

# FREEDOM FLYER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

APRIL 1995 - Vol. 5 No. 3

## DON'T GET MAD.



Get Freedom.





## Openers...

**DON'T GET MAD. GET FREEDOM.****-Robert Metz**

(Mr. Metz is the Ontario President of Freedom Party.)

By now, most of you already have a pretty clear idea of who you're going to vote AGAINST in the upcoming provincial election.

I know a lot of you want to get even. I know, because you've told me so.

You're angry and frustrated with the direction of the Rae government. You can't afford skyrocketing taxes anymore. Interest rates are going up again. The dollar isn't buying what is used to. The country is falling apart at the seams. Deficits and debt show no signs of abating. Crime is on the rise.

Politically, things are getting worse, not better.

So let's be careful. Don't get mad. Our anger against politicians and governments just might get us into more trouble. Angry voters are a sitting target for political opportunists waiting to take advantage of their anger and frustration --- and for political parties who will REFLECT their frustration to get votes, but continue to support the very principles and philosophies that have gotten us into the mess we're in in the first place.

Angry voters vote AGAINST, and just as anger in personal relationships tends to backfire, so too does anger cloud our judgement in matters politic. In politics, when we vote AGAINST, we might as well just throw our vote away.

Instead of getting angry and risking your vote, take a moment to THINK about this:

Remember, our election system operates on the principle that unless you vote for the winner, your vote doesn't make any difference anyway. If you vote Conservative and a Liberal wins, your vote doesn't count. Of course, you can't always know this in advance, but after the fact, it's just like throwing your vote away. Since you didn't vote for a winner, it would have made no difference to the outcome of the election if you had not voted. (That's why most people don't vote.)



**ABOVE: Freedom Party president, Robert Metz**

To complicate matters, with three or more parties in the running, it is a fact that THE WINNER OF ELECTIONS WILL ALWAYS BE THE PARTY THAT ATTRACTS THE LARGEST MINORITY block of votes. As a result, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE MORE LOSERS THAN WINNERS at the end of each election. Even in

a majority government, it will become increasingly probable that more than half of voters will not have voted for the government in power. Under such circumstances, the will of the majority simply ceases to exist, even by the furthest stretch of democratic imagination. (Until we have proportional representation in Ontario elections, any vote not cast for the winner will be a wasted vote. That's why FP advocates the Single Transferrable Vote (See *Consent 21*), but that's another subject.)

I know many people who would like to see the ideas and policies of

Freedom Party in government, but are so angry with the policies of the NDP that they're planning to vote Conservative or Liberal. I understand their frustration. Their (probably correct) assumption that these are the only two parties who stand a chance of getting elected against the NDP forces them to vote, by their own honest admission, for the "lesser of three evils."

But the "lesser of three evils" is still "evil", and the "evil" in this case is Socialism. So if that's the reason they're voting, then they're voting FOR socialism, even though they may think that's what they're voting AGAINST.

**Conservative = Liberal = NDP = Socialism.** While it is increasingly understood that Liberals and New Democrats can readily be classified socialist, there is still a significant number of people who think that Conservatives are not. That's because they're listening

to what the Conservatives are SAYING, and not paying attention to what they're DOING.

Conservatives are NOT capitalists. They are socialists in disguise --- or in denial. By preaching the virtues of capitalism while practising the vices of socialism, they have played THE major role in discrediting freedom, and the principles on which it rests. "Progressive Conservative" is, after all, a euphemism for "socialist conservative." Like Liberals and New Democrats, they LIKE socialism and state control, only they want to make it "more efficient" or "fair". To them, this is "common sense."

It's a little embarrassing to watch provincial Conservatives making overt and direct appeals to Reformers for support in the upcoming provincial election. It's tragic to watch Reformers bite on the hook.

Remember, after the election, government will go on pretty much as it did before the election --- with one major exception. The government is broke. Really broke. Really, really broke. So it's vitally important to understand that no matter who gets elected in 1995, ANY party will APPEAR to behave "conservatively". But unless a political party comes forth with the courage to reject socialism and the false ideas on which it rests, nothing can get better.

All three parties are committed to the principle of "universality" in social programs, as opposed to the proper and affordable principle of helping only those in genuine

need. All three parties speak in terms of "balancing competing interests", instead of addressing and protecting individual rights. All three parties support the disgraceful racist and sexist philosophy of "political correctness" --- and the egalitarian programs that go along with it. All three parties are committed to a state monopoly in the funding of health care and education, thereby preventing any meaningful reform to either system.

Most importantly, all three parties run on personalities, devoid of principles. And therein lies the key difference between FP and the others. **Freedom Party** is founded on the principle that (1) Each individual has an abso-

**"Unless you vote for the winner, your vote doesn't count."**



## Working For Freedom...

## FREEDOM BRIEFS...

### GROUPS DISCOVER COMMON GROUND

TORONTO (January 21, 1995) - In an effort to improve communications, discover common ground, and to work out a complimentary set of priorities, leaders and chief organizers of a number of educational, political, and lobby groups gathered at the Regal Constellation Hotel for a day of introductions, discussion, and debate.

Organized by **Voice of Canadians Committees** chairman **Dick Field**, the event brought together representatives of groups who were, for the most part, unfamiliar with each other's agendas and activities. However, by day's end, that was no longer the case.

Among the meeting's attendees: **Robert Metz**, **Lloyd Walker**, and **Robert Vaughan** of **Freedom Party**; **Thom Corbett**, director of **Ontarians For Responsible Government**; **Dick Butson** of the **Confederation of Regions Party**; **Craig Chandler**, president of **The Progressive Group for Independent Business**; **Ron Leitch**, president of **A.P.E.C.**; **Doug Hindson**, executive of the **Ontario Taxpayers' Federation**; **John Thompson**, executive director of **The Mackenzie Institute**; **John Furedy**, of the **Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship**; **Ken Parsons** of **Employment Excellence**; and a number of independent activists and additional members of the aforementioned groups.

All attendees were given a brief opportunity to introduce themselves and to describe their respective organizations and/or objectives. It soon became clear that on certain issues, there was no agreement or cooperation possible, but these differences were set aside to address the fundamental crisis that all had gathered to discuss: the fiscal and social destruction of Canada caused by egalitarian legislation (i.e., multiculturalism, employment equity, political correctness, official bilingualism, etc.).

With egalitarian philosophies being promoted by governments at all levels, and with the indoctrination of our children with these philosophies in the public school system, it was agreed by all that education of politicians and the public was of utmost importance in countering the destructive effects of such ideas.

"The concept of separate cultures, each of equal value, maintained at the majority taxpayers' expense, has spawned a nightmare of destructive self-interest," said **Voice of**

Canadians chairman **Dick Field** in a Toronto Star feature (Dec.23, 1994). "All this at the expense of undermining Canadian values and traditions. Even worse, at the expense of the good will which the vast majority of Canadians have, in the past, extended to all newcomers."

While emphasizing the need to remain distinct and separate entities with differing agendas, the groups agreed to network through conferences, workshops, digests, skills and material exchanges, and information assistance. Attendees agreed to meet again in the near future when they will endeavour to use their common ground as a base from which to define and set achievable goals.

Our appreciation is extended to **Dick Field** and the **Voice of Canadians Committees** for their efforts in having organized this successful event. The silent majority is about to be heard.

### CHAMBER WARNED OF H.R.C. DANGERS

LONDON (September 29, 1994) - In a morning breakfast address to members of the **London Chamber of Commerce**, **FP** president **Robert Metz** warned them of their vulnerability to the policies of the **Ontario Human Rights Commission (HRC)** and of what their options would be if faced with a filed complaint against them.

"There is no clear policy to follow," said **Metz**, "since your own actions are no longer the criteria of whether you may or may not find yourself before an **HRC** Board of Inquiry. You will be charged on the basis of statistics, compared to others, and be forced to respond to accusations of 'systemic' discrimination, against which there is no objective defense."

**Metz** pointed to the irony that a person who is clearly "guilty" of the complaint against him will have a much easier time before an **HRC** Board of Inquiry than someone who considers him/herself innocent of the accusation in the complaint.

"The guilty can make deals with the **HRC**," **Metz** stated. "But if you're innocent, then you're in trouble -- that is, IF you intend to prove your innocence. It is at this point that you will be presented with a cost/benefit value judgement and you may well decide that it's 'cheaper' to plead guilty."

That is, of course, what the majority of people do when faced with an **HRC** complaint filed against them. Recognizing the powers

and mandate of the **HRC**, which include its right to order "anything" as a punishment for failing to satisfy the complainant's concerns, most businesspeople give in, and that's precisely what the **HRC** counts on to expand its powers and authority.

While **Metz's** message was not particularly a reassuring one, **Chamber** members seemed to appreciate his warnings and a few of them related their own personal experiences with the **HRC** that helped reinforce his warnings. Our thanks is extended to **David Lipson** for his kind invitation to have **Mr. Metz** speak to **Chamber** members.

### METZ URGES REFORMERS TO ABOLISH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS

LONDON (February 28, 1995) - In an address to the **London East Reform Party Association**, **FP** president **Robert Metz** urged Reformers to adopt a policy of abolishing Canada's **Human Rights Commissions**.

"These Commissions exist to ENTRENCH the RACIST POLICIES of both the federal and provincial governments," explained **Metz**. "These policies are disguised as 'equity' programs of some sort or another and assist our socialist politicians in undermining both our justice system and the values of Canada's cultural heritage and the moral principles on which this heritage rests."

**Metz** made a clear distinction between **INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS** (freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of peaceful assembly, private property rights) and so-called "HUMAN RIGHTS" which are **GROUP** rights granting special privileges to certain identifiable minority groups.

"The only **REAL** equity or equality is equality before and under the law," he emphasized. "Any law? No. Many laws are illegitimate because they violate our fundamental freedoms. Equality is only possible under laws with **UPHOLD** and **PROTECT** our fundamental freedoms."

Citing his experience with an **Ontario Human Rights Commission** Board of Inquiry, **Metz** expanded his message by commenting on the false definitions of "racism" that are being used by governments, and on the philosophical attack against the fundamental values of "Western civilization".



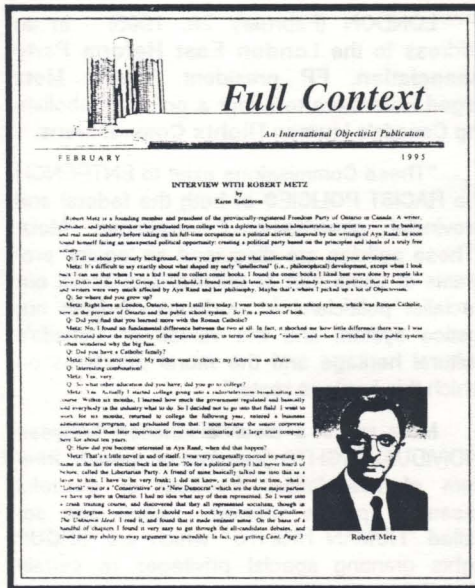
## Freedom Briefs...

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His message was warmly received by attendees, who then asked a number of questions regarding their concerns. Our thanks is extended to **Ken Lewis** for his kind invitation to have Mr. Metz speak to Reformers on this very important issue.

### ARMCHAIR OBJECTIVISTS HAVE GOOD REASON TO BE DEPRESSED, METZ TELLS AMERICAN CLUB

ROYAL OAK, Michigan - (February, 1995) - FP president **Robert Metz** was the focus of the **Objectivist Club of Michigan's** February edition of its international Objectivist publication, **Full Context**. The publication regularly features interviews conducted by editor **Karen Reedstrom** with various individuals within Objectivist circles, and is received by subscribers in countries around the world.



Despite being strongly influenced by **Ayn Rand's** Objectivist philosophy, Metz nevertheless devoted a significant portion of his one-and-a-half-hour interview to a criticism of many Objectivists who assume an "armchair philosopher" posture with respect to effecting change, and then, as Reedstrom observed, "get depressed because the state of the world is not the way they want it to be."

Metz emphasized that principles NEVER have to be compromised in order to effectively enter the political arena, and that this argument is one of the excuses often used by Objectivists to avoid a commitment to change: "A lot of Objectivists are depressed because

they CHOOSE to be depressed. Depression is a psychological and emotional consequence of distorted thinking. They've created all kinds of excuses for themselves to justify their 'armchair' posture, and to not get directly involved in the process of change. Their depression is quite understandable. When you don't ACTIVELY PRACTICE what you preach, the guilt can become overwhelming. My past experience with people who openly call themselves Objectivists has not been good when it comes to getting involved with the political process."

Reedstrom's interview questions covered everything from what shaped Metz's early intellectual development (including a condensed history of **Freedom Party**) to "the most important lesson you've learned from life."

As of this writing, the published interview has generated contacts, subscribers and supporters from Canada, the United States, and Britain.

**GET THE DETAILS!** Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of Metz's interview, or in finding out more about **Full Context** can do so either through **Freedom Party** or by contacting: The Objectivist Club of Michigan, 2317 Starr Rd. #D-1, Royal Oak, Michigan USA 48073; (Phone: 810-543-0155). (Annual subscriptions to **Full Context** (10 issues, 12-pgs each) can be obtained by sending \$20 (US) payable to "The Objectivist Club of Michigan".)

### METZ URGES PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES TO ADOPT 'RIGHT TO WORK' POLICY

TORONTO (January 25, 1995) - In a letter to **Progressive Conservative Party** leader **Mike Harris**, FP president **Robert Metz** encouraged him to adopt as much of a policy paper entitled "The Right To Work" as possible. Produced by the **Progressive Group For Independent Business (PGIB)**, the policy paper advocates a "right to work" law that "guarantees 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."

"Our own party has advocated freedom of association within labour relations since its official registration in 1984," said Metz in his letter to Harris, "and like the PGIB, we abhor the concept of being compelled to join a labour union as a condition of employment. I hope that you may be able to stress, in your advocacy of the right to work, that freedom of association exists only where CHOICE exists, and that the "freedom to associate" must include, by definition and by right, the freedom NOT to associate."

In response to Metz's concerns, **Elizabeth Witmer (MPP, Waterloo North)** replied on Harris' behalf, stressing that "The Ontario PC Party's first priority with respect to the labour relations system in our province is to repeal Bill 40."

In addressing the concept of a "right to work" as defined by the PGIB, Witmer offered only a disclaimer stating that "Consideration of 'Right to Work' legislation must also be done with due regard given to the legal implications of the 1946 Supreme Court decision establishing the 'Rand Formula' and the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision (Lavigne v. Ontario Public Service Employees Union) upholding the validity of this formula under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

Since both the Rand Formula and the Lavigne v. OPSEU decisions clearly support and legally enforce the concept of being compelled to join a labour union as a condition of employment, it remains a mystery as to how the PCs could possibly entertain any right to work policies, if they intend to do so within a framework that denies this right from the outset.

"Following the repeal of Bill 40," says Witmer, "the Ontario PC Party intends to undertake just such a broader review of the labour relations system and would be willing, as part of this consultation process, to consider any ideas for the improvement of the system."

"Witmer's response makes it abundantly clear that the Progressive Conservatives will NOT be able to improve Ontario's labour relations system," responds Metz. "Their reluctance to adopt a principled stand on this very fundamental issue, and their reliance on the 'consultation process to consider any ideas' is indicative of a political party with no fixed direction or philosophy. No one has asked them to break any laws. As a political party, it is their mandate to work hard to CHANGE those laws with which they disagree and to let the public know where they stand with respect to these issues."

Unless such fundamental issues are addressed, the repeal of labour legislation like Bill 40 will be a minor victory, given that it can easily be replaced by other forms of legislation that seek the same end. In the absence of a "right to work", employees and employers will inevitably continue to have the conditions of their employment relationships largely predetermined by governments and unions.

**GET THE DETAILS!** Copies of Metz's letter to Harris, and Witmer's response on Harris' behalf, are available to FP members and supporters on request. See green box on back cover for details of how to contact us.

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## Freedom Briefs...

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### TAXPAYERS FEDERATION EXTENDS INVITATION TO FP MEMBERS

ONTARIO (February, 1995) - In anticipation of the federal government's 1995 budget, FP members and supporters across Ontario received an invitation to attend the local TAX ALERT RALLY in their area sponsored by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF). The invitation was enclosed with our January mailing of *Consent #22*. Judging by the number of FP supporters in attendance at the London rally on February 7, many accepted.



The Ontario rallies were part of a nationwide series of rallies which drew considerable media coverage for the CTF and which undoubtedly placed a great deal of pressure on the federal government to bring in a reasonable budget.

"This campaign represents the first time that a well-organized grassroots movement has challenged a government to keep its word and live within taxpayers' means before a major budget," said Federation executive director **Jason Kenney**. As a means to help achieve a lower-tax goal, he suggested eliminating MPs pension plans, eliminating grants to special interest groups and big business, reducing tax support for the *National Film Board* and the CBC and reducing foreign aid -- causes and objectives well worth supporting.

**GET THE DETAILS!** Members and supporters who are interested in finding out more about the CTF, which publishes an excellent newspaper called *The Taxpayer*, may contact the group by calling or writing: Canadian Taxpayers Federation, 203-339 Westney Rd.S., AJAX Ontario L1S 7J6; Phone: 1-800-265-0442 or (905) 686-4345.

### THUMBS DOWN ON BOARD'S YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLING PLAN

LONDON (January 28, 1995) - FP leader **Jack Plant** generated a particularly warm response from **London Board of Education** trustees when he addressed them at public hearings held on the concept of YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLING.

The issue, which was inaccurately described and given undue emphasis by the *London Free Press*, was by far the most contentious one during the November/94 municipal election, and virtually eclipsed every other education issue. Almost 100 groups and individuals made representations before the Board, well after it was already made public that the Board would not proceed with the concept.

"I can honestly say that if everyone supported the concept of year-round schooling, I might feel a little more sympathy for it because we think it's a great idea," remarked Plant. "But as with everything, a great idea becomes a bad idea when it is not accompanied by CHOICE."

"Compare it to the NEGATIVE BILLING controversy over the added channels on Rogers Cable. The idea of more channels is great. But when it is unaccompanied by choice and implemented in an insensitive manner, nobody wants it."

Virtually all those who addressed the Board were opposed to its year-round schooling plan. Unfortunately, in its coverage of Plant's comments on January 30, the *London Free Press* placed him on the side of those who SUPPORTED the Board's plan, despite his clear opposition to it. This prompted an editorial response from FP president **Robert Metz** clarifying Plant's position (see reproduced letter at right).

**GET THE DETAILS!** Copies of Plant's comments on year-round schooling are available to FP members and supporters on request. See green box on back cover for details of how to get in touch with us.

## Freedom. Responsibility.

Inseparable.



## Reporter got it wrong

It is difficult to account for Norman De Bono's misleading synopsis of Freedom party leader Jack Plant's address to the London board of education: "Favors year-round schooling and believes it is flexible, supports individual choice and cost-efficiency. 'We think it's a great idea, whose time will come.' " (Jan. 30).

Unfortunately, the board's proposal of multi-track year-round schooling clearly did *not* support individual choice, which is why Plant criticized the plan as unacceptable. He even congratulated the board for listening to its customers and voting against it.

"It is the lack of choice, combined with a proposed program of year-round schooling threatening to fundamental family traditions and lifestyles, that has turned this originally sound

concept into a dead-end option," said Plant. This was the quote highlighted on the written submission that accompanied his address, and was provided to the media. De Bono translated this into support for the proposal, implying it supported individual choice. Ridiculous.

Perhaps De Bono became confused when Plant, like most participants opposed to the plan, said he *would* be supportive of the concept of year-round schooling if it was accompanied by choice.

Said Plant: "On the subject of year-round schooling, I (have) but one comment: It's coming. I still believe this to be true, but its eventuality will not take the form, or come at a time, that has been proposed. As with everything, a great idea becomes a bad idea when it is not accompanied by choice."

**ROBERT METZ**  
Ontario president  
Freedom Party of Ontario  
FEB 9 1995



Call us.  
1-800-830-3301

**ABOVE:** Reproduced from *London Free Press* Feb. 9, 1995; Response to paper's coverage of Plant's comments on year-round schooling.



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# ...HIS PARTY'S OVER.

## Ours is just beginning...

## Freedom Party. Today's choice!



R.S.V.P.



## Ontario Election Regulations...

## FP SETS AGENDA AT ELECTIONS COMMISSION

TORONTO (March 8, 1995) - At a meeting arranged by the **Commission On Election Finances** for officially-registered Ontario political parties not represented on the Commission, FP president **Robert Metz** was surprised to learn that his submitted suggestions for discussion comprised most of its agenda.

Formed in 1984, the Commission regulates all officially-registered political parties in the province of Ontario.

Of the six items open for discussion, five were submitted by **Freedom Party**: (1) **Representation** on the Commission by the Alternate Parties; (2) Upcoming **changes to tax-credits** for certain fund-raising events; (3) **Philosophy** determining the definition and guidelines distinguishing between activities that do/do not qualify for tax credits; (4) The **role of the Commission** and its relationship to the alternative registered parties; (5) The **feasibility of unregistered political parties** and the Commission's assumed relationship with them. The sixth item, submitted by the **Ontario Confederation Of Regions Party (C.O.R.)**, concerned rules and guidelines on how political parties may spend the money they raise.

The meeting was attended by representatives of all of Ontario's six alternate political parties: **Glenn Bedell** and **Liz Rowley** of the **Communist Party of Canada (Ontario)**, **Henri Cloudt** and **Marie Young** of the **Family Coalition Party**, **Dan King** of the **Green Party**, **George Dance** of the **Libertarian Party**, **George Meekins** of **C.O.R.**, and **Robert Metz** on behalf of **Freedom Party**. All seemed interested in addressing the items brought forward by FP.

### ☞ MERE WINDOW DRESSING

Chaired by Commission chairman **Jack Murray**, the meeting was called to purportedly offer the alternate registered parties in Ontario an opportunity to address their concerns and to have some "input" to the decisions rendered by the Commission in its interpretation of Ontario's **Elections Finances Act**. The exercise proved to be mere window dressing, however, when Murray made it clear that "We did NOT recommend that your request be supported," in reference to the parties' past request for representation on the Commission.

With only the parties in power being able to appoint members to the Commission, any alternate or new party effectively ends up being regulated and controlled by the very parties it opposes in the political marketplace.

### ☞ FREEDOM PARTY: A DIFFERENT IDEA

"With all due respect," opened Metz in his comments to the Commission, "we (at **Freedom Party**) have a slightly different idea of what a political party should be all about, and we find that the regulations imposed upon us force us to behave like the political parties we don't like."

Metz was referring to recent Commission interpretations of the *Elections Finances Act* regarding the awarding of official tax-receipts, and to upcoming changes (tentatively July 1, 1995) that will affect fund-raising functions for political parties in Ontario. He reminded Commission members of their own stated interpretation of the purposes underlying the Act "to be the election of candidates to the legislative assembly of Ontario and activities necessarily incidental thereto."

"Now here we can get into a major problem in terms of interpreting what activities are 'necessarily incidental' to these ultimate goals," said Metz.

### ☞ COMMISSION GETS TO DECIDE ACTIVITIES/ISSUES

Metz cited an example where the Commission recently decided that contributions raised to support or oppose the YES Committee in the recent federal referendum would NOT qualify for a tax-credit, whereas funds raised "for the purpose of electing more women to the legislative assembly" WOULD qualify.

"The way I interpret this is that if the policy we're pursuing agrees with that of the governments in power," Metz postulated, "we CAN give tax-credits for it; if the policy DISAGREES with the governments in power, we CANNOT give a tax-credit for it."

When he asked for reasons why the Commission distinguished between these two issues, Executive Director **Gordon Kushner** replied that one was federal, the other provincial.

"Therefore," responded Metz, "it would be alright for (**Freedom Party**) to raise money to defend a London landlord before a Human Rights Commission, because that's strictly provincial..."

"It's not for getting someone elected in the House..." began Kushner.

"...well (electing more women) isn't either," argued Metz. "We're not talking about electing a SPECIFIC WOMAN to parliament, but for a POLITICAL AGENDA of electing 'more women'. I see no difference between this agenda and what I'm suggesting with the Human Rights Commission."

"But how would that activity get you members in the House?" asked Kushner, evading the obvious question of how "electing more women" would do the same.

"Because," explained Metz, "people (would) associate that activity and stand with the party that puts candidates forward on that issue. That's what politics is all about. It's ideas and philosophy and differences of opinion."

### ☞ TOO PHILOSOPHICAL?

Commission chair **Jack Murray** expressed discomfort with many of Metz's comments, arguing that they were of a "philosophical" nature. It was an unwarranted criticism, given that the "philosophy" of the Commission's guidelines was explicitly to be discussed on the agenda.

"This is exactly my point, Mr. Murray," emphasized Metz. "Political parties ARE about PHILOSOPHY. That's why I'm here having to consider the feasibility of unregistered political parties, because I don't think that we can to what we must do within the mandates that this Commission is setting out for us."

"How have the other parties managed to?" retorted Kushner.

"Well," Metz illustrated, "parties that generally represent BIGGER government are going to have the SUPPORT of government, but a parties that represent SMALLER GOVERNMENT and LOWER TAXES, and MORE INDIVIDUAL CHOICE, have got every card stacked against them. It places us in an awkward position whereby, BECAUSE OF WHAT WE BELIEVE AND BECAUSE OF OUR PHILOSOPHY, we have to place ourselves in a position of opposition (to the *Elections Commission*) in the regulatory sense."

### ☞ COMMISSION NOT LISTENING

Despite pressure, lawsuits, and intensive lobbying by the alternate parties for representation on the Commission (see past issues of *Freedom Flyer*), and for consistency in its guidelines, Murray nevertheless insisted that

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"I don't hear a lot of complaints" with respect to the effect the Commission has on the operation of the parties.

"I've been impressed at how the Commission consistently works through the party to get compliance," said Murray, "and the level of compliance we get is because of that cooperation. I don't hear a lot of complaints. I don't hear anybody arguing that our guidelines are onerous ...in any way. I don't hear that."

### ☛ **ONEROUS GUIDELINES**

Glenn Bedell of the *Communist Party* immediately responded to the comment, pointing to the Commission's guideline that sets a maximum contribution of \$750 being allowed to any single constituency association, but allowing for contributors to make up to FOUR such contributions (totalling \$3000) to four different associations.

"Now the law also permits constituency associations to transfer funds among themselves," Bedell illustrated. "so I could contribute to four constituency associations, then transfer it all back to this one here. So why not just allow us to put \$3000 into ONE? It just takes more bookkeeping that I see necessary."

### ☛ **LEGALLY-ENFORCED FRAUD**

Metz was disturbed by Commission regulations which, on the one hand, allow political parties to SPEND money on ANY CAUSE they may choose, but are prohibited by Commission regulations from TELLING THEIR SUPPORTERS AND MEMBERS WHY they're raising the money.

"The parties are FREE TO DO WHATEVER THEY WANT," emphasized Murray, "But IN TERMS OF THEIR FUNDRAISING, and getting money to do that, then we have to draw the line. Otherwise we're using public funds."

Another Commission member explained: "You can raise the money IN A NON-SPECIFIC WAY and SPEND IT VIRTUALLY ON WHATEVER YOU WANT."

To which one of the guests asked: "I guess the question is, we're allowed to raise money, but can we TELL (our supporters) WHAT we're going to spend the money on?"

"That's the problem," explained Murray.

"I start getting the feeling that we're being encouraged to MISLEAD our contributors if we want to raise money for specific issues (and give tax-receipts)," commented Metz. "What would be the restriction on a political party

giving money to a lobby group?"

"...as long as you didn't RAISE the money for that purpose," explained Kushner.

### ☛ **NOTHING FOR SOMETHING**

To make things even more onerous, upcoming regulations regarding Ontario's political tax-credits are to be introduced on the principle that official tax receipts are NOT to be awarded where a member or supporter receives VALUE for his/her contribution.

"Our party was founded on the opposite principle," said Metz. "When we founded (*Freedom Party*), we told our members that, unlike other political parties, we were going to give them value for their dollar."

"Are you giving them material goods?" asked Kushner.

"Yes," replied Metz, "Newsletters, information packages, dinners, various events. We do everything we possibly can to influence people. When we go out there to work on a particular issue, we're giving our members a tangible product. That's how we think. That's what we think a political party should be doing."

Metz argued that all these activities are "necessarily incidental" to *Freedom Party's* eventually getting candidates elected, but the Commission insisted that beginning July 1, political parties will have to operate on a "NETTING PRINCIPLE".

### ☛ **NEW ONEROUS GUIDELINES TO BE MADE 'SIMPLE'**

"The netting of contributions is actually going to be quite simple," Kushner insisted. "You're really only going to have to 'cost' what's CONSUMED (by the contributor). If you have a banquet, it's the cost of the liquor and the cost of the food."

Metz asked what would happen in the case where a "free" dinner was held for members at year-end as an appreciation dinner: "What do we have to do in that case? At the end of the year do we have to calculate what the dinner cost and then backtrack through the year over the tax-credits that we've awarded our contributors and start deducting (what the contributor "consumed") retroactively?"

"A good case in point," responded Kushner, with others around the table agreeing. However, no one addressed the question.

After being pressed to explain why the Commission was planning these changes, the Commission finally admitted that it was using a

"federal model" as its guide and that its actions arose because REVENUE CANADA sent them a letter expressing dissatisfaction with Ontario's policy of allowing full tax-credits for fundraising banquets and other similar events. (However, the new regulations EXEMPT "workshops", "conventions", or "seminars" from the so-called "netting" principle.)

### ☛ **WHAT PRINCIPLE?**

"If the Commission is going to be operating on certain PRINCIPLES," suggested Metz in reference to the netting principle, "I can expect down the road that this principle WILL be expanded to other things like buttons, newsletters, and things of that nature."

While insisting that this was not the case, and that the main item to which the netting principle would apply would be the cost of a dinner CONSUMED at a banquet (as opposed to food served at a workshop, convention or seminar), Kushner emphasized that the consumption principle "doesn't just have to be a food item."

When Metz asked if the cost of a gold or silver pin given as appreciation to a supporter would have to be netted from that supporter's contribution, Kushner replied, "No, no."

"Then what EXACTLY are we to deduct?" asked Metz. "I want to hear a very clear and concise description of what is specifically eligible and what is not."

### ☛ **POWERS OF DISCRETION AT STAKE**

Because Commission members could not answer this question on a consistent principle, we are forced to conclude that the real issue at stake is the Commission's POWERS OF DISCRETION.

The issue was specifically raised by *Libertarian Party* representative George Dance, who could not understand the Commission's reluctance to even allow any OBSERVERS from the alternate parties to Commission meetings.

"My big concern," explained Dance, "is that the Commission has WIDE DISCRETION UNDER THE ACT TO REGULATE HOW OUR PARTY OPERATES. Unlike the legislatures, which operate in public, large portions of what happens at the Commission is IN CAMERA. So we don't KNOW, much less have a chance to respond to, the decisions that govern this organization."

"I think you've made your case," responded Murray. "We certainly could spend some hours back and forth on this."

(cont'd on next pg.)



(cont'd from prev. pg)

## ✶ HYPOCRITICAL STANCE

The Commission went on to defend its actions on the basis that it exists to "protect the good name of people and to ensure that no party or person is disadvantaged..."

Citing federal precedents as grounds for its action, Murray stated that "We are (Revenue Canada's) agents in Ontario (!?!?) and we have that obligation to the taxpaying public NOT to subsidize individuals..."

"I take great exception to the idea that tax-credits issued in Ontario are PUBLIC SUBSIDIES," argued Metz. "My understanding is that they only apply to Ontario taxes. You're only directing YOUR OWN portion of YOUR OWN individual taxes to the party of your choice. If you don't have Ontario taxes paid or payable, you can't claim the tax-credits. No one else is subsidizing anyone."

"However, a subsidy DOES occur AFTER an election when a political party receives a certain percentage of money back on its campaign expenses, and that's something I would object to. But I certainly wouldn't regard the first as a subsidy in any way, shape, or form."

"Well, again, that's a philosophical question," responded Murray.

## ✶ NO HEADWAY

At the conclusion of the meeting, it was clear that no headway had been made, and that the Commission was determined to resist any ideas of representation, or of accommodating parties which have a radically different agenda from the parties represented on the Commission.

Free elections do not exist in Ontario.

## ✶ GET THE DETAILS!

Background information and partial transcripts of the Commission meeting are available to **Freedom Party** members and supporters on request. See green box on back cover for details of how to contact us.

&lt;END&gt;

Principle.



## Aboriginal Task Force...

# FP RECOMMENDS POLICIES TO REFORM PARTY

LONDON (February 26, 1995) - FP president **Robert Metz** delivered 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.

Chaired by Saskatoon Reformer **Bob Head**, the public meeting was attended by federal Reform MPs **Michael Scott** (Skeena) and **John Duncan** (North Island - Powell River), as well as several local Reform activists and guests.

## ✶ NO SPECIAL STATUS

"The moment we use the terms 'Aboriginal', 'Indian', or 'Native' IN THE CONTEXT OF DISCUSSING SPECIAL GOVERNMENT POLICY with respect to people identified as such, we are already practising RACISM," said Metz in his opening statement to the committee.

Making it clear that **Freedom Party** is founded on principles that do not allow for its advocacy of "special status" for any individuals or groups, Metz emphasized that the long-term solution to Canada's aboriginal problems is not to be found in vague concepts of "self-government" or in the continued subsidization of aboriginals on reserves.

## ✶ PROPERTY RIGHTS THE KEY

"Any workable solution must be based on the principle of establishing legitimate private property rights," argued Metz. "In an age where our governments at every level are on the verge of bankruptcy, the continued subsidization of aboriginal groups is both irresponsible and destructive."

"I can well understand, and identify with, aboriginal apprehensions regarding privatization," Metz commented. "After all, Canadians from coast-to-coast cannot count on their governments to protect their property rights, since such rights are not guaranteed us in Canada's constitution. Small wonder that the spectre of privatization is not seen as a solution by many. Canadian governments tax private property, and there are no laws limiting such taxation."

Metz cited statistics illustrating the misconceptions that many Canadians, including aboriginals, have about each other and themselves when it comes to aboriginal issues. He

suggested that all Canadians, aboriginal and non-aboriginal alike, work together to get the government to entrench the protection of private property rights in Canada's constitution.

## ✶ RECOMMENDATIONS

In his specific recommendations to the task force, Metz urged the *Reform Party* to adopt six key principles in the establishment of its policy on aboriginal issues:

(1) We must avoid all definitions of race, colour, creed, etc. in any legislation establishing rights, governments, or other official institutions.

(2) All Canadians, aboriginals included, should be treated equally before and under the law.

(3) Canadians should not be forced to subsidize racial or ethnic lobby groups.

(4) (With respect to the concept of aboriginal "self-government"), we must never allow any government in Canada to be formed around any racial criteria.

(5) Any land claim settlements must allow individual aboriginals the full right to privately own their own land, including the right to buy, sell, rent, or mortgage that land to, from, or with anyone of any racial background.

(6) We must be careful to avoid any agreements or settlements that divide people according to their race.

The recommendations were very warmly received by the task force, and from the reactions of the chair and of the MPs in attendance, seemed to reinforce the direction that federal Reformers would like to move on aboriginal issues.

&lt;END&gt;

DRAWING THE LINE  
PROPERTY RIGHTS AND THE ABORIGINAL QUESTION

Presentation to the  
Reform Party of Canada  
Aboriginal Affairs Task Force  
by Robert Metz  
on behalf of the  
Freedom Party of Ontario  
Sunday, February 26, 1995  
(Robert Metz is Ontario President of the officially registered Freedom Party of Ontario)

For more information, contact the author, Robert Metz, at 1-800-387-7777, ext. 2000, or by mail at 1000 Highway 7, Unit 10, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1N2.

## ✶ GET THE DETAILS!

Copies of FP's address to the *Reform Party Task Force* are available to FP members and supporters on request. The full presentation (**Drawing The Line - Property Rights and the Aboriginal Question**) will also be published in an upcoming issue of **Consent**.



(...OPENERS cont'd from pg 2)

lute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property, and (2) that these rights should be adequately protected from fraud or physical force on the part of any individual or group, INCLUDING ANY GOVERNMENT.

So if you've ever wondered WHY we adopt and advocate the various policies that we do, now you know. Your life, your liberty, and your property belong to YOU --- and to no one else.

This is a tough pill to swallow for political parties who think it's their right to violate your rights. No matter how nice, polite, or "sincere" the politicians of such parties may appear, as long as they believe this, you can never count on them to DEFEND your life, your liberty, or your property --- which is the proper function of government.

While personalities are important in matters of trust and integrity, it is only fundamental principles that determine direction. Politics IS a matter of direction. Thus, the measure of a politician's integrity rests upon his/her commitment to principle. Period.

Which brings us back to the vote.

Let's face facts: We're going to get another socialist government in Ontario after the next election, like it or not. Guaranteed. The difference is, how good do you want to feel about the way you voted? Do you want to be part of the problem, or become part of the solution? When you leave the polling booth, how do you want to feel?

By voting for **Freedom Party** in 1995, odds are you'll still end up with a socialist government --- but YOU WILL NO LONGER BE PART OF THE PROBLEM. That may sound like a small consolation for those of you desperate for answers and change. But building a political party on principle is a long-term process, particularly when that principle demands that citizens accept personal responsibility for their actions and social situations, instead of relying on governments to solve their problems.

We're doing everything we can to influence the public --- and even other political parties, including the Conservatives --- to move in the direction of freedom. Without principles, they NEED an influence like **Freedom Party** to act responsibly, but they do not deserve our vote until they EARN it, by displaying a commitment to principle on their own, without having to be forced into it by circumstances.

Socialism simply doesn't work, either in theory or in practice. Reality will eventually catch up with the socialists in all parties, and they will do everything they can to start sounding like something they're not.

An election is imminent in Ontario. This is your chance to vote your conscience --- and to support a principle.

By voting for the lesser of three evils, you'll only be sending a NEGATIVE message of REJECTION. Even if you vote for the "winner", you'll be throwing your vote away because if the winner supports socialism, he's a loser.

By voting for and supporting **Freedom Party**, you'll be sending a POSITIVE message, and helping us build a base of power and influence --- FOR freedom, not AGAINST it.

The future belongs to freedom --- IF we are to have a future.

So if you're still angry at Bob Rae, don't bother. His party's over.

Ours is just beginning.

<END>

You've  
tried  
the rest.

Now  
try  
the best.





## Education Budgets...

# 'JUST WINDOW DRESSING', SAYS PLANT ON BUDGET PROCESS

LONDON (March 6, 1995) - In his second annual address to the London Board of Education on its budget process, FP leader Jack Plant followed up on his previous year's message by concluding that public school board budget hearings are a futile and frustrating experience for those making submissions.

## BUDGET PROCESS MUTED

"The most expensive and significant issues are teachers' salaries and mandated programs," said Plant, "yet we are constantly reminded that Board trustees and administration are relatively powerless to act in these areas. From the very beginning, our input to the budget process is muted. All that rate-payers can do is to criticize the Board -- take out their frustrations on you -- and perhaps suggest where you can nibble and chip away at marginal cost-cutting measures with do not address our real budgetary problems."

Plant went on to criticize the documentation provided to ratepayers and trustees, citing its inadequacy as a decision-making document: "We can look at the figures, but have no way of knowing whether or not we are overspending in certain areas or underspending in others. We have no way of determining where, or how, we, at the local level, can make a difference to these figures."

"Why do we even bother with these hearings?" he asked. "What is it we can

effectively accomplish here?"

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Citing the fact that the bulk of education spending is salaries and provincially-mandated social programs, Plant put forth three key recommendations with respect to the budget process itself:

(1) A call for budgetary information and reports to SEGREGATE MANDATED EXPENSES from those which are not. This would allow trustees and the public to target their efforts on those areas where they DO have some say.

(2) A call for a COMPREHENSIVE AUDIT as a means to establish proper accountability and consistent, meaningful reporting procedures.

(3) A call to have a REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PROVINCIAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PRESENT at local board budget hearings so that ratepayers can direct their suggestions to someone who can address the largest part of the budget.

## PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY?

Plant concluded his presentation by challenging the Board to reflect the wishes of its constituents by reassessing its stated commitment to "principles of equity": "A December 1993 Gallup Poll found that 74% of Cana-

dians are opposed to Government Equity programs, yet such programs are still endorsed by the federal government, the provincial government, the municipal government, and the Board. All of these governments are making decisions that most Canadians do not agree with."

Plant also expressed his shock at the Board's "vision paper" which stated that the aim of the Board is to prepare students for a "post-capitalist" world.

"I don't understand how anyone would assume we are entering a post-capitalist world," he exclaimed. "We are not entering a post-CAPITALIST world, but rather, a post-SOCIALIST world. A prime example of this is the inevitable cut-backs in provincial grants. These grants represent a redistribution of wealth by governments -- a purely SOCIALIST phenomenon, both in theory and in practice. The CAPITALIST world of the future will demand quality education, a spirit of entrepreneurship, accurate literacy and numeracy skills, a focus on individualism, high standards of excellence, and above all, choice."

## GET THE DETAILS!

Copies of Mr. Plant's address to the London Board of Education (Window Dressing!) are available to FP members and supporters on request. See green box on back cover for details of how to contact us.

<END>

### FREEDOM FLYER

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