helping us continue to promote the Liberal Brand in Sarnia Lambton, please make your cheque payable to “SLFLA”, and mail it to PO Box 737, Brights Grove, Ontario, N0N1C0.

If you cannot recall how much you have already donated this year, you can call Joe Viola (519-869-4268) or Alex Palimaka (519-908-9028) and we can help.

VICTORY FUND:
As a political organization, we want to be ready for the 2015 election and ensure that an MP from Sarnia-Lambton will join Justin Trudeau’s government.

Our goals are realistic and achievable only with constant support from the people of this great riding.

People like you, who donate their time and money, ensure that the SLFLA continues moving forward.

What is the best way to support the SLFLA?

JOIN THE VICTORY FUND.

This small, tax deductible, monthly contribution will allow us to plan our programs and expenses effectively.

To learn more, visit https://action.liberal.ca/en/victoryfund
TREASURER’S CORNER

“Riding Re-Distribution had no Effect on Sarnia Lambton”

Ottawa has increased the number of Federal ridings in Canada by thirty (30) for the next Federal Election.

We used to be one of 308 federal ridings. Now we will be one of 338.

Although there was NO CHANGE to the boundaries of the SARNIA LAMBTON riding we were required to de-register our old Association at the end of April and apply to be re-registered under the new 2013 Representation Order. This happened at the end of June 2014.

While we were “De-registered” the Riding Association was not allowed to fundraise. That meant not processing the LOCAL PORTION of your Victory Fund/ Chequemate contributions during the months of April, May, and June. Hopefully you were not alarmed when we made up those missing contributions by DOUBLE CHARGING your local contribution in the months of July, August and September.

After these three months of catch-up we will revert back to your normal monthly deductions to both LPC & SLFLA.

If you have any questions or comments or if you would like to join the Victory Fund & our Mackenzie Club or increase the amount of your monthly Victory Fund contribution please do not hesitate to call. As year end approaches "one time" donations would be very much appreciated.

Remember, you get a 75% tax refund on the first $400 you contribute. That’s a $300 refund on a $400 donation.

Once again, Thank You so much for your patience and your on-going support as we prepare for the 2015 Federal Election.

Joe Viola
Your Treasurer & Financial Agent
519 869 4268

SPRING ROAD CLEANUP

Saturday, May 24, 2014 was a warm and sunny day.

That weather was perfect for picking up trash for the continuation of SLFLA’s participation in the Lambton County Adopt-A-Road Program.

A group of ten members and supporters gathered at the corner of London Line and Camlachie Road to clean the 6 km stretch of London Line to Mandaumen Road. The volunteers are Vernon Chiles, Kim Fyfe, Diane Kerr, Doug Kerr, Patrick Lai, Joe Simon, Dave Slack, Fraser Williams, Wes Willse, and Earl Woolaver.

Over two hours or so, ten full industrial size garbage bags of trash were collected. Many large items were also identified for pick-up by the county.

With another round of this community outreach activity completed, we look forward to the next session in the fall with more members and supporters participating.

Caption, from left, Patrick Lai, Fraser Williams, Vernon Chiles, Joe Simon, Diane Kerr, Doug Kerr, Earl Woolaver, and Kim Fyfe. Missing from photo are Dave Slack and Wes Willse.

PROPOSED 2015 SOCIAL EVENTS

Wine & Cheese Social
Strawberry Social
Summer BBQ
Duc d’Orleans Lunch Cruise
Dinner Theatre
Toonie Hot Dog Meet & Greet

Please feel free to contact the following committee members with any suggestions or comments you wish to share. If you’re interested in “hosting” a Pub Night please contact Lin Burr below (looking for hosts for January through June 2015):

Jeannie Simon, Chair joe.simon@cogeco.ca or @519-869-2943
Lin (Linea) Burr linburr@cogeco.ca or @ 519-542-4289
The 2014 Annual General Meeting of the SLFLA took place on June 10, 2014 at 7pm at the Best Western Guildwood Inn. It was chaired by Carolynne Griffith, President of the Lambton-Kent-Middlesex Riding association.

The election of Table Officers and Directors took place and the meeting concluded with an excellent presentation by George Mallay who explained the role and activities of the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership.

Please do not forget to renew your membership, or invite others to join. To renew or become a member, simply go to https://action.liberal.ca/en/membership and follow the instructions.

You will need to renew or purchase your membership to vote at the upcoming Candidate Nomination Meeting.

Justin Trudeau is offering “Hope and Hard Work”. That is our slogan, and we hope you want to work with us to make a better Canada!

On leadership

“I think a lot of people have fallen into the poor habit of thinking about leadership as, well, Stephen Harper’s model—that the only person he takes advice from is the person he sees in the mirror every morning. And that’s just not what I understand as being leadership. I think that’s not right for a country as rich and diverse as Canada. And I certainly saw from my father’s own example that he used to surround himself with the brightest people he could possibly find, experts in all sorts of different areas, and draw on their strength and expertise to build the big picture.”

On youth engagement

“The problem isn’t getting young people motivated to try and change the world. The challenge is convincing them that politics is a worthwhile use of their energies in terms of changing the world. And that’s where the more complex and yet frank positions I’ve taken on various issues, I think, are appealing to people’s intelligence. I’m not going to try and sound-bite and buzz my way around or out of issues. I’m trying to be straight about the challenges that we’re facing and the world we’re trying to build together and the need to have young people involved.”

SOURCE: Straight.com, article by Mark Leiren-Young, Sep 3, 2014

BOOKS OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL INTEREST

Waking the Frog, by Tom Rand. Solutions for our climate paralysis.

The Best Laid Plans, by Terry Fallis. Won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. Was made into a CBC TV drama series.

The High Road, by Terry Fallis. These two political novels will make you laugh.

Irresponsible Government, by Brent Rathgeber. Examines the current state of Canadian democracy.

Party Of One, by Michael Harris. Stephen Harper has not played by the rules. Having obtained near absolute power, he has abused that power to the maximum.

This Changes Everything, by Naomi Klein. Capitalism vs. Climate. The climate crisis needs to spur change.

You Are Here, by Chris Hadfield. Remarkable photographs show the history and results of human settlement, and the power of natural forces shaping our world and the future of our species.

Common Ground, by Justin Trudeau. Explores with candour and empathy his political coming of age.

JUSTIN TRUDEAU QUOTES:

On leadership

On youth engagement

SOURCE: Straight.com, article by Mark Leiren-Young, Sep 3, 2014

Website: http://sarnia-lambton.liberal.ca
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Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/SLFedLiberals