

On The Record!

Freedom Party in Action!

1984 - 1997



ON THE RECORD!

Since January 1, 1984, when Freedom Party officially became an Ontario political party, Fp members and supporters have been hard at work for freedom. Their consistent, principled approach to the issues has been the dominant factor in Freedom Party's growing success.

Freedom Party does not aspire to political standards set by other political parties. We set our own standard --- both a school and model of what we think a political party should be --- a party of principle.

Freedom Party's record of action is a testament to what can be accomplished by a political party even before it has members elected in provincial parliament. Thanks to Fp's volunteers and supporters, literally hundreds of millions of tax dollars have already been saved, and thousands of Ontarians have already exercised their new choice at the polls.

The following list of events, activities and accomplishments is by no means a complete accounting of Freedom Party's record of action, nor a complete demonstration of Fp's influence in the community. For a more detailed record and documentation of Fp's activities, including those listed here, back-issues of Fp's official newsletter, Freedom Flyer, are available on request.



FREEDOM PARTY ON THE RECORD

1984 - 1997

1984

January: **Freedom Party** is founded.

April: **Freedom Party** testifies before the federal government's **Fraser Committee** in support of **freedom of speech**.

June: **Freedom Party** launches a "**No-Tax for Pan-Am**" campaign with the delivery of 65,000 8-page brochures to London Ontario households outlining the folly of spending \$110 million tax dollars to host the 1991 Pan-Am Games in that city; over 140 letters of support appear in local press; campaign attracts over 1100 London supporters.

June: **Freedom Party** re-affirms its commitment to **freedom of speech** by becoming the only political party in Canada to go on record supporting the **National Citizens' Coalition's** successful court challenge to the federal government's **Bill C-169**. The bill, supported by all three major parties, was drafted to prevent anyone other than an officially-registered political party from buying political advocacy advertising during a federal election campaign.

September: **Freedom Party** supports Eaton's employees fighting a union ratification drive at Eaton's in London, Ontario; **Freedom Party** drafts and produces brochure which ends up distributed at Eaton's locations across Canada; the pamphlet is cited as the decisive factor preventing union certification in every location it is used. Result: hundreds of employees retain their freedom of association.

1985

January: **Freedom Party** campaigns for freedom of choice in education. In an address to the **Shapiro Commission on Private Schools**, Fp leader Robert Metz recommends that taxpayers be permitted to direct their education tax dollars to the school(s) of their choice.

April-May: **Freedom Party** participates in its

first provincial election, fielding three candidates in London Ontario where the party is headquartered. Campaign strategy, geared towards increasing direct membership support (rather than exclusively emphasizing votes), helps build a strong base of support from which to expand.

June: **Freedom Party's** "**No-Tax for Pan-Am**" campaign ends in victory! We prompt **federal sports minister Otto Jelinek** to cancel federal subsidy of the event, while pressure from our information campaign forces **Liberal leader David Peterson** and **London South MPP Joan Smith (Liberal)** to **reverse their support** of provincial funding for the event.

August: **Freedom Party** supports the **National Citizens' Coalition's** campaign to help Merv Lavigne challenge **compulsory union dues**.

October: **Freedom Party** launches **education campaign** alerting public to encroaching censorship; over 5,000 copies of "**Censorship Alert!**" are distributed through retail outlets across Ontario.

November: **Freedom Party** leader Robert Metz **condemns rent control** legislation at a major Toronto-area landlord conference.

1986

April: **Freedom Party** organizes the largest public petition ever submitted to London's city hall in its history: over 5,000 Londoners sign up to protest a 32% self-awarded pay increase for aldermen and a 42% pay increase for public utilities commissioners.

August: **Freedom Party** launches its second major campaign against the establishment of tax-funded BIAs, successfully blocking the expansion of a BIA (Business Improvement Area) in East London.

October: Our **BIA Warning campaign** expands across Ontario; Politicians start reacting.

December: Freedom Party launches public campaign favouring freedom of choice in **Sunday shopping**. Extensive media coverage of Fp activity in London, St. Thomas, Toronto, and Mississauga generates national attention.

1987

February: Freedom Party publicly condemns **pay equity legislation** before Ontario's Standing Committee on the Administration of Justice.

February: "Yes to freedom of choice in Sunday shopping," says Freedom Party to Ontario's **Select Committee on Sunday Shopping**.

March: Fp leader Robert Metz addresses Toronto mayor and councillors, and condemns motives of those opposed to freedom of choice in Sunday Shopping.

March: Freedom Party helps defeat union ratification at the University of Western Ontario in London.

April: Freedom Party honours Toronto furrier and Sunday shopping advocate **Paul Magder**, whose personal fight for **freedom of choice in Sunday shopping** took him to the Supreme Court of Canada; 110 supporters attend a \$50+ per plate dinner; extensive media coverage generated.

May: Freedom Party's **BIA Warning campaign** draws unprecedented reaction by Hamilton City Council which unanimously passes motion to have Ontario's Attorney-General investigate the feasibility of charging Freedom Party with "spreading false news." One municipal councillor argues that Fp literature is "changing people's minds on this issue," thus representing a threat to **municipal tax increases**.

May: Freedom Party protests garbage strike in London by providing Londoners with limited free garbage pick-up service for the duration of the city's municipal garbage strike; over 70,000 pounds of garbage from over 5,000 London households is hauled away to private landfill sites in the constructive protest spanning 20 days. 5,000 brochures advocat-

ing **contracting out** of municipal services are distributed during campaign.

July: Freedom Party pickets against postal strikers during violent postal strike; Fp campaigns for competition in postal services and condemns the violence and coercive tactics employed by postal union.

August: On-going **BIA Warning** campaigns expand to over 30 Ontario communities. Ten proposed BIAs are prevented from being established, while three existing BIAs are abolished, an Ontario precedent!

August-September: Freedom Party participates in its **second provincial election**, expanding candidate representation to St. Thomas, Mississauga, and Toronto areas.

December: Freedom Party launches education campaign with the publication of the first issue of **Consent**, featuring ideas and opinions by writers and contributors from all over North American.

December: Education campaign expands with production of the 1988 **Calendar of Individual Freedom**.

1988

February: Freedom Party launches public advertising campaigns (including full-page newspaper ads) for **freedom of choice in Sunday shopping**.

March: Freedom Party participates in its **first Ontario by-election** in the riding of London North.

April: Freedom Party leader Robert Metz goes head-to-head on the Sunday shopping issue with Ontario **Solicitor-General Joan Smith** and **Dresden mayor Les Hawgood**.

August: Freedom Party supports freedom of choice in Sunday shopping before Ontario's **Standing Committee on the Administration of Justice**.

November: Freedom Party participates in its **second Ontario by-election** in the riding of Welland-Thorold.

December: Freedom Party education campaign goes global; **1989 Calendar of Individual Freedom**.

dual Freedom (Canadian and American versions) ordered from as far away as India, Australia, Europe, and Japan.

December: Fp leader Robert Metz challenges Liberal Ontario **Solicitor-General Joan Smith** on Sunday shopping; Smith's response provides an indirect endorsement of Fp: "If people elect a lot of people from the Freedom Party they'll get less regulations..."

1989

April: At official public hearings, **Freedom Party** accuses **Workers' Compensation Act** of violating workers' rights.

May: **Freedom Party** moves to protect the environment. After exposing the City of Welland's practice of dumping raw sewage into the Welland River, Fp's Barry Fitzgerald gets the provincial ministry to order sewer hookups, but the city refuses. Fitzgerald publicly vows he'll "make sure" the sewage is cleaned up.

September: **Freedom Party's BIA Warning** campaign is attacked by **Mississauga mayor Hazel McCallion** who lashes out against tax protesters by accusing **Freedom Party** of stirring up their discontent: "It's the **Freedom Party** that's in action! That's what we're up against..."

November: **Freedom Party** expands education campaign to public forums; fundamental issues of **democracy, freedom, majority rule, and individual rights** are debated across the province.

1990

January: **Freedom Party** takes a public stand against Ontario's **Bill 8** and **official bilingualism**.

March: **Freedom Party** helps save the environment! City of Welland finally forced to start treatment of the raw sewage being dumped into the Welland River. Fitzgerald's promise kept.

July: **Freedom Party** campaigns for lower taxes and reduced government spending in

its **third provincial election**.

November: **Freedom Party** launches major media campaign linking socialist government policies to a rise in **racism**; debate is sparked in newspaper editorial pages.

December: **Freedom Party** helps organize local chapters of the newly formed **Ontario Taxpayers' Coalition** in an effort to help stop **property tax increases** in Ontario.

1991

February: **Freedom Party** launches its own anti-tax campaign along with its own accompanying newsletter, the **Tax-Ax**.

March: **Freedom Party** campaigns for freedom of choice in education; Fp leader Robert Metz challenges London's Board of Education trustees to defy Rae government edicts which needlessly force **education expenditures** to rise.

April: **Freedom Party's** William Frampton submits brief to the Special Joint Committee on the **Process for Amending the Constitution of Canada**.

April: **Freedom Party** condemns provincial NDP's **rent control** options; Fp leader Robert Metz accuses NDP of placing political interests above housing affordability for Ontarians.

May: **Freedom Party** participates in a private daycare forum sponsored by United Voices for Fair Treatment in **Child Care**; Fp leader Robert Metz warns that the NDP intends to eliminate all private daycare options in Ontario.

July: Fp leader Robert Metz challenges NDP premier **Bob Rae** on BIA legislation, citing the fact that BIAs are not democratic; Rae nevertheless supports the legislation, suggesting that if a particular business does not wish to be conscripted into a BIA, it can move out of the area.

August: **Freedom Party** targets **teachers' union** with door-to-door public information campaign, generating front-page media coverage.

August: During his address to the Standing Committee on the General Government, Fp

leader Robert Metz accuses NDP of 'Bad Intentions' with its introduction of **Bill 121**, the legislation intended to tighten existing **rent controls**.

August: Fp leader Robert Metz addresses the Standing Committee on Administration of Justice, challenging **Bill 115**, intended to entrench Ontario's **Sunday shopping laws**; all three major parties reinforce their opposition to freedom of choice in Sunday shopping.

October: Fourteen Fp members and supporters set the political agenda in the London and St. Thomas 1991 municipal elections for **school board trustees**.

October: Fp provincial secretary Robert Vaughan organizes special London-Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition trustee election event, exposing the issue of "**whole language**" as a primary cause behind growing illiteracy rates within the public education system; over 200 attend meeting, four times larger than any other election event.

October: Hamilton's Jamesville **BIA** is finally **defeated**, after four years of persistent efforts by **Freedom Party** and Fp supporter Ron Burridge.

November: Fp-supported municipal candidates make a strong showing at the polls, despite massive union-sponsored and media-supported campaign against them.

December: Shocked by the presence of an organized and effective opposition to incumbent trustees, Fp-endorsed candidates are brought under attack by London Board of Education trustees and administrators.

December: Fp executive Barry Fitzgerald challenges **mandatory cycle helmet law**, introduced as a private member's bill by London North **MPP Dianne Cunningham**, before the Standing Committee on the Resources Development.

1992

January: **Freedom Party** member and author William Trench publishes **Only You Can Save Canada** - Restoring Freedom and Prosperity. Endorsed by NCC president David

Somerville and columnist Peter Worthington, the book includes a Foreword by Fp leader Robert Metz.

March: **Freedom Party** launches '**Just Say Know To Whole Language**' campaign in London; campaign expands to Ottawa, Toronto, Sarnia, and Oxford county.

March: Fp executive members Robert Metz and Robert Vaughan address the London Board of Education, citing the tremendous hidden costs of "**whole language**" buried in its 1992 budget. Board reacts in outrage.

April: At a public forum attended by over 1000 people, Fp leader Robert Metz addresses the Ministry of Community and Social Services panel on **child care reform**; Metz condemns government's attempt to introduce universality, a day care monopoly, and the elimination of the profit motive.

April: Fp executive members Robert Metz and Robert Vaughan address the **Ontario Human Rights Code Review Task Force**, condemning the concept of "systemic discrimination" and the establishment of special police forces to enforce such legislation.

April: Fp "**whole language**" campaign draws irate public response from London school principal who distributes her lengthy written rebuttal to local residents via the school's students --- much to the anger and surprise of the children's parents. Fp reprints her criticism, using it as an illustration of the failings of **whole language**, and of the contradictory arguments used to defend it.

May: **Freedom Party** assists London-Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition in exposing the City of London's **Project 2000**, an official municipal policy discouraging the pursuit of known **welfare fraud** cases.

May: **Freedom Party** joins forces with a coalition of Ontario's "alternative" parties to demand equal and fair treatment under the law for all officially-registered political parties.

June: At a \$50-per-plate dinner event, Fp member and author **William Trench** warns Fp members and supporters that "this country is in a far worse condition --- and I'm not kidding you --- than anybody in this room even suspects, and that includes me."

June: The staff of a public school in London accuses **Fp** of publishing "**hate literature**" because of its campaign against "**whole language**". To evade **Fp** scrutiny of the controversial teaching method and philosophy, one local school principal withdraws his public invitation to **Fp** to observe classes in his school.

June: At public hearings, **Fp** leader Robert Metz demands an end to the London Board of Education's intimidation tactics directed against those who oppose "**whole language**".

July: In a written submission to the Ontario Law Reform Commission's review of the Ontario Film Review Board (censor board), **Fp** says 'No' to **censorship**. Surprisingly, in its 134-page report, the Reform Commission agrees.

July: **Fp** leader Robert Metz addresses a crowd of over 1,000 on the grounds of Toronto's City Hall citing the failures of **Cannabis Prohibition** and Canada's counter-productive and expensive War on Drugs.

September: **Fp** launches campaign to support the 'NO' side of the **Charlottetown accord** referendum question. In public forums and on televised debates, **Fp** leader Robert Metz argues that the "referendum is fraudulently being sold to Canadians as a unity package, when in fact it has nothing to do with unity."

November: Despite a CRTC ruling that alternate parties are not given equal air time during **elections**, Mr. Justice Borins dismissed an application by Ontario's alternate parties to prosecute the three major parties for violating the law. He went one step further by accusing the alternate parties of advancing their own political agendas.

1993

January: In separate meetings with Progressive Conservative leader Mike Harris, and with officials of the NDP government, **Fp** leader Robert Metz joins **education** delegation at Queen's Park to protest the teaching policies of the Ministry of Education.

February: **Fp** leader Robert Metz volunteers to represent London Landlord Elijah Elieff before an **Ontario Human Rights Commission Board of Inquiry**. As part of his defence that the landlord was falsely accused of racial discrimination against his tenants, Metz argues that the Human Rights Commission itself promotes an openly racist agenda.

April: **Fp** participates in its **third Ontario Bi-election** in the Toronto riding of Don Mills. Candidate David Pengelly reaches thousands of voters with **Freedom Party** message, while voters oust NDP.

April: **Fp** joins with alternate Ontario political parties in a demonstration protesting federal **Bill C-114** at Queen's Park. The Bill, supported by federal Liberals, Conservatives, and New Democrats, essentially prohibits lobby groups and private individuals from purchasing **advertising** to espouse their views during a federal election.

April: **Fp** calls for an end to **universality** in social programs, the privatization and selling-off of crown corporations, and flat taxes in its public address to the **Ontario Fair Tax Commission**.

May: **Fp** leader Robert Metz participates in televised debate on **cannabis prohibition**. Joined and supported by former public school teacher Jeff Schurie (who as a consequence of his conviction of cultivating cannabis in his home founded HEMP Canada), Metz debated **London Police Force superintendent Jim Balmain**. Though invited to participate, representatives of the Addiction Research Foundation refused to send a participant to help Balmain with his case.

August: **Fp** leader Robert Metz repeats his message on the failure of **cannabis prohibition** at the second rally held at Toronto's Nathan Phillips Square by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML): "Drug traffickers," warns Metz, "are among the (biggest) supporters of drug prohibition."

September: During on-going testimony before Ontario's Human Rights Commission Board of Inquiry, a retroactive **publication ban** is placed on **Fp's** June 1993 issue of **Freedom Flyer**. The party newsletter reported a deal the Commission tried to strike with

London landlord Elijah Elieff in exchange for dropping the complaint against him.

September: Fp leader Robert Metz presents his closing arguments to the **HRC Board of Inquiry**. Arguing that London landlord Elijah Elieff was an unsuspecting victim of a "calculated, fully orchestrated lobby effort" to gain control of his apartment buildings, Metz cites past Board of Inquiry decisions as evidence of the Human Rights Commission's own prejudice towards the minorities it purports to protect. The Board promises a decision within three months.

October: Fp addresses Ontario's **Royal Commission on Learning**, challenging the \$3 million public hearing to live up to its stated objective of giving Ontarians "a say" in the province's education system. Arguing that Ontarians cannot really have "a say" until they have a choice, Fp leader Robert Metz cites the government's commitment to preserving its **monopoly** and control over **education** as evidence that the hearings are a useless and wasteful exercise.

November: Fp assists London **taxi reform** coalition with its campaign to expose discriminating licensing practices and to introduce more competition in the industry. Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ed Philip, refuses to order a formal inquiry into the London taxi industry.

1994

January: Fp executive Robert Metz steps down as founding party leader, clearing the way for **Jack Plant** to take the helm as **interim leader**. Metz continues as party president, policy spokesman, and newsletter editor.

May: In a public address to A.P.E.C. supporters, Fp president Robert Metz lets them know that **Freedom Party** supports their position against **official bilingualism** and on constitutional change.

May: Fp leader Jack Plant and secretary Robert Vaughan attend Queen's Park for the tabling of the NDP's 1994 **Ontario budget**. Plant expresses his concerns to PC leader Mike Harris and to members of business community and media.

May: In a public address to trustees, Fp leader Jack Plant warns London's Public School Board of the eventual and unavoidable "end of **public education** as we have come to understand it." Citing a provincial deficit that is increasing Ontario's debt at a rate of over \$1 million per hour, Plant emphasizes that school boards across the province can soon expect drastic reductions in provincial education transfer payments.

August: Ontario Human Rights Commission **Board of Inquiry clears London landlord Elijah Elieff** of racism complaint, in a long-awaited decision on the arguments put forth by Fp president Robert Metz.

September: Fp manager of special projects, Murray Hopper, draws the attention of Financial Post editor **Diane Francis**, with his suggestion of applying the "Dutch clock auction" principle to Canada's **welfare** system. While saving taxpayers money, it would also provide a positive incentive for welfare recipients to abandon dependency and seek employment without being penalized by the system.

October: Fp president Robert Metz finds himself embroiled in a debate with gay activists opposed to **parental input** on "alternate lifestyle" workshops in the public school system. The debate is aired across Ontario on the BBS television network in the midst of municipal election campaign periods.

October: Fp president Robert Metz attends London Symposium 1994 expecting to debate a representative from MPP Marion Boyd's office on the subject of **censorship** before a group of Ontario students attending the conference from around the province. At last minute, Boyd's office withdraws its representative saying that they "could not commit the time."

October: In a radio debate with representatives of **Much Music** and anti-violence groups, Fp president Robert Metz blames **C.R.T.C. regulations** for being behind Much Music's decision to slot rock band SFH's music video, *Mourning Suicide*, into its "Too Much For Much" program segment. Citing the issue of C.R.T.C. regulations as being "very sensitive" to Canadian broadcasters, Much Music's manager of communications, Sarah

Crawford, refuses to publicly speculate on the possibility of a different decision in the absence of the regulator.

November: Fp secretary Robert Vaughan becomes Fp's first executive member elected to public office as a public school board trustee in London.

December: Gordon Domm, the ex-OPP officer convicted of distributing published information on the **Karla Teale murder trial**, speaks to Fp supporters at a \$50/plate dinner held in his honour in London. The event, calling for the public's right to access information pertaining to fundamental issues of justice and public jurisdiction, drew media attention and support for Domm's on-going fight over the **publication ban** and his pending appeal of the conviction.

1995

January: In a first meeting attended by representatives of numerous advocacy groups, including Ontarians For Responsible Government, Progressive Group For Independent Business, Alliance For the Preservation of English In Canada, Ontario Taxpayers' Federation, Society For Academic Freedom And Scholarship, Employment Excellence, Voice Of Canadians, and many others, **Freedom Party** executive members Metz, Vaughan, and Walker play key roles in helping all discover **common ground** on which to plan future activities.

January: Fp leader Jack Plant supports freedom of choice on the issue of **year-round schooling**. In an address to the London Board of Education, Plant supports the option of year-round schooling, but not "if it is unaccompanied by choice".

January: Though supporting the repeal of **Bill 40**, Progressive Conservative MPP Elizabeth Witmer offers an evasive response to **Freedom Party's** advocacy of a 'right to work' law which would "guarantee that no person can be compelled as a condition of employment, to join or not to join, nor to pay dues to a labour union."

February: Fp president Robert Metz delivers a strong message to a Reform Party of Canada Aboriginal Affairs Task force formed

to assist federal Reformers in developing a solid, defensible policy on aboriginal affairs for their party. Using **property rights** as the cornerstone of his position, Metz urges Reformers to avoid race as a grounds for political status, and argues that all Canadians, aboriginals included, should be treated equally before and under the law.

February: Fp president Robert Metz becomes the focus of the Objectivist Club of Michigan's international Objectivist publication, Full Context. In a seven-page interview, Metz reviews his personal involvement in politics, and criticizes Objectivists themselves for adopting "an armchair philosopher" posture with respect to effecting change.

February: In an address to the London East Reform Party Association, Fp president Robert Metz urges Reformers to adopt a policy of abolishing Canada's Human Rights Commission, arguing that "these commissions exist to entrench the **racist policies** of both the federal and provincial governments."

February: Ontario's Commission on Election Finances rejects Fp executive member Robert Vaughan's request to have observer **representatives from the alternative parties** attend commission meetings. Citing a change to the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, the commission cites a preference for "paper hearings rather than face to face hearings" and emphasizes that matters of concern to Ontario's political parties, "particularly policy matters", will "continue to be conducted in private."

March: Fp leader Jack Plant addresses the London **Board of Education** on its 1995 budget, but describes the budget process itself a "futile and frustrating experience". In addition to his call for a comprehensive audit and for a clear segregation of provincially mandated expenses from those which are not, Plant challenges the basic premise of the Board's 'vision paper' which states that the aim of the board is to prepare students for a "post-capitalist" world.

March: At a meeting called by Ontario's Commission On Election Finances and attended by representatives of all of Ontario's alternative political parties, Fp president Robert Metz objects to regulations which

handicap new political parties in the advancement of their causes. Exercising its regulatory power to pick and choose the issues on which Ontario political parties may raise tax-creditable contributions, the Commission makes clear its opposition to **political freedom** by informing Metz that **Freedom Party** will not be allowed to raise such contributions for any political campaigns against Ontario's Human Rights Commissions. However, if **Fp** would advocate 'gender equality' in the legislature (something that **Fp** could never support on principle), the contributions for such a campaign would be permitted.

March: In a closed-door meeting with **Progressive Conservative leader Mike Harris**, **Fp** president Robert Metz and vice-president Lloyd Walker join with other group leaders and activists to support Harris on five key platform issues: (1) lower taxes, (2) spending cuts, (3) removal of government barriers to job creation, (4) doing better for less, and (5) balancing the budget.

May: **Freedom Party** becomes a founding group of the newly-named alliance of group leaders and activists: the **Montgomery Tavern Society**.

May: **Fp** executive member Robert Vaughan generates controversy when, as London Board of Education trustee, he accuses the board of adopting a "**racist and sexist equity policy**" in its hiring practices.

June: Promoting a ten-point platform, **Freedom Party** fields 12 candidates in its **fourth provincial election**.

September: Author Joe Armstrong (Farewell the Peaceful Kingdom) addresses 60 **Fp** attendees at a \$50-a-plate dinner in London. His theme, 'Racism Rampant In A Victim Culture', demonstrates how Canadians live with a "**victim culture constitution**" that is undermining the fundamental values on which Canada depends for its continued existence as a free nation. Says Armstrong: "Canada does not suffer a leadership crisis. She suffers a crisis of citizenship."

September: **Fp** president Robert Metz warns members of the London Chamber of Commerce about the dangers of **Ontario's Human Rights Commission**, citing his own experience before a Board of Inquiry when he

defended London landlord Elijah Elieff against a contrived complaint of racism.

September: **Fp** president Robert Metz is keynote speaker at a merger meeting between the **Progressive Group for Independent Business and Voice of Canadians** in Burlington. "Because Ontario's political and moral environment is still a socialist one, despite the election of Mike Harris and the PCs," warns Metz, "I'm not quite ready for any post-revolution celebrations yet."

December: **Fp** leader Jack Plant publicly calls upon Ontario Federation of Labour's (OFL) Gordon Wilson to cancel a planned **illegal labour walkout** in the city of London. **Freedom Party** supporters deliver 15,000 information bulletins to residents of London, condemning the actions of an "impotent union leadership".

December: **Freedom Party** supports the London-Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition in a counter-protest to a union-organized shut-down of the city. National media attention is focused on London when organizers and volunteers form "**Londoners Transporting Citizens**" by providing drivers and vehicles to help compensate for a cut to bus service on December 11.

1996

January: For the first time in its 12-year history, **Freedom Party** is refused an opportunity to address the government in power through government-sponsored public hearings. The issue? Bill 26.

January: Though **Freedom Party** is turned away, the London-Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition (LMTc) is offered TWO opportunities to address the Standing Committee on General Government on **Bill 26**. **Fp** president Robert Metz, speaking on behalf of the LMTc, attacks the principle of 'universality' as being the very thing that destroys government's ability to help those most in need.

February: **Fp** president Robert Metz tells 85 **Voice of Canadians** supporters in Toronto that Canada's **census** takers are collecting information that will be used against Canadians through the implementation of government

social engineering programs.

February: Members of the Montgomery Tavern Society, including **Fp** president Robert Metz and **Fp** vice-president Lloyd Walker, meet with **Reform MP Ed Harper** in Toronto to urge Reformers to focus on five key platform issues: (1) Charter of Rights and Freedoms, (2) Official Multiculturalism, (3) Taxes, Debt, and the Deficit, (4) Canadian unity, and (5) Justice.

March: Electronic editions of **Consent** magazine, programmed to run under a 'Windows' format, are made available for the first time.

March: London Board of Education Budget hearings grind to a halt when **Fp** president attempts to quote from the **budgetary philosophy** of Board chairperson Bill Brock as delivered in his inaugural address. It is the second time that Metz is prevented from continuing a presentation before the board.

March: **Fp** vice-president Lloyd Walker submits 32 specific recommendations to Ontario's Progressive Conservative government, in response to its discussion paper on **Workers' Compensation Reform**. Privatizing Workers' Compensation is the ultimate solution, says Walker.

May: **Fp** CA president (Welland-Thorold) Barry Fitzgerald tells attendees at a public meeting (sponsored by the Etobicoke Board of Health) that **smoking bylaws** violate property rights.

May: **Fp** manager of special projects, Lloyd Walker, boycotts the Canada census. In an open letter to Prime Minister Jean Chretien, Walker informs the prime minister that filling out the **census** would require adopting a racist perspective, something which he regards as "abhorrent".

June: **Freedom Party** files a **Freedom Of Information request** with the Ontario Human Rights Commission, for a list of expenses incurred with respect to its actions against London landlord Elijah Elieff. The Commission says no such records exist.

August: **Fp** political issues analyst Murray Hopper criticizes **Reform Party leader Preston Manning** for missing "a golden opportunity to spring to the defense of capitalism and to support the right of every employer to

deal with his employees according to contract." The comments follow Manning's suspension of Reform Party MPs Bob Ringma and Dave Chatters for making allegedly racist comments.

September: At the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture, And Recreation in Toronto, **Fp** president Robert Metz privately meets with **Progressive Conservative MPP Tony Clement** to discuss the lack of due process under Ontario's **Human Rights Commission**, and to bring to his attention the plight of London landlord Elijah Elieff.

September: **Freedom Party** publicly supports government initiative on **referenda**, subject to the condition that a referendum's outcome cannot infringe upon **fundamental freedoms** (including property rights).

September: **Fp** executive member and London Board of Education trustee Robert Vaughan generates more controversy when he accuses board officials of hypocrisy in their refusal to hear from parents who wish to have their children taught how to read using **phonics**.

September: **Freedom Party** launches its **World Wide Website** at the following address: <http://www.freedomparty.org>.

September: Ontario's Commission On Election Finances relents after **Freedom Party** **refuses compliance** --- twice --- with arbitrary rulings imposed by the commission.

October: **Freedom Party** files an **appeal** with Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner to force the Ontario Human Rights Commission to comply with **Fp's Freedom Of Information request**.

October: **Fp** president Robert Metz discusses **Workers' Compensation** with members of the Progressive Group For Independent Business at a \$40-per-plate dinner event in Hamilton.

October: The Ontario Human Rights Commission appeals the Board of Inquiry Ruling (1994) which found that there was no evidence to support a racism complaint against London landlord Elijah Elieff. Elieff was defended before that board by **Fp** president Robert Metz.

October: In an editorial published in the London Free Press, **Fp** executive member Robert Vaughan, a trustee on the London Board of Education, decrys the **state monopoly on education** and supports the provincial government's elimination of school boards. "Parents should have the final say in education," says Vaughan. "If that means there would no longer be a need for school boards and trustees like myself, so be it."

November: **Freedom Party** sends two representatives (**Fp** president Robert Metz and Regional vice-president Bill Frampton) to the **Conference For Concerned Canadians** held in Napanee. More than 24 organizations outline their agendas and discuss areas of common agreement.

November: In a one-hour open-line debate in London, **Fp** president Robert Metz debates **Dr. Terry Polovoy** of Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada and **Garfield Mahood** of the Non-Smokers Rights Association. Metz condemns a proposal by the Ontario Medical Association to legally prohibit smoking in private homes.

December: In a **bizarre** decision, an **Ontario Divisional Court judgement** overturns a 1994 Human Rights Commission Board Of Inquiry decision which found that there was no evidence to support a racism complaint against London landlord Elijah Elieff.

December: **Fp** manager of special projects Lloyd Walker launches **Freedom Party's 1997 Calendar Of Canada**, which notes hundreds of Canadian historical references and highlights exclusive quotes taken from the pages of *Consent* magazine.

drug policies. Monteith suggests that Canadians should "tell Washington to buzz off" on Canadian drug policy.

April: Jack Plant steps down as interim **party leader**; **Lloyd Walker** assumes the helm.

April: In a private meeting arranged through the Montgomery Society, **Fp** leader Lloyd Walker and **Fp** president Robert Metz meet with **Reform Party leader Preston Manning** in Toronto to discuss issues of common concern. Manning assures Walker that Reform has no plans to field provincial candidates, despite the official registration of Reform in Ontario.

April: **Freedom Party** supports **Hemp Nation owner Chris Clay** when **Fp CA** president Ray Monteith (Elgin) twice presents him with \$500 cheques to help defray legal costs incurred in his **constitutional challenge** to Canada's marijuana laws. Says Monteith: "Drugs should be legalized."

June: **Ron Leitch**, president of the **Alliance For The Preservation Of English in Canada (APEC)**, addresses **Fp** audiences at two separate \$50/plate dinners held in London and Ottawa. Drawing a parallel between the erosion of the **monarchy** in Canada with the erosion of **individual rights** and freedoms, Leitch suggests that Canadians have lost their freedoms by abandoning an institution which was quite effective at limiting government power.

1997

January: The Ontario Human Rights Commission is forced to comply with **Freedom Party's Freedom Of Information Request. Records** formerly said to have not existed are produced, but figures provided are suspect.

February: **Fp CA** presidents Ray Monteith (Elgin) and David Pengelly (Don Mills) appear on CBC Newsworld's Ralph Benmergui Show in Toronto to voice opposition to Canada's





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ON THE RECORD!

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FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

Freedom Party of Ontario is a fully-registered Ontario political party. Contributions are tax-creditable. **Statement of Principle:**

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.*

Platform: that the *purpose of government* is to *protect* individual freedom of choice, *not* to restrict it. **Annual Member-**

ship & Support Level: \$25 (tax-creditable to Ontario residents); **Provincial Executive:** *Ontario President:* Robert

Metz; Ontario Vice-president: William Frampton; *Ontario Secretary:* Barry Malcolm; *Chief Financial Officer:* Patti Plant; *Executive Officers:* Robert Vaughan, Gordon Mood, Paul Blair;

Party Leader: Lloyd Walker.

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