

FP NEWS

& Commentary - 35



December 2013 - #7

the PRICE of POWER November Dinner Event Launches Next Election Phase



NDP	42%
PC	33%
Liberal	16%
Freedom	5%
Green	4%



ABOVE: London West FP candidate Al Gretzky (left) and am980 radio talk-show host Andrew Lawton (right) were the keynote and guest speakers respectively at FP's Price of Power dinner event held at the Lamplighter Inn in London. London West's summer by-election results appear in center.

LONDON - November 23, 2013 - Despite a record-setting snowfall in the west part of the city (up to 80 cm), it was nevertheless **Freedom Party's** first 100% turnout for a dinner event ever. The three dozen attendees who came out to hear **Al Gretzky** and **Andrew Lawton** speak at FP's *Price of Power* dinner at the *Lamplighter Inn* were treated to an evening of entertainment, great food and company, and to an update on FP's progress and future electoral prospects.

Other highlights of the evening: (1) the awards of three more 'Freedom 200' pins to **Dave Durnin**, **Al Gretzky**, and **Andrew Lawton**; (2) the first *Conductor's Award* to **Tim Hodges** and, in advance of FP's 30th anniversary, (3) the *Founder's Award* to FP president **Robert Metz**.

And of course, there was the incredible video presentation introduced and prepared by FP leader **Paul McKeever**: *Through the Media's Lens: A Brief History of the Freedom Party of Ontario, 1984-2013*.

Watch for more photos, stories, and details in our upcoming issue of *Freedom Flyer*. In the meantime, the entire event can actually be experienced by visiting FP's web site (www.freedomparty.on.ca) and clicking on the featured video. You can't miss it - and you shouldn't! There's no better evidence of the value of your investment in **Freedom Party**. [end]

"We're In For A \$hock! with Ontario Hydro" we warned - in 1985

ONTARIO - 1985-2014 - In a four-page printed warning distributed to the media and to FP members and supporters in July 1985 (the year following the party's founding), **Freedom Party** was already frantically warning Ontarians that the province is in for a massive price shock when the real costs of **Ontario Hydro's** power plans surfaced in the marketplace.

FP's warning included an overview of capital costs, interest rates, amortization, operating costs, and debts incurred, along with the government's 'financial plan' of the time, all expressed in 1985 dollars. (original warning still available on line)

No one listened. Voters, still content with relatively good economic times, were blinded to their inevitable future by politicians and interests with agendas related to power of a different kind.

Even in 1985, all parties in the legislature agreed that **Ontario Hydro** was "out of control." Yet still today, all parties continue to support the coercive monopoly - in all its various new incarnations designed to hide the original debt.

Already, in 1985, **Hydro's** debt amounted to a mortgage representing between 80-85% of the book value of its assets - and those book values were grossly overstated.

When it came to outright waste and choosing more expensive power rather than cheaper power, it was the same in 1985 with respect to nuclear energy, as it is in 2013 with respect to so-called 'green energy.'

As we made clear in 1985: "...plans for cheaper hydraulic stations have been cancelled despite their cost advantages." Sound familiar?

Then, as in 2013, **Freedom Party** stood alone as the only political party in Ontario warning of the dangers of **Ontario Hydro**.

Then, as in 2013, all parties in the legislature continued to amass a taxpayer debt - one that rivals the provincial debt and which is separate from the provincial debt - to pay for the government's reckless and irresponsible venture into the energy market.

From FP's 1985 warning: "The discipline of the market does not apply to *Hydro*. It rewards itself by expanding at taxpayer risk and expense, but does not consider its surplus capacity (between 40 and 50% of demand) as an economic problem. Hence, it has become a *political* one."

Today, Ontarian's can see the *Price of Power* not only on their tax bills, but on their hydro bills as well: *From debt charges to unconscionably high electricity rates, today's prices only reflect the costs still not paid from errors made decades ago. Today's profligate energy spending has not yet begun to be felt in the pockets of Ontarians.*

As we warned in 1985, and do again now: "The only way to solve the political problem created by **Ontario Hydro** is to end the monopoly..."

And that's why the *real* price of power in Ontario is your financial support to **Freedom Party**. [end]

the PRICE of POWER is your \$upport!

postage paid...

PC is Only Hope

"Please join the only real chance to defeat this wench (Ontario premier Kathleen Wynne). PC is only hope." - Anonymous, London, Nov 14, 2014

Hello Mr. or Ms. 'A'. Sorry you chose to reject and return our invitation to FP's Price of Power dinner held in London on November 23. The event was prepared precisely to address your very concerns, and almost nothing else. Had you attended, perhaps you wouldn't be so quick to dismiss Ontario's only hope for a better future: Freedom Party.

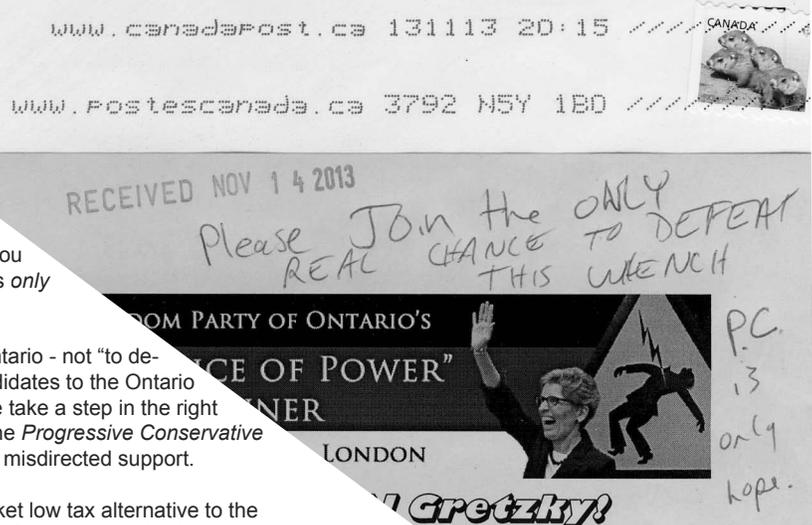
Please note the critical distinction: FP's objective is a better Ontario - not "to defeat this wench." It is our objective to elect Freedom Party candidates to the Ontario legislature, and in so doing, defeat any MPP of any party, as we take a step in the right direction for Ontario. However, a great obstacle to this end is the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario and the kind of thinking that accompanies your misdirected support.

The PCs have been falsely posturing themselves as a free-market low tax alternative to the socialist Liberals and NDP since long before Freedom Party was founded in 1984. In practice, the PC Party is, and always has been, the very party that brought socialism to Ontario. The word 'progressive' explicitly refers to that socialism, which is why under each and every successive 'Progressive' Conservative government, the PCs outspend and out-'socialize' the Liberals and NDP at every turn. For specifics, just look at their record - or watch FP's Price of Power dinner videos, now on line.

Either you are simply and innocently unaware of the true history of the party you continue to support, or you have chosen to remain willfully blind to it. Or, perhaps you are a true socialist at heart, and see the PCs as the best of the socialist parties, in which case you would be correct on that count, but 100% incorrect on your assumption that FP shares these objectives in any way.

FP's Price of Power dinner event offered a solid evening of presentations demonstrating how and why the PCs are our enemy, 'our' meaning Ontario. Electing the PCs will not save us from high energy prices (all caused by the PCs in the first place), nor from 'Green' energy, which Hudak supports, etc., etc. Indeed, it has been embarrassing for the PCs to be seen plucking away at Freedom Party's popular already-advertised planks, in an attempt to appear to advocate beer and wine in corner stores (which the PCs have never supported), and to appear to be against the multi-billion dollar expenditure on the upcoming Pan-Am Games (which the PCs did support).

Ontario continues drifting leftward at an alarming pace. But if your objective is merely to defeat the 'wench', then Andrea Horwath is by far your better bet. And if you live in London West, where newly-elected NDP MPP Peggy Sattler is now already your representative (whose constituency



ABOVE: Not everyone on our mailing list is happy with FP becoming a political player in Ontario, as this snail-mailed anonymous response suggests.

office sits right beside Freedom Party's offices!), then you've already got your wish come true! The 'wench' has already been defeated in your riding.

However, if this isn't what you wanted, be careful what you wish for - and stop supporting it.

Your comment reflects the very nature of Ontario's political crisis (and cause of its demise).

That's why those with a 'hammerhead' voting strategy (not a philosophy) always end up getting hammered by socialism.

Here at FP, we call this voting strategy 'throwing your vote away.' What do PC voters call it? 'Winning?' [rm]

Voter's Dilemma: how can I justify voting for Freedom Party?

Note: The following FP inquiry was directed to FP president Robert Metz:

Bob: I have listened with interest to several of your radio discussions. You and the Freedom Party (FP) seem to make a lot of sense to me. However, I (and likely many other people) are wrestling with a dilemma with respect to voting for your party - locally, provincially or federally.

I look at the alternatives (Liberal, Conservative or NDP) - their leaders, policies and history - and just shake my head. Voting for any of them will most likely result in more of the same lying, deceit and waste as well as a continuation of ruinous "tax & spend" policies. One of these

parties "might" be slightly less objectionable than the other two, but just barely.

So assuming I come to the conclusion that the FP could offer a realistic opportunity to start "turning things around", how can I (and other like-minded individuals) justify voting for them?

My one vote won't have much of an impact. However, one vote each by thousands of people will get someone elected. But, based on past voting patterns, it is extremely unrealistic to believe the FP will gain much, if any foothold in the political arena in the near future. So theoretically, my vote for your party will be a "lost vote".

It is more likely however, that by voting for the representative of the least objectionable party, that my vote will help elect that person. My normal policy is to vote for the person who I think will do the best job - not the party. But of course, by voting for that person, I am essentially voting for his or her party since the premier/prime minister is automatically appointed based on which political party fares best.

So ... please explain to me and others like me, how voting for an FP candidate, who will most likely not win, is a better alternative.

'Atoz', St Thomas, Ont, October 31, 2013

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Hello 'Atoz',

You are absolutely correct when you conclude your vote will have a greater probability of ousting an incumbent by voting for a candidate who seems to have a better chance of getting elected. In fact, thanks to the 'effectiveness' of this kind of voting, we have the Ontario that we see today.

You have, by your question, identified the very process that has led to the problem you described most articulately and accurately. I couldn't have put it any better. They're all the same. So, what's to lose in voting for something different?

There's an old saying that "voting for the 'lesser of three evils' is still voting for 'evil'." Understandably, that's all that one can do when "evil" is the only choice offered. But now you have discovered that you have a choice, and that's perhaps the source of the real dilemma.

As you can imagine, I've heard it many times before. Some people have actually gotten angry with us (even though they liked our policies and perspectives best) over a false fear that Freedom Party would somehow 'split the vote', when in fact, there is no vote to 'split'. All the other parties are in full agreement on everything from the fundamental purpose of government to the promotion of 'green' energy policies, to you name it.

Now, finding yourself potentially faced with having a real option in the political marketplace (i.e., one that you generally agree with), this dilemma boils down to a single choice between two options:

(1) You can expediently vote against the objectionable politician in power, feeling that you have played a part in throwing him/her out, should he/she even lose. But it's a 'wasted-vote' gamble in a no-win scenario. The real irony is that either way, you will still get more of what you object to now - because that is what all of the parties currently in the legislature are all committed to.

(2) You can vote for a party or candidate who most closely represents your own views on the issues, confident in the knowledge that to do so is both the principled and most pragmatic path to a long-term victory.

I understand very well that you want to know your vote has an impact. As you can see, it does. How it impacts depends on which of the two options you choose.

If you agree with candidate A, but believe only candidate B or C can win and therefore vote for one of them, the real question that needs to be asked is this: How do *you*, as a voter supporting a candidate you know is moving in the wrong direction (though perhaps at a different pace), justify *your* vote - in terms of ever expecting things to turn around politically?

Why Voting for the Lesser of Two Evils is Wrong...

Pragmatic voting always results in a downward trend in the quality of candidates. Politicians won't change if they know we'll vote for them anyway. Good candidates seldom receive the support they need to become viable. The problem of bad choices is thereby perpetuated, and the nation continues to deteriorate until the day when our choices will be an Adolf Hitler or a Joseph Stalin.

feedback@freedomparty.on.ca

It seems to me that in the face of what one regards as the 'good' (i.e., a party or candidate you agree with), voting for a candidate or party that one regards on some level of 'evil' and disagrees with, is both an injustice to the candidate/party who should have earned and deserved that support, and a betrayal of one's own convictions. It's like punishing the victim and rewarding the perpetrator.

In each and every provincial election, there are usually five to sometimes a dozen candidates vying for a single seat. All of them will lose, save for one. Using the logic underlying your concern, that would effectively mean that voting for any of the losers would similarly be a 'wasted vote.' Or, in other words, unless you vote for the winner, your vote doesn't count. You said it yourself: "My one vote won't have much of an impact."

Fortunately, this simply isn't the case. Getting elected is a *process*, not an event. Political progress must be achieved one step at a time and not simply measured against some unrealistic 'win or lose' interpretation of political elections. That's a sure prescription for failure. No successful politician or political party that I know ever thinks this way. Political losses and setbacks are merely part of the process.

In this regard, as 'the new kid on the block,' Freedom Party has an incredible history of successful and wide-ranging campaigns that have already saved taxpayers millions upon millions of dollars (beating tax-funded BIA's, defeating the last Pan-Am Games taxpayer bid), and which have set precedents in law before the Ontario Human Rights Commission, and defeated the prohibition of Sunday shopping which was supported by all of the parties in the legislature. All of this is documented on Freedom Party's archive. <http://www.freedomparty.on.ca/archive/>

As you know, talk is cheap, as are policy promises. Freedom Party's history of successful action on the issues, along with a history of principled and consistent advocacy, were both necessary and fundamental to establishing a

AT LEFT: as found on FACEBOOK.

completely new party's identity, character, and philosophy. We knew, from the beginning, that we were facing a "Long Hard Climb", as a 1988 TV news feature on Freedom Party put it.

But the early Freedom Party in infancy was a very different one from the Freedom Party of 2013. As Ray Monteith, FP's first candidate in your riding put it way back in the 1980s: "Freedom Party's no *fringe* party; it's a *major* party just getting started!"

Now the party has entered the next stage in the process:

Within 36 months of setting the party's electoral agenda in late 2010, Freedom Party has (a) become one of only five Ontario registered parties capable of majority government, (b) launched provincial-wide advertising campaigns to create awareness of the party, (c) forced the pollsters, in the recent London West by-election, to include the party on their polls, and (d) exceeded 5% of the vote, making the party statistically significant --- or in other words, making votes for Freedom Party candidates count for something, even if not an electoral victory on the day in question.

There are no over-night quick fixes to what ails Ontario, though there are a few major steps that could be taken immediately (but only upon Freedom Party's election) as are clearly outlined in Freedom Party 2013 opposition budget.

If this is something you support, then that's why a Freedom Party candidate is the better alternative. [rm]

'Atoz' replies: Thank you for your insightful answer to my query. I'm impressed by the fact that your response was actually about the specific question I asked. *That* does not happen very often.

If this is typical of the Freedom Party leaders, you are definitely on the right track. I'll look forward to future information about the activities of the Party. Regards



feedback@freedomparty.ca

Several reasons to make religion illegal...

Hello. I would like to raise a point about the Freedom Party and religion.

The values (expressed) on the Freedom Party (of Canada) web site state: "if you believe that all Canadians, regardless of sex, genetic differences, religion, or personal lifestyle choices, should be equal before and under the law..."

Religion is something that should be made illegal in the country for several reasons, including (that it) was created to control.

Religion is: a lie, condescending, viral, outdated, riddled with moral inconsistencies. Religion justifies: racism, discrimination, sexism, intolerance, slavery, child abuse, rape, murder. Religion devalues: reason, truth, humanity. Religion uses circular logic and contradicts scientifically proven facts. Religion restricts: free thought, freedom of choice, scientific progress, medical progress, social progress, sexuality, sexual freedom, safe sex, contraceptive use, women's rights. Religion promotes non-consensual genital mutilation. Religion encourages: complacency, false information, ignorance. Religion teaches to be submissive, and teaches behaviour through authority by means of reward and punishment. Religion steals: time, money, energy, resources, knowledge, lives. Religion defines human nature. Religion creates: psychological problems, resentment, shame, guilt, fear, stress, irreconcilable divisions, violence, terrorism, wars. Religion destroys: relationships, families, communities, countries. Religion does not adapt.

The Christian churches throughout Canada (e.g. Catholic, Anglican, United) should be demolished simply because they are criminal organizations. They have killed thousands if not millions of indigenous people across Canada and should be brought to justice.

D.R., to feedback@freedomparty.ca, November 11, 2013

One reason not to...

Hello D.R.,

While we acknowledge many of the points you've raised, you should know that the Freedom Party of Canada (which maintains an on-line presence but has not yet entered the federal arena nor fielded federal candidates) has no intention of "making religion illegal" since this would violate the very principles and ideals on which the party is founded. It would also restrict the 'free thought' and 'freedom of choice' that you have listed as being desirable social values.

Consider the essence of the Freedom Party web site quote you cited: "...equal before and under the law..." The consequences of 'religion' that you have listed are inconsistent with the concept of a society where all are equal before and under the law. "Control, racism, discrimination, sexism, intolerance, slavery, child abuse, rape, murder" etc. are the very things to be 'outlawed' in a free society.

If you have assumed that Freedom Party would somehow tolerate these consequences in the name of 'freedom of religion', rest assured, this is definitely not the case; no such 'freedom' exists. In fact, Freedom Party has stood alone on the political front against "official multi-culturalism" and stands alone as a party opposed to the moral relativism on which it is based. (You'll find most of this activity on the Freedom Party of Ontario's web site at: www.freedomparty.on.ca)

However, it should be noted in all fairness that 'religion' (i.e., blind faith) is not the sole source of irrationality and evil, which must be guarded against in all its forms. Atheists and non-believers of all varieties can be as prone to irrationality as are some religious folk, and their ideas too lead to many of the consequences you listed.

In our experience, most religious people and institutions do *not* support "intolerance, slavery, child abuse," or even "devalue truth" in the sense one might conclude given 'faith-based' metaphysics. Most of the historical harm done by 'religion' has been done by so-called 'organized' religion and the official (state) institutions thereof. In a departure from history, our experience with most of today's religious representatives and spokespeople suggests that the vast majority - of all faiths - strongly support secular government. Political Islam remains an exception.

While it is undeniable that many of the negative consequences you listed have from time to time been justified by 'religious belief,' it is equally true that they have been promoted and tolerated by simple ignorance, hatreds, cultural beliefs, social beliefs, and personal beliefs far outside the realm of 'religion,' per se.

In a free society, no individual, group, or government has a right to violate individual rights (which always requires the use of force, or its substitute, the law), and it is the government's proper function to enforce those rights. For the record, and simply put, those rights are to "life, liberty, and property" and refer only to the actions of an individual in the peaceful pursuit of those values - not to any obligation of others to provide them.

The key thing to be avoided if one wishes to live in a free society is any action by the government as an instrument of prohibition and punishment against non-criminal (i.e., non-rights violating) activity. It cannot be stressed enough that the vast majority of your listed negatives were made possible only by governments that were rarely, if ever, motivated by 'religious' concerns.

Certainly, all irrational beliefs and practices should be avoided, and where such practice violates individual rights, 'outlawed.' But to 'out-law religion' as such, would be to offer a 'solution' that is worse than the supposed problem itself. And worse yet, it would lower our guard against freedom's irrational enemies outside the religious community, while segregating freedom from its many friends and supporters within it.

While Freedom Party strongly opposes theocracy, in contrast, the right to practice all peaceful beliefs (religious or not) is the essence of freedom.

We trust this addresses the essentials of your concern.

[rm]

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Freedom Party is founded on the principle that: "Every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfillment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property." Freedom Party advocates capitalism solely because it is the only system compatible with reality, reason, and the pursuit of one's own happiness.

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