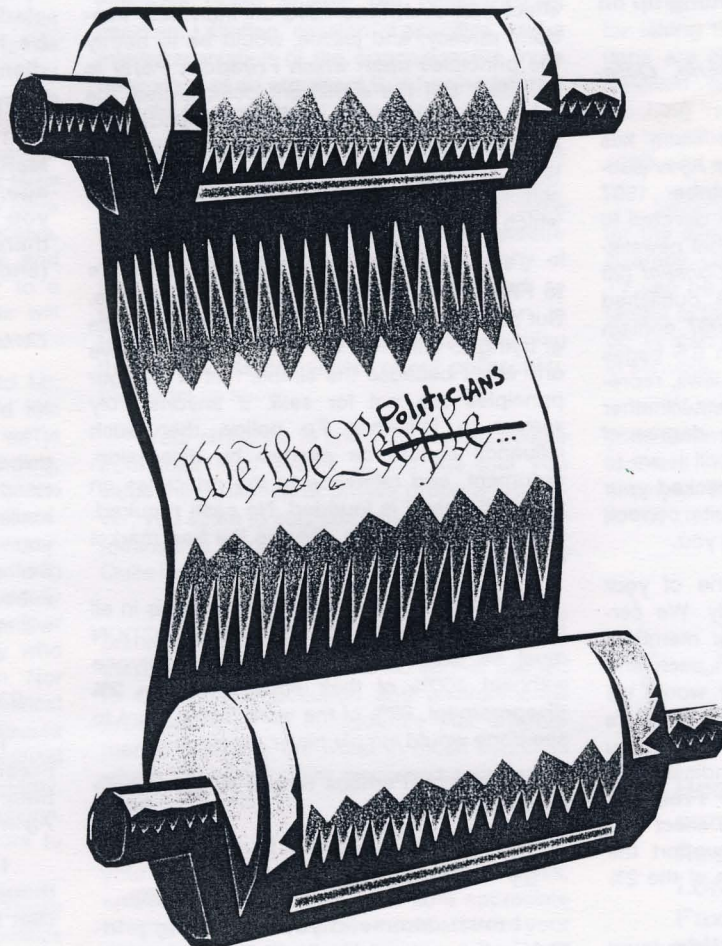


# FREEDOM FLYER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

JUNE 1998 #33

## Calgary Declaration





# feedback

we get letters...

Instead of bringing you our regular 'Openers' column this issue (which will return next issue), we thought we'd use this opportunity to let our readers do some of the talking, and to introduce you to a new regular feature of *Freedom Flyer: Feedback*.

By no means exhaustive, the following selection of letters and e-mail represents a broad sampling of correspondence received by *Freedom Party* during the period January 1997 to May 1998. While many of these letters have already been personally responded to, others have not. Editorial responses, as they appear here, may be entirely new and/or edited versions of our original personal responses. To the greatest degree possible, original letters to *Freedom Party* are left unedited, though there are exceptions with regard to length, structure and grammar (the latter applying particularly to e-mail and Usenet (news groups) correspondence).

As always, we'd like to hear from you. Your comments, criticisms, suggestions, and occasional compliments are always welcomed. To contact *Freedom Party*, write: Box 2214, London, Ontario N6A 4E3, or fax us at (519) 681-2857, or e-mail us at "feedback@freedomparty.org".

## ✉ NO DONATION

Too bad you folks are still hung up on drugs! No donation.

*Ted Banks, LONDON Ontario, October 1997*

We checked to see if your claim has merit. The 32 issues of *Freedom Flyer* published from Jan 1, 1984 to October 1997 contain 514 pages, of which 8 are devoted to drug laws, representing 1.56% of that newsletters' content. The 30 issues of *Consent* (28 regular issues plus two specials) published from March 1988 to December 1997 contain an additional 324 pages, of which 6.5 pages (two essays) are devoted to drug laws, representing 2% of the space in *Consent*. Whether or not this represents an undue degree of focus on this particular issue we will leave to our readers to decide. We also checked your second assertion and you are quite correct; we have received no donation from you.

However, judging by the tone of your comments, that may be a tragedy. We certainly appreciate that many of our members and supporters do not agree with each and every *Freedom Party* policy, nor would we expect them to. But the fact that you feel it's "too bad" that there is an issue with which you experience discomfort, seems to indicate that you otherwise support most of *Freedom Party's* policies. What you have in effect told us is that you are unwilling to support the other 98% of our activities because of the 2% you disagree with.

We aren't hung up on drugs. We're hung

up on freedom. To simply ignore the disastrous consequences of drug prohibition and the effect that such laws have on individual freedom, privacy, and justice, would be to betray the principles upon which *Freedom Party* is founded. But the significant point is this: the principles upon which we base our condemnation of drug laws are the very same principles upon which we base ALL of our policies and activities --- including the 98% of issues with which you apparently agree.

Whether or not you choose to contribute to *Freedom Party* is, of course, your choice. But money offered or withheld for the purpose of trying to influence our policies cannot have any effect because the simple fact is that our principles are not for sale. If anyone truly wishes to influence *Fp* policy, then such influence should be exerted by discussion, argument, and reference to the principles on which the party is founded. No cash required. Our doors are always open to the free market of ideas.

Where cash IS required, however, is in all those areas of political activity where ACTION must be taken to effect change. If everyone withheld 100% of their support over a 2% disagreement, 98% of the work they'd want to see done would simply never get done.

Hmmmm. Perhaps there's a lesson here somewhere. [rm]

## ✉ CLARION CALL

I must commend you for having printed, in the current issue of *Consent* (#28),

the text of Joe Armstrong's first-class speech to Kingston's Canadian Club. It's a clarion call which, unfortunately, will not be heard by the vast majority of Canadians.

When I was in grade school at age 10 or 11, I was required to memorize John McRae's famous poem which, even at that age, made a lasting impression on me. As you may have been informed already, there is a misprint in your version of it, (enclosed).

*William E. Goodman, M.D., TORONTO Ontario, December 16, 1997*

Thank you for your kind comments, and for being the first to alert us to the misprint. (The line, "To you from failing hands we throw" incorrectly read: "To you the failing hands we throw.") Fortunately, our entire mailing had not yet been printed and thanks to your quick response, 80% of our print run saw the correct version published, as the two subsequent copies we sent to your attention will attest. [rm]

## ✉ RATHER CONSOLING

I have sent a cheque to support *Freedom Party*, and to ensure that I continue to receive *Consent* and the *Freedom Flyer*.

I always find these publications VERY thought-provoking and rather consoling, (bet that's a first!), i.e., my thinking is not

(FEEDBACK...cont'd on page 18)



## Working For Freedom...

## FREEDOM BRIEFS

## HARRIS CONSIDERING PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION?

TORONTO (September 10, 1997) - In response to Fp leader **Lloyd Walker's** June 5 personal letter advocating the **Single Transferable Vote (STV)** as a means of establishing proportional representation in Ontario, Ontario Premier **Michael Harris** wrote back to inform him that "I've taken the liberty of sharing your letter with (Parliamentary Assistant) **Tony Clement** and I know he will find your comments informative and useful."

It may be premature to suggest that some form of proportional representation is supported by Ontario's PCs as a matter of principle. What may interest them about the concept could be nothing more complicated than simple self-preservation.

"As I write this," Walker warned Harris, "I hear the news informing me of Reform telling your government to 'tow the line' or face Reform candidates in the next election. The STV may be the only thing that will protect you and your MPPs from this type of blackmail. It would also protect Ontarians from a party that would happily split the vote and give Ontario a Liberal or NDP government just to 'keep you in line.'"

Walker asked the premier whether or not his government would be making any electoral reforms in the near future.

"In general," responded Harris, "our chief electoral reform to date has been the passage of the Fewer Politicians Act, which will change the number of seats in the Legislature from 130 to 103, as we promised in The Common Sense Revolution. We are also contemplating some other democratic reforms. As you may know, last year I issued a discussion paper entitled *Your Ontario, Your Choice*. This paper asked Ontarians for their input on the matters of citizen initiative, referenda and recall."

Of course, Walker was already aware of the government's discussion paper, since both he and Fp president **Robert Metz** addressed the legislature on this issue on September 11, 1996. (See *Freedom Flyer* #30.) Walker also officially criticized the final recommendations of that discussion paper, calling the referenda report "disappointing". (See *Freedom Flyer* #32.)

Nevertheless, the fact that the Harris government is "contemplating some other democratic reforms," combined with its interest in Walker's advocacy of the STV, could be an indication of movement in a positive direction.

"I hope that your government will move to the STV prior to the next election," Walker encouraged the premier. "In that way, every candidate elected will have the support of a representative majority in their riding and we can forever put to rest the concept of splitting the vote."

## COMMENTS APPRECIATED BY MANNING

OTTAWA (July 18, 1997) - As a Reform Party volunteer during the last federal election, Fp vice-president **William Frampton** wrote Reform Party leader **Preston Manning** to congratulate him "on the Reform Party becoming the Official Opposition in Parliament."

However, his congratulations were accompanied by a criticism of Manning's tacit acceptance of "the theory that Confederation involved two founding peoples."

"You are reputed to be the best educated and most well-read of all the party leaders," wrote Frampton. "How can you not be aware that this two nations concept is a fantasy?"

Frampton pointed at Manning's "weak response" to the media's 'anti-French' labeling of Reform's television ads. Those ads suggested that leaders from Quebec created the problems we have today.

"Simply telling them that 'wasn't what Reform meant by it' isn't nearly good enough," explained Frampton, "because with very few exceptions there certainly IS a valid reason to oppose leaders from Quebec --- namely, their advocacy of the two nations fantasy. The same objection would apply to non-Quebecers (like Joe Clark, for example) who accept the two-nations fraud."

"Your comments and suggestions regarding national unity have been noted," replied Manning, "and your observations and advice are truly appreciated. Constructive feedback, such as yours, is helpful to myself and Reform MPs, as grassroots input is one of the fundamental cornerstones of the Reform Party."

Concluded Frampton: "As leader of the Official Opposition, you have a golden opportunity to stand up for the true principles on which this Dominion was founded. Maybe then more people in Ontario would accept Reform as following the footsteps of Sir John A. Macdonald and you can achieve a meaningful breakthrough in this province."

## Fp A 'NATIONAL TREASURE', SAYS ARMSTRONG

LONDON (November 20, 1997) - On his whirlwind tour through southwestern Ontario to promote his monumental work, **Farewell the Peaceful Kingdom**, Canadian author and historian **Joe C.W. Armstrong** dropped by **Freedom Party's** offices to update us on his activities, and to pass on a copy of his speech, "Legitimize Dissent --- or Lose the Federation," which was published in the December 1997 edition of *Consent*. (See related coverage, page 4.)

"Bob, as **Freedom Party** members and supporters well know," Armstrong remarked to Fp president **Robert Metz**, "it can never be said too often: freedom requires eternal vigilance. The **Freedom Party of Ontario** is a national treasure. It is imperative that this movement grow and flourish. There are only a handful of organizations in Canada that are doing anything to save the country. This one counts!"

Armstrong's compliment is no mere flattery, and we are honored to be viewed in such a light by a truly Canadian author and historian, who is himself among only a handful of individuals doing anything to save Canada. As of this writing (May/98), Joe has already been booked for thirty Canadian Club speaking engagements across the country and reports that "we are having an enormous effect!"

Whether that effect will be great enough to persuade Ontario's MPPs to reject the Calgary Declaration in May remains to be seen. A majority PC vote in favour of the declaration would only confirm the utter contempt that this government displays towards the public when gathering public opinion. The disgraceful Ontario Speaks process (See coverage, pg. 5) has already been a low point of 'information gathering'. Despite the government's best efforts, most Canadians still have not even heard about the "Calgary declaration" (66% according to the *Globe and Mail*, May 4/98), let alone understand its impact upon their daily lives.

Once again, that task is left to the "handful" of individuals like Joe Armstrong, and organizations like **Freedom Party**, to create an informed Canadian public. One of the first steps we can all take is to read Joe's 746-page accounting of what he calls "the seduction and rape of Canada, 1963 to 1994."



## Ontario Speaks...

# NO ROOM FOR FREEDOM IN CALGARY FRAMEWORK, WALKER'S MESSAGE TO LEGISLATURE

TORONTO (December 15, 1997) - "The word 'freedom' does not appear even once in a 'framework' that is presumably meant to redefine the Canada of the future," says **Freedom Party leader Lloyd Walker**, in a December 15 letter delivered to each of Ontario's 130 MPPs.

Referring to the Ontario government's current **Ontario Speaks: A Dialogue On Canadian Unity** questionnaire, Walker questioned the mechanism being employed: "It appears that the government is ignoring its own call for the use of referenda in constitutional matters. If this exercise is simply a process being used to 'take the public's temperature' on (the *Calgary Framework*), I find it lacking, somewhat reminiscent of the loathed 'negative billing' option."

Walker's letter to each of the MPPs was accompanied by a copy of *Consent #28*, Fp's 12-page December newsletter which features the full

text of a 55-minute speech delivered to the **Canadian Club of Kingston** by Canadian author and historian **Joe C. W. Armstrong**. In that address, Armstrong refers to the government's questionnaire as part of "the fastest railroading of any provincial electorate in Canadian history."

"Ontarians have only until December 15 to register a protest against the *Calgary Framework*, (which is) perhaps the most dangerous document ever put forward," says Armstrong. "They're rushing it so fast, learning after Meech Lake and Charlottetown, that if they let the thing fester very long and people start to find out what it really means and what is being done, then it will be too late."

Walker added his voice to Armstrong's, when he informed the legislature that: "I can say for the record that **Freedom Party** officially endorses each of (Armstrong's) five recommendations as they appear on page 8 of (your) enclosed newsletter: (1) Eliminate all trade barriers between provinces; (2) Start scrapping the first-past-the-post electoral system; (3) Cut taxes, the deficit, debt, and expenses; (4) Scrap Ontario's Human Rights Commission; and (5) End the historical revisionism that is tearing Canada apart politically and culturally."

"As a starting point for discussion," concluded Walker, "I would urge each and every one of you to consider the political, social, and economic value that can make this province and this country great: freedom itself."

## ONLY TWO RESPONSES

**Bob Wood**, MPP for London South, and **John Baird**, MPP for Nepean, were the only two MPPs who directly acknowledged Walker's comments or receipt of Fp's newsletter.

Wood's response was immediate. In a December 16 letter to Walker, he expressed his appreciation for having received the material: "I look forward to reviewing this material with interest."

Baird, who found the articles in *Consent* to "be both interesting and thought provoking," wrote at further length:

"I was especially interested to read Mr. Joe Armstrong's commentary on the *Calgary Framework* and on the Ontario government's current Dialogue on Canadian Unity. While I do not agree with all of Mr. Armstrong's personal opinions, I do agree with his suggestion that meaningful change must be founded on the thoughts and actions of all Canadians, not just our political leaders. I sincerely hope that the *Ontario Speaks* dialogue can serve to spark just such a reaction." {END}

## 'FUTILE ATTEMPT,' SAYS FRAMPTON IN OFFICIAL Fp SUBMISSION

OTTAWA (December 1, 1997) - Calling the **Calgary Declaration** "a futile attempt to reconcile two contradictory theories of Confederation," Fp vice-president **William Frampton**, in **Freedom Party's** official submission to the **Ontario Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs' 'Ontario Speaks - A Dialogue on Canadian Unity'**, warned that the *Calgary Declaration* "is a dangerous document that no loyal Canadian could ever support, and **Freedom Party** condemns it absolutely."

Frampton's comments were in direct response to **six questions** posed by the Ontario government's questionnaire, as follows: "(1) Do you agree with the approach to strengthening Canada proposed in the *Calgary framework*? (2) What do you see as the values that Canadians have in common? (3) What are the diversities that make Canada special? (4) Do you agree with an acknowledgment of the diversity of Canada (i.e., English and French languages, unique character of Quebec, Aboriginal peoples, multicultural citizenry), as described in the *Calgary framework*? (5) Do you agree that if any future constitutional amendment gives powers to one province, these powers must be available to all provinces? (6) How can the Ontario government work together with the federal government and other provinces to serve people more efficiently and effectively?"

## RESPONSE

"It is simply not possible to unite Canada by accommodating what have become known as Quebec's traditional demands," responded

Frampton. "On the contrary, this approach will only divide Canadians."

"The function of the Constitution is to specify what powers the people of Canada are willing to delegate to our governments to exercise on our behalf, and how these powers are to be exercised. The distinctiveness of our provinces is not something that applies to their governments. Rather, it is something that is found in the people who live there. However diverse the people of Canada are, they need and deserve to be treated equally under the law."

Frampton rejected outright the definition of 'diversity' as described in the *Calgary framework*.

## INSIDIOUS MULTICULTURALISM

"Official multiculturalism is particularly insidious," he explained. "This puts forth the very damaging idea that newcomers who come to Canada can keep their own culture and that Canadian taxpayers will pay them to do so. This concept is diametrically opposed to the strongly held Canadian tradition that newcomers should come to Canada, leave their problems and ancient hatreds in the old country, join the majority culture here, and work together to build Canada."

After equally rejecting the notion of giving one province extra "powers" not available to all provinces, Frampton concluded his submission.

(ONTARIO SPEAKS... cont'd bottom of next pg)



*Ontario Speaks...***CALGARY FRAMEWORK GETS ROUGH RIDE AT PUBLIC MEETING**

LONDON (January 29, 1998) - After referring to Fp leader **Lloyd Walker's** criticisms of the **Calgary Framework**, **London North MPP** and **Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dianne Cunningham** described the crisis facing Canada's provincial and federal governments as one that was caused by a failure "at the time of Confederation" of having "our responsibilities at (various) levels of government spelled out."

"Over a very long period of time, but especially since the second world war, we got our modern democracy, I think, by making promises at different levels of government with regards to programs that weren't really our responsibility," explained Cunningham. "In Ontario, I really cannot tell you how we spend some of the federal government's money that is sent to institutions, and we actually have no authority to check to see how that money is spent."

Cunningham's comments were made at a publicly advertised *Ontario Speaks* meeting held at the Jewish Community Centre. Arrangements were made to engage the 55 attendees in a 'dialogue' that included group table discussions directed by 'facilitators', who explicitly instructed participants to avoid "arriving at conclusions" or "discussing matters of substance."

**Rick Russell**, "a full-time facilitator since 1989," emphasized that

**The Calgary Framework**

Here is a framework for discussion on Canadian unity, as developed by premiers from nine provinces and the leaders of the two territories in Calgary on September 14, 1997.

1. All Canadians are equal and have rights protected by law.
2. All provinces, while diverse in their characteristics, have equality of status.
3. Canada is graced by a diversity, tolerance, compassion and an equality of opportunity that is without rival in the world.
4. Canada's gift of diversity includes Aboriginal peoples and cultures, the vitality of the English and French languages and a multicultural citizenry drawn from all parts of the world.
5. In Canada's federal system, where respect for diversity and equality underlies unity, the unique character of Quebec society, including its French speaking majority, its culture and its tradition of civil law, is fundamental to the well being of Canada. Consequently, the legislature and Government of Quebec have a role to protect and develop the unique character of Quebec society within Canada.
6. If any future constitutional amendment confers powers on one province, these powers must be available to all provinces.
7. Canada is a federal system where federal, provincial, and territorial governments work in partnership while respecting each other's jurisdictions. Canadians want their governments to work cooperatively and with flexibility to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the federation. Canadians want their governments to work together particularly in the delivery of their social programs. Provinces and territories renew their commitment to work in partnership with the Government of Canada to best serve the needs of Canadians.

(...ONTARIO SPEAKS cont'd from prev. pg.)

sion with a call for our governments "to respect the division of powers laid down in the British North America Act (now called the Constitution Act) in 1867."

His five recommendations echoed those highlighted by Fp leader **Lloyd Walker** in his message to the Ontario legislature. (See 'No Room For Freedom, pg 4)

**GET THE DETAILS!**

A full copy of Frampton's 9-page official submission to the Ontario Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs' '**Ontario Speaks - A Dialogue on Canadian Unity**' is available to Fp members and supporters on request. Check the green box on the back cover for details of how to get in touch with us!

[END]

"Nobody's here today to make a decision about anything. This is really a consultation process. Think about what you'd like the country to look like, act like, behave like. Then we're going to talk about our approach to diversity, and how we view diversity in the context of what the Framework says. Then we're going to talk about how our view of Canadian diverse society fits with the Framework's view."

**FRAMEWORK DOESN'T FIT**

One after another, speakers described how their view of Canadian society did NOT fit in with the Framework's view. Many demonstrated their awareness of the glaring omission of individual freedom as a value within the Framework's vision of Canada, though this was not surprising, given many attendees' involvement with groups like the **Reform Party**, the **Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada (APEC)**, and **Freedom Party**.

Fp leader **Lloyd Walker** received particularly strong applause when he encouraged the government to "get out of the culture business" and to "abolish groups such as the Human Rights Commissions which bring the entire justice system into disrepute."

He challenged Canada's politicians to "live up to the rules of Confederation as laid out in the **BNA Act of 1867**," and condemned the *Ontario Speaks* process as an illegitimate means of collecting the opinions of Ontarians.

"I would like to point out that the Standing committee of the Ontario Legislature has recommended the use of referenda on Constitutional issues," Walker reminded Cunningham. "Maybe it's time they got that through and actually used it, if you really want to hear what individuals have to say on this Framework."

**1.6% RETURN A HUGE RESPONSE?**

Cunningham defended the provincial government's process of collecting the opinions of Ontarians by claiming that the 1.6% return rate of the *Ontario Speaks* survey represented "a HUGE response."

"We sent out over four million brochures," she explained, "and we are now going to have something like a 1.6% return. For most of us, that doesn't sound like very much. For people in the business of trying to get 65,000 people to talk to them about something they care about, this is great news!"

Given the informality and absence of structure in the government's *Ontario Speaks* public meetings, it is highly doubtful that anything meaningful can possibly be accomplished by such a subjective process. If anything, such a process offers evidence that our government's do NOT want to hear from their constituents. Their attempt to focus attention on meaningless process rather than substance is an admission of the government's not-so-hidden agenda.

"The *Calgary Framework* is "about government power and their ability to force a rather perverse vision of diversity upon us," concluded Walker in his comments to Cunningham. "Where is the respect for the individual? Where is the freedom? Where are the safeguards for us? Where are the limits on government that should be part of any vision of the future of this country? They're just not here in (this) Framework, and that makes it an extremely dangerous vision."

[END]



## Roots of Change Conference...

## FREEDOM FIRST!, METZ URGES CONFERENCE

TORONTO (March 20-21, 1998). - Fp president Robert Metz was among the key speakers participating in this year's **Roots of Change Conference** held at the Royal York Hotel. Accompanying him at the event was Fp leader Lloyd Walker, whose comments to *Toronto Star* reporter Thomas Walkom set the tone of that paper's coverage of the event. (See reproduction, next page.)

Organized by **Progressive Group for Independent Business (PGIB)** president **Craig Chandler**, the Friday and Saturday conference was billed as a 'unite-the-right' event. With an impressive list of speakers with philosophies ranging from 'social conservative' to 'libertarian', attendees heard a wide range of opinion on the merits and pitfalls of uniting these various fragments of the so-called 'right.'

## SPEAKERS LIST

**FRIDAY:** Toronto Sun Money Editor **Linda Leatherdale**; president of the Employer WCB Crisis Committee, **Richard Fink**; London South MPP **Bob Wood**; journalist, author and talk show host **Michael Coren**; Mackenzie Institute president **John Thompson**; Freedom Party president **Robert Metz**; former Halton School Board trustee **Robb McLeod**.

**SATURDAY:** president of Any Key Solutions, **Tim McKay**; past Reform Party candidate and Canadian Citizen's Alliance president **Hugh Prendergast**; Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada (APEC) president **Ron Leitch**; author, writer, and political activist **Greg Vezina**; Reform Party of Canada's executive councillor in Quebec **Brian Rogers**; Campaign Life Coalition member **Steve Jalsevac**; founder-president of Renaissance Canada Inc., **Ken Campbell**; PGIB Ontario youth chairman and board member of the Canadian Youth Rights Association, **Karl Baldauf**; president of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Youth Association, **Waliel Soliman**.

## LEITCH BEST

Without exception, all speakers were both informative and entertaining, and often found their controversial perspectives critically challenged by conference attendees. Freedom Party's unofficial award for the best presentation at the conference goes to APEC president **Ron Leitch**, whose passionate call to unite around freedom earned him a standing ovation.

"It is my belief that you cannot unite people around the words right, left, or center," warned Leitch. "Politicians and the media have joined forces to make use of the word 'right', in a political sense, a dirty word."

Leitch repeated his call for a repeal of Canada's *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and referred attendees to his booklet, **Freedom or Political Slavery** (a speech which was delivered to Freedom Party members and supporters in June 1997), for a more lengthy discussion of his argument. Under the Charter, summarized Leitch, "whenever the government restricts your freedoms, with or without legislation, you are the one who must challenge that restriction in the courts. Before the Charter existed, the onus was on the government to prove that you did not have the freedom which you wished to exercise."

Fp members and supporters will have the opportunity to read the entire text of Ron Leitch's presentation in the next issue of *Consent* (#29).



Craig Robertson, SUN

**RUNNING FOR CHANGE ...** Craig B. Chandler, national president of the Progressive Group for Independent Business, is up and running at the two-day Roots of Change conference that opened yesterday at the Royal York Hotel. Sun Money Editor Linda Leatherdale was the opening speaker. The conference, sponsored by the PGIB, is designed to bring together conservative-minded leaders and others to discuss issues ranging from right wing unity to right-to-work legislation.

ABOVE: from the Toronto Sun, Saturday, March 21, 1998. Organizer Craig Chandler kicks off PGIB's second Roots of Change Conference.

(FREEDOM FIRST... cont'd next pg)



## CANADA

# Unite-the-right's downmarket element

Meeting attracts those relegated to sidelines

BY THOMAS WALKOM  
NATIONAL AFFAIRS WRITER

When influential conservatives held a conference to unite the right two years ago, Craig Chandler couldn't even wangle an invitation.

"I called to get in but (organizer and journalist) David Frum wouldn't let me," the 27-year-old former Reform party candidate recalled this week. "He said they were full. It was a kind of cliquy, elitist sort of thing."

So Chandler got his own back. Yesterday, he kicked off his own two-day, unite-the-right conference in Toronto.

And David Frum wasn't there.

Instead, Chandler's Roots of

Change conference is attracting the kinds of blood-and-guts rightists who sparked the Reform party, but who — as Reform attempts to become more respectable — find themselves relegated to the sidelines.

Anti-abortionists such as Rev. Ken Campbell of Renaissance Canada mixed with opponents of bilingualism like Ron Leitch of the Association for the Preservation of English in Canada.

Dick Fields of the Voice of Canadians (opposition to multiculturalism and human rights commissions) was there yesterday as was Robert Metz of the more libertarian Freedom Party (legalization of marijuana, opposition to medicare).

They heard speakers slam workers' compensation and publicly funded abortion clinics. They shivered as John Thompson of the Mackenzie Institute warned of class war coming to Canada, led by a co-

'If the right united, they'd want to get rid of guys like us.'

— FREEDOM PARTY LEADER LLOYD WALKER

alition of rural, gun-toting militias, downtown Trotskyists and animal liberation radicals.

Some seemed unconvinced when Tory MPP Bob Wood (London South) said that Mike Harris' Ontario government has not become indifferent to its hard-core supporters.

And others voiced agreement when Reform Leader Preston Manning was slammed for betraying his principles.

Frum's 1996 Winds of Change conference, although closed to reporters, featured as participants some of the country's tonier right-of-centre journalists, including himself and Southam columnist Andrew Coyne.

Chandler's Roots of Change conference, by comparison,

was headlined by conservative pundits with a more downmarket flavour — Toronto Sun business writer Linda Leatherdale and CFRB talk show host Michael Coren.

Since Reform thundered out of the West to become a serious voice in Parliament, efforts to unite the right have become a cottage industry.

The recent fuss over whether Tory Leader Jean Charest will quit his party has merely added a new urgency to the debate.

Now even Manning himself is talking about some kind of formal coalition with the Tories.

But at Craig Chandler's conference, there were mutterings that the Reform party chief has already become yesterday's man.

"Manning did a good job getting Canadians back on track, but now the train is out of gas," Chandler said.

Instead, he said, rightists must forget personalities and concentrate on common principles.

But, as the left has discovered, this is not easy.

Journalist Coren pointed to the most fundamental divide within the right — that which separates social conservatives like himself (no abortion; women forbidden to go topless in public) from economic conservatives (no social programs; let the poor starve).

If conservatism means letting the market rule human affairs, Coren said, then "I am increasingly uncomfortable calling myself a conservative."

Freedom Party president Metz echoed the dilemma from the other side. How, he asked, could anyone expect a libertarian like him to be in the same

party as Michael Coren?

A real alliance of all right-wing forces, he said, would be "a metaphysical impossibility."

"If the right united, they'd want to get rid of guys like us," added Freedom Party leader Lloyd Walker.

Still, Chandler is trying. He figures that maybe the best way to unite the right is to start a third party — which would attract both Reformers and Tories.

Or even better, Ontario rightists could start a Bloc Ontario which — in concert with Reform in the West and the Tories in the East — could form a coalition government.

In any case, he is optimistic. True, only about 30 people registered for his conference. But he's sure more will come today. The right, he says, has just got to get together.

"We're going to fight it out once and for all, and see who's left standing."

**ABOVE:** Not one person at the *Roots of Change* Conference ever suggested that there should be "no social programs," or to "let the poor starve," as suggested in coverage by the *Toronto Star* on March 21, 1998. The paper's spin on the two-day event not only understated the number of registrants by more than half, but clearly focused on the variance of opinion among attendees, and not on the areas of agreement and cooperation. (See back cover.)

(...FREEDOM FIRST cont'd from prev. pg.)

## PUTTING FREEDOM FIRST

With respect to 'uniting the right,' Leitch's message virtually echoed that of Fp president Robert Metz.

"Trying to unite a movement around a LABEL that can mean any number of things to any given number of people is like sowing the seeds of one's own destruction," Metz challenged. "Uniting the right is less an attempt to defeat the left, than it is to defeat our electoral system," he continued, as part of his argument favoring **proportional representation**. "In fact, the right wants to be the minority that gets past the post first, a concept totally alien to a free democracy --- and to what the right has been preaching.

"The dilemma of an ideological political party like **Freedom Party** lies in the attempt to do two competing things: change public opinion, and win public approval," he explained. "To be true to principle, you can't always do both, particularly under a first-past-the-post electoral system. We resolved our dilemma: We decided to put freedom first. Every time. No exceptions."

## SOCIAL(IST) CONSERVATIVE?

Possibly the most diametrically opposed viewpoint to Metz's was presented by author, journalist, and talk-show host **Michael Coren**, who admitted from the outset that "I am becoming increasingly uncomfortable calling myself a conservative."

Nevertheless continuing to describe himself as a "social conservative," Coren defined his philosophy as being "ever pragmatic," with family and community, rather than the individual, as the basis of society. The state has a DUTY to censor pornography and ban prostitution, he argued, and went on to make an emotional case against 'same sex couples,' legalized abortion, and euthanasia (even if done for compassionate reasons). To justify his support of censorship, Coren read explicit and offensive passages from a book describing forced anal (homosexual) sex.

"Economic freedom is not an end in itself," Coren argued, though never explicitly defining what 'end' he actually supported.

When challenged by an audience member with obvious Objectivist leanings, Coren described philosopher-novelist **Ayn Rand's** ideas as those one would find at the "bottom of the barrel."

"I DO believe in the redistribution of wealth, socialized medicine, and universal education," he emphasized, and went on to argue that the issue of taxation has nothing to do with morality; it's what the money is used for that matters.

"What's wrong with being coercive?" Coren quipped.

## OTHER PERSPECTIVES AND CONCERNS

Other speakers discussed a variety of subjects, generally consistent with the conference theme, but often focused on a narrower issue

(FREEDOM FIRST... cont'd on back cover)



*Funding the Fight...***FUNDS APPEAL LAUNCHED**

LONDON (November 11, 1997) - About 100 members of the **London Property Management Association (LPMA)** listened to Fp president **Robert Metz** outline the trials and tribulations of London landlord **Elijah Elieff**, whose recent encounter with an **Ontario Human Rights Commission Board of Inquiry** eventually led to the total loss of his **Cheyenne Avenue** apartment buildings and a submarine sandwich shop he owned and operated. (Details of his experience have been covered in past issues of *Freedom Flyer* and *Consent* and are always available on Fp's website. To get the whole story, see box at right.)

In addition to telling the landlord's story and warning property owners about the dangers of Human Rights tribunals, Metz made a personal appeal to LPMA members:

"I am also here to ask you to support one particular individual, on whose behalf I am speaking, in his personal struggle for some semblance of justice," he said, and then introduced Mr. Elieff to the audience.

#### **NEEDS HELP**

Still reeling from the loss of his buildings and his businesses, Elieff now plans to go on the offensive, but his legal options have been limited both by the time that has passed since his first encounter with Ontario's Human Rights Commission in 1989, and by his lack of funds with which to launch an effective lawsuit against those he holds responsible for his plight.

In July 1997, Elieff obtained a 41-page letter of opinion from Barrister and Solicitor **Paul McKeever**, of Oshawa Ontario. The letter outlined various legal approaches and options open to the London landlord, and stressed the complexity and expense that he would face once any action was launched, costs that could go as high as \$50,000. To complicate matters further, Elieff's case has many unique aspects from a legal standpoint, and precedents may not always be applicable.

In April 1998, with the help of a personal loan to augment his current income as a transport truck driver, Elieff retained the services of London lawyer **Anthony Steele of Ross, Bennett & Lake**, who likewise warned the former landlord that "The law relating to civil actions is complex and technical and Mr. McKeever has done an excellent job of reviewing the factors relating to those technical complexities."

(FIGHT... cont'd next page)

For a full accounting of all the facts and details of the Cheyenne Ave controversy  
Visit our Web Site at:

**"[www.freedomparty.org/cheyenne.htm](http://www.freedomparty.org/cheyenne.htm)"**

or ask for back-issues of our relevant newsletters,  
*Freedom Flyer* and *Consent*.

## **Elijah Elieff needs our help!**

Donations to help him with his upcoming legal battle can be  
made payable to the:

### **Cheyenne Court Challenge \***

\* account privately & independently administered by Elijah Elieff

Ask for our special re-print of *Consent*, which summarizes Mr. Elieff's experience  
before an Ontario HRC Board of Inquiry.

Inquiries and donations may be forwarded to:

### **Freedom Party of Ontario**

**Mailing Address: Box 2214,  
LONDON, Ontario N6A 4E3**

**Office: 240 Commissioners Rd. W.  
LONDON, Ontario N6J 1Y1**

**PHONE: (519) 681-3999  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-830-3301  
FAX: (519) 681-2857**

**e-mail: "[feedback@freedomparty.org](mailto:feedback@freedomparty.org)"  
Web Site: "[www.freedomparty.org](http://www.freedomparty.org)"**



(...FIGHT cont'd from prev. page)

Undaunted, Elieff nevertheless plans to forge ahead. He has made it clear to all involved that he would rather "fight the fight" and lose, than sit and do nothing about what has happened to him. That is his one unacceptable option.

## COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

"For Mr. Elieff, this is a highly personal matter, and needless to say, he has a personal stake in his success," said Metz to LPMA members. "For me, it's a matter of principle, personal and public. Do I want to live in a country that allows subjective and arbitrary government tribunals to replace all semblance of objective justice? I think not.

"For you, it's a matter of protecting yourself, and protecting your fast-disappearing property rights. What happened to Mr. Elieff could happen to YOU."

LPMA meeting attendees each received a special reprint of two articles which originally appeared in Consent #21 and #22. The first was Metz's final argument before the Board of Inquiry, where he had acted as the landlord's representative. The second was written by London-area home builder and property manager **Peter Sergautis**, who, as the landlord who subsequently purchased Elieff's buildings through a power of sale, outlined some of his own experiences with "community leader" **Susan Eagle** after he took over the

buildings. Eagle, a United Church minister, is the primary individual responsible for Elieff's ordeal, since it was she who led the search for a complainant to file charges of discrimination against the landlord. Eagle also led public demonstrations in front of his sandwich shop for the specific purpose of attacking Elieff's reputation as a businessman.

## OTHER VOICES

TORONTO (March 1998) - **Voice of Canadians** chairman **Dick Field** has already alerted his organization's membership to the "travesty" of Elieff's plight in the March/April 1998 edition of **Voices**, published by the **Voice of Canadians Committees**. Field has encouraged his members and supporters to contact **Freedom Party** to help, and to visit **Fp's** website for more details of Elieff's story. Many have already done so.

"We will tell the story to you in our next newsletter," promised Field, "although a novel should be written. The story will enrage you and bring tears to your eyes. It is a story filled with political intrigue, conspiracy, misuse of the tribunal system, and the ruination of an innocent man and his wife."

Readers interested in obtaining a copy of **Voices** may contact the **Voice of Canadians Committees** at: Box 88512, Swansea Postal Outlet, 34 Southport St., TORONTO, Ontario. M6S 4Z8; Phone (416) 766-0895, Fax: (416) 766-2270.

Field has been conducting his own campaigns against Ontario's Human Rights Commission. He believes that there are a growing number of people who are concerned with the corruption of Canada's legal system and who may wish to get involved in cases like Elieff's.

"We must find people who are prepared to support Elieff," says Field. "He has been hurt badly and needs our support."

## ELIEFF INTRODUCED TO MONTGOMERY TAVERN SOCIETY

TORONTO (April 18, 1998) - That was the message heard by attendees at a meeting of the **Montgomery Tavern Society** (see back issues of *Freedom Flyer*), where they each had a chance to personally meet **Elijah Elieff**. **Fp** president **Robert Metz** reviewed Mr. Elieff's story in much the same manner as when he spoke to LPMA members in London.

Lobby group leaders and individual activists were asked for their help on three fronts: (1) financial support, (2) moral support, including publicity and appeals to group membership for support, and (3) advice and input relating to how each group/member might be able to assist Mr. Elieff.

All members agreed that they would do something to help. Stay tuned for future updates on this very important issue. {END}

## Freedom Briefs...

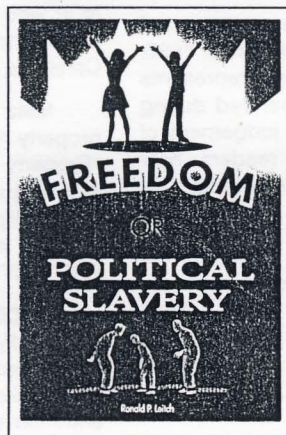
(...cont'd from page 3)

A limited number of autographed copies of Armstrong's **Farewell the Peaceful Kingdom** are available through **Freedom Party** at \$35 each (\$40 postpaid). VISA & MASTERCARD orders accepted. Call 1-800-830-3301, or fax us at (519) 681-2857. In the London area, drop by our offices at 240 Commissioners Rd. W., or call (519) 681-3999.

## APEC ANNIVERSARY!

TORONTO (October 24, 1997) - As part of its 20th anniversary celebration, the **Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada (APEC)** mailed to its membership a copy of **Freedom or Political Slavery**, the speech given by APEC president **Ron Leitch** to **Freedom Party** members in June 1997. (See *Freedom Flyer* #32.)

The 32-page booklet is sharply produced, and includes a 2-page foreword by **Fp** pre-



sident **Robert Metz**, who invites Canadians to explore their monarchical heritage in the context of individual freedom:

"What you are about to read is a call for action, written by a man who deeply cares about Canada, and who steadfastly believes that personal freedom should be the cornerstone of all civilized law and government. In the few short years that I have come to know him, I have learned

that **Ron Leitch's** passion for freedom is genuine and serves as his unrelenting guide to what action must be taken."

APEC has good reason to celebrate. 15,000 copies of **Freedom or Political Slavery** have already been printed, made possible by a generous \$1 million bequest to APEC under the terms of the Will of the late **Arthur James Edward Child**, a long-time APEC member who died in July 1996.

We wish to thank the folks at APEC for also generously supplying **Freedom Party** with 600 copies of the booklet at no charge; Many **Fp** members have already received copies, while others will be receiving one with this newsletter's mailing. Additional copies are still available either through **Freedom Party** or APEC.

Anyone interested in finding out more about APEC may write or call: APEC, 3080 Yonge Street, Suite 5068, Toronto Ontario M4N 3N1; Phone: (416) 482-2732, toll-free 1-888-800-APEC; e-mail: [apec@spectranet.ca](mailto:apec@spectranet.ca).

## WHO IS 'FRANK STEVENS'?

ONTARIO (March 15, 1998) - Several members, supporters, and associates of **Freedom Party** received personalized 'anonymous' letters bearing the typed name 'Frank Stevens', accusing **Fp** president **Robert Metz** of improprieties with respect to **Freedom Party's** 1995 Election Campaign Return. Because the letters were typed, unsigned, and bear no return address; they have been

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

regarded as anonymous, even though there is a 'Frank Stevens' (who has denied any knowledge of the letter) on Fp's membership list. The letters read as follows:

"Dear (Specific Fp member/supporter),

"As a fellow member of the **Freedom Party of Ontario**, I think you should contact the *Commission on Election Finances*, to request a copy of our party's Annual Financial Statement, the one submitted December 8, 1995 and received by the government on December 11. In it you will find that Robert Metz, the founder of our party, paid himself \$4,400 as an administration fee for running the campaign. In addition, he overpaid his friends, Robert and Jean Vaughan, \$1,918.20 for a computer and wanted to give them a tax break for this over-inflated donation.

"I think that we as members have a responsibility to see where our party donations are going and am very disappointed to see what is in this document. Just what do we represent, and who are our representatives... really?

"Yours very truly, Frank Stevens."

The letters, all unsigned and bearing no return address, were apparently mailed to a number of Fp contributors, executive members, and associates, among them Canadian author and historian **Joe Armstrong**, who was the first to notify us of their content.

"I am a member of no political party," Armstrong emphasized, while questioning the motive of anyone who would send such a letter unsigned, and without a means of responding.

Lest there are others who have received this letter, and who may be curious about the validity of the concerns raised therein, we offer the following facts:

(1) No payment of any sort was made to anyone regarding the computer in question. The \$1,918.20 reported represents a contribution made BY the Vaughan's TO **Freedom Party**, and is clearly marked as a 'donation' on Fp's Financial Statement.

(2) Nor is there any issue of overpayment. On June 1, 1995, then-Fp executive member Robert Vaughan made a special trip to purchase a brand new 486DX4-100 Package System from **Compu-Silv** on Eglinton Avenue East in Scarborough Ontario. He paid \$1,918.20 cash to the company (which was the best price available for the given package that we could find anywhere in Southern Ontario), and promptly delivered the computer system and the \$1,918.20 receipt from Compu-Silv to **Freedom Party**. We are obligated by Com-

mission regulations to issue a tax-credit for the full amount, in order for the Commission to be able to limit any future contributions made by the contributors in the same year.

Such a donation is regarded as a 'kind' contribution by the Commission, and thus it is the name of the contributor that shows under the 'supplier' list on the Commission's statements, not, as in this case, *Compu-Silv*.

Contributors should know that **Freedom Party**, like all Ontario political parties, is audited annually as a condition of retaining its official registration. Ironically, Fp's 1995 returns were audited twice, once by external auditors, and once by the Commission itself (See our related coverage, *Freedom Flyer*, April 1997), following Fp's refusal to comply with a Commission order.

(3) The 1995 election campaign period ran from April 28, 1995 to September 8, 1995, inclusive. Mr. Metz's \$4,400 fee represents over 1000 hours of his time expended during that period. We leave it to the judgement of our members, supporters, and readers, now more fully informed, to determine whether this represents any impropriety.

If any other Fp members or supporters have received a copy of the letter in question, we'd like to hear from you! **Call 1-800-830-3301.**

## PROPERTY RIGHTS DIALOGUE

LINDSAY, GLENARM (April 14, 1998) - Fp president **Robert Metz** was once again invited to the *Victoria-Haliburton* area by local activist **Jim McKee** (see past issues, *Freedom Flyer*). Accompanied by Fp executive member **Paul Blair**, Metz's visit included both a community meeting to be held at McKee's home that evening, and a cablecast taping in Lindsay earlier in the afternoon.

The half-hour cablecast **Dialogue** featured Metz in debate with professor emeritus

Committed to the Freedom of Expression

April 1998

# Dialogue

A Canadian forum for the exchange of ideas

\$2.00 Vol. 11, No. 9

## In this Issue...

Language & the Canadian Identity

The Calgary "Frame-up"

Unity or Dis-unity?

Entrenchment of Minority Control in Canada

The MAI: April 27 OECD meeting

Charest: Saviour, Quebec Nationalist or Master of Sinking Ships?



of history at Trent University, **Bruce Hodgins**. Active in the Peterborough community, Hodgins is also a card-carrying member of NDP who ran for that party in the 1960s. The issue: Should property rights be entrenched in Canada's constitution?

Metz began with a description of why property rights are necessary in a free society: "Property rights give the average citizen some sort of guarantee that he cannot be deprived of his property in a whimsical or arbitrary way. It is a proper function of government to PROTECT property rights."

HODGINS: "I don't dissent at all, but profoundly disagree that such rights are absolute or that such rights need entrenchment. If it isn't broken, don't repair it. If you absolutely entrench such powers, you don't protect the individual or the community, but I think you frequently protect the large interests of international banks, the multinational corporations, etc. I don't think it's a good idea.

"As a relative right, these property (rights) are safe, safe under the Canadian version of English common law, and that we don't need, nor should we have, such rights. In fact, I would even argue that they're too strong for my liking. They can be, of course, restricted by the power of expropriation for general societal

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)



# Letter writers who nudge the agenda

APR 7 1998

There's an interesting publication called *Dialogue*, which is committed to freedom of expression, something in short supply in Quebec. It's published monthly by Quebec political activist Maurice King. He and editor Janet Hicks produce a lively, entertaining compendium of news nuggets about the latest stupidity of the secessionists, along with a selection of letters written by their victims. For letter writers who want to nudge the agenda, it also contains addresses and phone numbers of politicians.

What follows is a smattering of tidbits from its March issue.

"The rest of Canada has yet to face the Quebec reality. The reality is that Quebec is an insatiable domestic burden (equalization payments) and an unrepentant international embarrassment (United Nations censure of its language restrictions)," writes Joe Houlden of Gloucester, Ont.

"Moreover, it has in its midst a xenophobic, tribal, ungrateful group that has done serious economic and moral damage to Canada. Canada has poured billions into Quebec and diluted its principles in a generous, but fruitless, effort to accommodate the tribe. Its re-



DIANE FRANCIS

ward has been bombings, kidnappings, murders, a constant stream of bilge and the persecution of Quebec minorities."

Ruth McKeage of Lennoxville, Que., has pinned her hopes on the pending Supreme Court of Canada decision on whether secessionists can unilaterally secede after a Yes referendum victory, but without an amendment to the Constitution. Assuming unilateral secession is found illegal, she wrote: "At last, the Supreme Court will protect my rights! Just the thought of waking up in a separate country after another misleading question and possibly more destroyed No ballots is something I will never accept. Jacques Parizeau and others were ready to break up our country with his Plan 0 which would have cost us our savings and citizenship."

Jerry Kasanda of Egbert, Ont., responds to the premiers who signed the Calgary Accord declaring Quebec "unique" and who are asking for public input on the issue.

"Premiers, do you really believe thinking Canadians will not recognize your 'Calgary Framework for Discussion on Canadian Unity' for what it really is — another attempt to fool us with slightly recycled Meech and Charlottetown?" he asked.

"The very first principle (in the accord), 'All Canadians are equal and have rights protected by law' is a fallacy. Honorable premiers, are you not aware of Quebec's Bills 101 and 178? Although these were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Canada and condemned by the United Nations Human Rights Commission, they remain in force and relegate more than two million non-francophone Canadians in Quebec to second-class status. Honorable premiers, what have you done to eliminate this injustice?"

The launch in January of an English-language edition of *Cité Libre* has been successful and Jim McKee of Woodville, Ont., lent his support by citing some of its federalist viewpoints.

"Some of the messages they (*Cité Libre*) are sending to Canadians are: 'If you think that the political, economic and social future of Canada is for Quebec alone to decide, you are buying separatist myth No. 1.'

"If you think the constitutional entrenchment of Quebec's distinctness will make the threat of separation go away, you are buying appeasement myth No. 1."

"And if you think that Canada's internal borders may be altered by an act of revolution, while Quebec borders remain sacrosanct, you are buying... the Brooklyn Bridge."

"In short, if you think there is something called Quebec democracy, which is different from true democracy and that's okay, you are selling your country short."

"They have my support," wrote McKee.

And *Dialogue*, Guy Bertrand, the Equality party, Howard Galganov, Mordecai Richler, the Mohawk, Cree, Inuit and all other enemies of Canada's secessionists have my support.

Diane Francis is editor of the *Financial Post*. Her column appears Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

**ABOVE:** -from the *London Free Press*, April 7, 1998. *Financial Post* editor Diane Francis tips her hat to political activists Maurice King and Janet Hicks who, respectively, publish and edit *DIALOGUE* (see illustration, previous page, and brief on page 12), a publication committed to freedom of expression. Also mentioned is the contribution of Jim McKee, whose political activism is undoubtedly having a profound effect on his community. (See related brief on page 10 and below.)

## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

need. The important thing is that the person receive due market value compensation, and that they have the right to appeal in the courts.

"To constitutionally entrench such rights would violate the Canadian tradition, a very important one. It would be very American, and very much tied into concepts of the late 18th century and the period of the American revolution and American constitution. Our tradition is a royal one, or a 'red Tory' one if you prefer, that emphasizes --- land in particular --- of originally being part of a crown domain. We receive property, which is not an absolute grant, through a patent. We receive property through a crown grant; the only profound expression of that is aboriginal, and treaty rights for aboriginal people.

"It would go against all the traditions of Canada, the United Kingdom, northwestern Europe, and all the countries of the Commonwealth that I can think of, to move to that next stage to argue that this should be some kind of ABSOLUTE RIGHT. As a social democrat, I would argue that there are many cases where community rights are more important than personal rights; the question is to make sure

that the individual is not harmed and that they have due compensation. I don't think there's a remotest chance that such a thing could pass, given the nature of the Canadian political system."

Ironically, Metz agreed that the process of entrenching property rights in the Constitution is not in the Canadian tradition, but insisted that such rights still had to be recognized as absolute.

METZ: "The Charter enshrines nothing; the Charter has an overriding clause which would make entrenchment of property rights in the Charter rather a moot point."

HODGINS: "No rights are absolute, except for the right to life."

METZ: "But that's where property rights come from, from the absolute right to your life."

Metz challenged Hodgins on the validity of limited and conditional property rights as they apply to Quebec's language laws, Ontario's laws against Sunday shopping, and the government monopoly prohibiting the private sale of liquor.

HODGINS: "I keep emphasizing RELA-

TIVE rights. I don't want absolute rights in any case. All rights come in conflict with other rights that are also desirable, and frequently they are all relative terms, not absolute terms."

METZ: "By definition, there is no such thing as a competing right. (But) there ARE competing interests. That's why we need property rights."

HODGINS: "(Entrenching property rights) cannot be achieved under our political process. We'd have to have every province and the federal government all ruled by either the *Freedom Party* or the *Reform Party*."

To which we say: "Amen!"

Calling the half-hour taping of his *Dialogue* program "a sustained and intelligent debate," host **Rae Fleming** essentially described the tone of both the cablecast taping and the evening debate (hosted by **Doug Hindson**) held at McKee's home. (Thanks again for your hospitality Jim!) Anyone interested in getting a dubbed copy of the cablecast debate is invited to contact **Fp** for details.

➡ **Another 'Dialogue'**  
- see next page

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

## ✍ ANOTHER DIALOGUE

CANADA (April 7, 1998) - Community activist **Jim McKee** (see previous brief) was among those who attracted the attention of **Financial Post** editor **Diane Francis** in an April 7 column focusing on **Dialogue**, a national Canadian magazine which is published in Quebec by political activist **Maurice King** and edited by **Janet Hicks**. (See reproduction on this page.)

Committed to freedom of expression, *Dialogue* regularly features letters and articles written by average Canadians, many of whom may be found associated with groups like the **Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada (APEC)**, the **Reform Party**, and of course, **Freedom Party**. (King, Hicks, and McKee have all attended meetings of the *Montgomery Tavern Society* in the past, where **Fp** president **Robert Metz** has had the pleasure of making their acquaintance.)

In its March 1998 issue, publisher King soundly condemned the pretense by which "politicians --- and those that support politically correct views --- use dissimulation as their communication objective."

Referring to the "Calgary declaration and the farce of provincial consultations that accompanied it," he concludes:

"The only way to have representatives who are committed to their electors, and not their party leader, is to work towards electoral reform that will bring about **proportional representation**. In the meantime, elect independents or candidates of parties other than the four politically correct parties."

To which we say again: "Amen."

Anyone interested in subscribing to *Dialogue* (\$24 per year, tax included, for 10-12 issues) can call 1-800-706-1819, or write: 2311 Rockburn Rd., Franklin Centre, Quebec, J0S 1E0.

## ✍ QUEST FOR EQUALITY

LONDON (January 14, 1998) - While passing by **Freedom Party's** headquarters for a visit, professor emeritus of history at the *University of Western Ontario*, **Kenneth Hilborn**, dropped off a couple copies of his 91-page booklet, **The Quest for 'Equality': From Robespierre to Rae and Beyond:**

**How An Unattainable Ideal Has Threatened Freedom.** It's an excellent read for those interested in understanding how the concept of equality has been turned into a "fanatic" ideology where "results are the same for all."

"What can voters do when the leaders of 'opposition' parties are also committed to something like enforced 'equality'?" Hilborn asks.

"Small parties (like the *Liber-tarians* and Ontario's **Freedom Party**) may --- and often do --- challenge the consensus of the entrenched political elite and provide an outlet for discontent, but they lack the money, organization, experienced personnel and media coverage needed to present themselves to a mass electorate as a credible alternative. In effect, the electorate is deprived of genuine options."

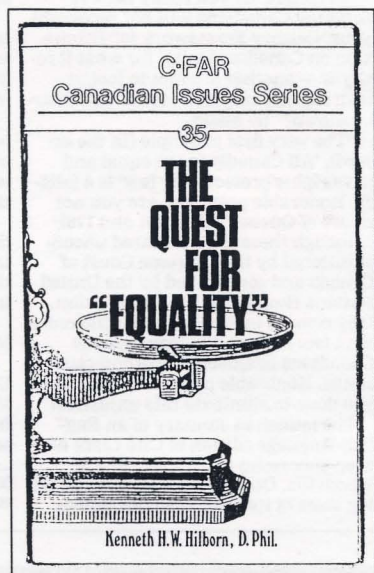
Hilborn's observation certainly hits the mark, and as readers may note, his message strikes a theme that repeats itself throughout this newsletter, whether about the dilemma faced by small political parties or the dilemma faced by voters who have no option at the polls.

"The argument for a substantial degree of direct democracy, through citizen-initiated referenda, is therefore a strong one," suggests Hilborn, "but its introduction is bound to be resisted by left-liberals as a threat to 'equality'."

No kidding. But what to do? Hilborn's recipe for a solution is in the question he asks: Small parties need money, organization, experienced people, and increased media coverage. Voters need a choice.

A long-time **Freedom Party** member himself, Hilborn practices what he preaches, and in addition to supporting the party financially, has also contributed essays to our sister newsletter, *Consent*, on three separate occasions.

"As always," he warns, "complacency could prove to be a recipe for ruin. Unless one is foolish, one will never despair because of defeats, and never be confident that a victory is permanent. These are thoughts that conservatives today would be wise to keep in mind."



To get a copy of Hilborn's book, *The Quest for Equality*, contact: *Citizens for Foreign Aid Reform Inc. (CFAR)*, Box 332, Stn. B, ETOBICOKE Ontario, M9W 5L3. (\$6 single copy; \$5 two to five copies; \$3.60 six or more.)

## ✍ LONDON'S OTHER VOICE

LONDON (November 10, 1997) - Thanks to past **Fp** candidate and current member and supporter **Jim Montag**, Londoners were at least able to hear some intelligent debate on issues of local concern during their municipal election. Visibly missing from the debates was incumbent mayor **Dianne Haskett**, who, in protest against an **Ontario Human Rights Commission Board of Inquiry** ruling against her, withdrew from actively campaigning during the election period. That ruling concluded that the mayor illegally discriminated when she refused to proclaim a "gay pride" week in the city.

With the mayor missing, that left Deputy Mayor **Grant Hopcroft**, Montag, and 'Freedom' **Schell** (no relation to **Freedom Party**) to debate the city's issues of the day.



**Jim Montag** — I'm the founder and chairperson of the *London-Middlesex Taxpayer's Coalition* and been involved with continual public input requesting accountability and the best value for taxpayer's money.

**ABOVE:** - reproduced from *Scene* magazine, October 16, 1997.

During questioning on an all-candidate's mayoralty debate aired on CJBK radio in London on November 6, candidate Schell refused to discuss his personal background: "I'm not really sure who I am. I'm setting up a task force and coming out with a position paper on that shortly." Funny stuff; zero credibility.

Fortunately, Montag's approach was far more palatable, as he stressed issues of financial responsibility and accountability at city hall. For Montag, the choice between Haskett and Hopcroft was no choice at all. His campaign theme, "London's Other Voice," presented an opportunity to inject some much-needed substance into an otherwise meaningless debate.

By refusing to "support proclamations for special interest groups," Montag indicated his support of the mayor's actions regarding the gay rights proclamation, but agreed with candidate Hopcroft on one main point: that London lacked cohesive leadership.



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

Approaching election day, Montag was twice asked to drop out of the race by political insiders who believed that he may have held a large enough voting block to keep Hopcroft out of office, and Haskett in. Of course, as things turned out, Haskett was re-elected by an overwhelming majority, dramatically illustrating the public's sympathy with her protest.

Nevertheless, Montag's consistent message and election campaign theme will have set the stage for future political activity on his part. As chairperson of the **London-Middlesex Taxpayers' Coalition (LMTC)**, he has already earned a formidable reputation as leader of the community's most effective taxpayers' 'watchdog group'. Stay tuned for future developments.

### FLAT TAX ADVOCATE

LONDON (April 23, 1998) - At a **London West Reform Party Constituency Association** dinner held at the *Seven Dwarfs* restaurant, Fp president **Robert Metz** and Fp executive member **Paul Blair** were delighted to find themselves sitting at the head table with guest of honor **Jason Kenney**, Reform MP for **Calgary Southeast**. [Association president and master of ceremonies, **Terry Biggs**, introduced Metz to the audience, which audibly reacted with recognition upon hearing about his regular appearances on *Left-Right-Center*, a radio talk show which airs weekly in the city. (See related brief.)]

Kenney was in town to discuss Canada's overburdening tax rates and regulations, and to advocate a move towards a flat tax, a policy with which **Freedom Party** heartily agrees. As past-president of the **Canadian Taxpayers' Federation**, it should not be surprising that Kenney supports the flat-tax concept, but it is refreshing and commendable that he continues to advocate flat taxes as a Reform Party MP in the House of Commons.

After discussing common acquaintances and common ideals, Metz congratulated Kenney on his courageous tax stance, and the two exchanged business cards and promised to keep in touch.

Our appreciation and thanks are extended to London West Reform organizers, **Terry Biggs**, **Craig Stevens**, and **Jim Montag**, both for their hospitality and for bringing an excellent event to the London area.

### APPROACHING LIBERTARIANS

ONTARIO (November 1997 - April 4, 1998) - In the wake of the federal de-regist-

ration of the **Libertarian Party of Canada**, Fp leader **Lloyd Walker** has approached executive members of the **Ontario Libertarian Party** in an effort to meet "to discuss what we could work on together." However, in November '97, he was informed by party leader **Sam Apelbaum** that the party was in the process of closing its John Street office in Toronto (which it shared with the federal party), and that someone would be getting back to us in the new year.

Having received no response by March '98, Walker e-mailed all the executive contacts on the **Libertarian Party** website and was responded to by party representative **George Dance** on April 4.

Dance informed Walker that **Libertarian Party** members "are still learning to operate without an office," but that the subject of working with **Freedom Party** would be on the agenda of their next meeting.

"I'll make sure it's on the agenda for the next meeting," he wrote. "It fits well with another item we have to start working on now: next year's election campaign."

Readers are reminded that we are always looking for constituency association organizers and executive everywhere across Ontario. You'll be getting in on the ground floor. (See brief, following.) Anyone interested is encouraged to call 1-800-830-3301.

### BILL 81 DISSOLVES 17 Fp CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

TORONTO (January 1, 1998) - Due to the passage of Ontario's **Bill 81, An Act to Reduce the Number of Members of the Legislative Assembly**, all of **Freedom Party's** existing provincial constituencies have been officially dissolved, effective Jan. 1/98. The bill reduces the number of provincial seats in Ontario from 130 to 103, and makes them coincide with federal riding boundaries and names.

Seventeen Fp constituency associations were dissolved in the process, representing ridings where the party fielded candidates in past provincial elections. Those ridings are as follows: **London South, London Centre, London North, Middlesex, Welland-Thorold, Halton Centre, Fort York, Lambton, Elgin, Don Mills, Nepean, Mississauga South, Mississauga East, Scarborough North, Perth, Oxford, and Oakville South.**

We wish to thank all of our constituency presidents and candidates, present and past, for their part in helping introduce **Freedom Party** to their community. Most will be re-registering their associations under new riding

names, while other ridings will be joining us for the first time. Watch for developments in upcoming editions of *Freedom Flyer*.

Readers are again reminded (see previous brief) that we are always looking for constituency association organizers and executive everywhere across Ontario. Call now: 1-800-830-3301.

### FREEDOM PARTY REPRIMANDED

TORONTO (April 29, 1998) - Ontario's **Commission on Election Finances** has officially reprimanded **Freedom Party** for the late filing of the party's declaration that it did NOT participate in the 1997 by-elections of *Oriole, Ottawa West, and Windsor-Riverside*. (A previous reprimand occurred in January 1997 after a similar late filing regarding a 1996 by-election held in the riding of *York South*.)

The declarations, a relatively new requirement in the bureaucratic machinations of the commission, were due on March 4, and were not filed until April 21, when we managed to locate a "commissioner for oaths" to co-sign the documents.

For some bizarre reason which the Commission has refused to explain, the declarations --- which report no activity, financial or otherwise --- require a "signature of commissioner for oaths" to validate the authenticity of the signature of the party's chief financial officer, **Patti Plant**. What makes the requirement even stranger is that no "signature of commissioner for oaths" is required when filing annual statements which report activities involving tens of thousands of dollars (and official tax-receipts!). This is fortunate, given that our external auditors, **Johnston Benson Inkster & Brighton**, do not have anyone on staff with a "commissioner for oaths" status.

In the past, by-elections in which **Freedom Party** did not participate, did not require the party to file anything. Now, as we were reminded by the commission, non-activity must be reported and "failure to file (a nil declaration) may result in the deregistration of your party."

### DOROTHY NOTHER REMEMBERED

LONDON (December 4, 1997) - We regret to report the passing of **Dorothy Nother** at age 85 in a London hospital. Mother of past Fp leader **Jack Plant**, Dorothy was a long-time **Freedom Party** member and supporter and could be seen at most **Freedom Party** functions from 1990 to 1996. Her presence will be sorely missed.



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

LEFT-RIGHT-CENTER  
MARCHES ON

LONDON (May 1998) - Launched in September 1997, CJBK Radio's experimental "Left-Right-Center" segment of Jim Chapman's Talk Of The Town open-line radio program is turning out to become a regular feature of the station's programming.

Aired Wednesdays from 11 am to 12:00 noon, the show features Fp president Robert Metz in weekly discussion and debate with London legal aid lawyer and local activist Jeffrey Schlemmer. Subjects discussed have ranged from issues like poverty, unions, and Human Rights Commissions, to whether or not it is appropriate for high-school children to hold public marches against "male violence."

Always controversial and entertaining, London-area listeners can tune in to 1290 AM radio every Wednesday at 11 am. To get in on the live discussion, call (519) 643-1290.

## ISSUES OF THE DAY

WOODVILLE (May 5, 1998) - We are pleased to announce that the text of Fp president Robert Metz's address to the Roots of Change conference in Toronto (see page 6) appears in the May 1998 issue of Canadian Speeches. Editor and publisher Earle Gray, whom Metz had the pleasure of meeting at the home of Jim McKee (see related brief), describes his publication as "A National Forum of Diverse Views".

That diversity is certainly evident in the 68-page May issue, where the first speech by CAW-Canada President Buzz Hargrove favors egalitarianism as a means of preventing

"social and economic upheaval." (Metz last debated Hargrove on an open-line radio program in September 1995, in the midst of labor protests against the Harris government. See *Freedom Flyer* March 1996.) Other contributors include: Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, **Stephane Dion**; Director, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, **Desmond Morton**; President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, **Dr. Tom Brzustowski**; Chairman and CEO, Alliance communications Corporation, **Robert Lantos**; President, Curry College, Milton, Massachusetts, **Kenneth K. Quigley Jr.**; Canadian Chamber of Commerce Chairman **Gerald Pond**; NOVA Corporation Senior Vice President **Sheila O'Brien**; and last but not least, Alliance for the Preservation of English in Canada president, **Ron Leitch**.

Publisher Gray has beat us to the punch. The speeches by Metz and Leitch were originally delivered at the Roots of Change conference, and are both due to be published in our next issue of *Consent*. Metz's speech, appearing in *Canadian Speeches* as "Why the right should not unite" and Leitch's speech, entitled "A case for repealing the Charter of Rights", both focus on individual freedom as the fundamental value to be protected and preserved by our governments.

Anyone interested in discovering the diverse points of view that regularly appear in *Canadian Speeches* is encouraged to contact: *Canadian Speeches*, 194 King Street, Box 250 WOODVILLE, Ontario, K0M 2T0. Phone: (705) 439-2580. Single copy: \$8.50; Subscription: 10 issues, \$85, GST included.

WEBSITE DRAWS  
VISITORS FROM AROUND  
THE WORLD

ONTARIO (May 19, 1998) - Freedom Party's World Wide Web site has attracted the attention of a steadily increasing number of visitors, who, our latest reports tell us, come from all around the world.

We are pleased to report that there is now a steady, statistically significant amount of traffic visiting Fp's web site, and the source of that traffic may be of interest to our readers. The following information has been provided by Webgate, Fp's new internet server since

April 23, and the statistics represent requests received for the period April 23 - May 19, 1998:

## Total Transfers by Client Domain

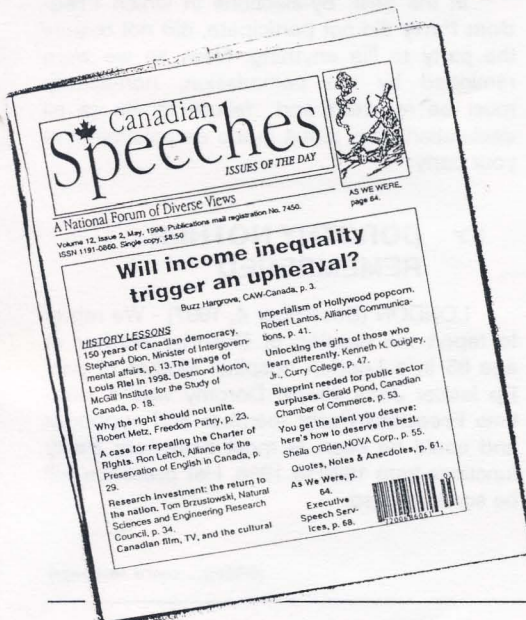
%Reqs	%Byte	Bytes Sent	Requests	Domain
0.06	0.08	125572	35	ae United Arab Emirates
0.05	0.04	62484	25	ar Argentina
0.00	0.00	180	1	at Austria
1.25	1.13	1732422	687	au Australia
0.12	0.12	189681	68	be Belgium
0.02	0.02	28031	12	bg Bulgaria
0.04	0.03	46111	21	br Brazil
9.25	8.82	13475785	5082	ca Canada
0.19	0.17	264867	105	ch Switzerland
0.05	0.03	48999	25	cl Chile
0.03	0.02	32913	15	co Colombia
0.04	0.03	46912	24	cz Czech Republic
0.99	0.69	1061355	544	de Germany
0.05	0.06	87221	27	dk Denmark
0.01	0.05	69629	4	ee Estonia
0.07	0.07	104554	37	es Spain
0.23	0.19	286281	127	fi Finland
0.09	0.06	92524	51	fr France
0.02	0.01	10989	10	gt Guatemala
0.02	0.01	10885	10	hk Hong Kong
0.02	0.01	19553	11	hu Hungary
0.13	0.10	150247	74	ie Ireland
0.11	0.16	245597	58	il Israel
0.00	0.00	422	1	ir Iran
0.03	0.02	36814	14	is Iceland
0.21	0.17	265718	114	it Italy
0.30	0.28	420382	166	jp Japan
0.07	0.08	119589	39	kr Korea (South)
0.06	0.04	67218	34	mx Mexico
0.31	0.33	497288	169	my Malaysia
0.32	0.35	532946	176	nl Netherlands
0.11	0.10	151863	62	no Norway
0.25	0.27	417360	135	nz New Zealand (Aotearoa)
0.00	0.01	8082	2	ph Philippines
0.00	0.00	488	1	pt Portugal
0.08	0.16	246508	43	qa Qatar
0.08	0.07	109554	43	ru Russian Federation
0.20	0.14	217808	112	se Sweden
0.24	0.21	328316	133	sg Singapore
0.06	0.06	86874	35	si Slovenia
0.02	0.02	28007	12	sv El Salvador
0.03	0.03	39521	14	th Thailand
0.02	0.02	32760	13	tt Trinidad and Tobago
0.00	0.00	4213	1	ua Ukraine
0.79	0.65	998306	433	uk United Kingdom
2.76	2.82	4306489	1515	us United States
0.00	0.00	422	1	vn Viet Nam
0.02	0.01	21388	11	yu Yugoslavia
0.10	0.08	119847	56	za South Africa
24.74	26.10	39892082	13585	com US Commercial
8.29	8.31	12701298	4553	edu US Educational
0.34	0.31	466365	187	gov US Government
0.14	0.15	225995	79	mil US Military
25.33	24.03	36721269	13907	net Network
0.47	0.39	601187	259	org Non-Profit Organization
0.03	0.03	52045	17	arpa old style Arpanet
21.74	22.85	34925172	11936	unresolved

Thanks to the hard work of Fp webmaster Greg Jones, over 1000 individual documents are already available on site, including all back issues of *Freedom Flyer* and *Consent*. Designed for ease of access, and with helpful index pages to navigate, it appears that our formula is working.

As of this writing, an average of 2100 documents per DAY are being requested and downloaded from Freedom Party's web site. In November 1996, two months after the site was launched, we were receiving 2,756 document requests per MONTH (92/DAY). By September 1997, we reported a 700% increase in traffic: 14,134/MONTH (456/DAY). Now, 2100 daily document requests average between 63,000-65,000 requests per month --- representing another 446% increase since Sept'97 (or a 2286% increase since Nov'96).

A 'document' in this case refers to individual articles, essays, official reports and submissions, and/or issue papers that are currently available on line. A document may be as short as any of the 'Freedom Briefs' you are now reading, or as long as a complete article

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)





## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

or essay in *Consent*.

Without doubt, **WHOLE LANGUAGE** is currently the issue generating the most interest, accounting for nearly 12% of all document requests. **CENSORSHIP** is issue number two, though only accounting for 4.34% of requests. Beyond these two issues, document requests are fairly evenly distributed throughout the site. Watch for future updates on site developments. In the meantime, we invite readers to visit **Freedom Party's** web site at: "<http://www.freedomparty.org>".

### GOVERNMENT OBLIGATED TO CRIMINALIZE DRUGS, SAYS MINISTER OF JUSTICE

OTTAWA (September 30, 1997) - In a two-page letter responding to Fp Elgin representative **Ray Monteith** (See last issue, *Freedom Flyer*), **Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Anne McLellan** made it clear that "The Government does not have any plans to decriminalize drug use."

McLellan was addressing Monteith's May 23, 1997 letter to **Allan Rock**, the former Minister of Justice who is now Minister of Health. (See brief, following.) Attached to Monteith's letter was a copy of his essay, "Drugs Should Be Legalized," which has previously been published in *Consent* #27.

"Allowing easier access to the drug might put Canada in contravention of international agreements to which we are a party," wrote McLellan. "The *Single Convention*, for instance, obliges us to maintain stringent domestic control over certain drugs, such as cannabis and cocaine. In particular, we must treat possession, sale, cultivation and importing activities as punishable offences.

"Finally," she concluded, "decriminalizing drugs would likely meet with considerable opposition from the public."

Nevertheless, McLellan cited the government's recent passage of the **Controlled Drugs and Substances Act** which has introduced a "new offence for possessing only small amounts of these products."

"This means that the offender will not be charged with an offence which carries a maximum penalty of seven years imprisonment," she explained, "no matter how much of the drug was in the individual's possession. The new offence is punishable by a maximum fine of \$1000 or up to six months imprisonment, or both."

While we are left scratching our heads trying to reconcile how the new offence applies to those possessing "only small amounts" of drugs, and to anyone "no matter how much" is in possession, it is clear that the change in law represents a changing attitude in Ottawa.

### PROHIBITION - AN 'OUTDATED' PHILOSOPHY?

TILLSONBURG (March 13, 1998) - Fp Perth representative **Rob Smink** was personally on hand to witness federal **Health Minister Allan Rock** kick off the re-birth of Canada's hemp industry, an industry which was banned along with marijuana in 1938.

More than 100 people attended the event, leaving Smink with only two pieces of **Freedom Party** literature remaining, as attendees eagerly scooped up the information offered. Among the pieces distributed were copies of **Ray Monteith's** essay, 'Drugs Should Be Legalized,' Fp's 'Prohibition Is A Crime,' and educational literature produced by other organizations.

"I was received very well," Smink noted --- so much so that he was even provided with a table to display the literature he brought. A complete package of information was given to Rock's personal assistant.

"(Hemp) is an absolutely remarkable product that, for 60 years, we have not been able to use in this country because of an outdated philosophy," Rock told the crowd. "Thank goodness those days are gone."

Since hemp was banned as part of the same "philosophy" that prohibits marijuana, Rock's suggestion that this "philosophy" is outdated is wishful thinking indeed, given the continued prohibition of the lat-

ter. Even with respect to hemp, according to his department's own news release, "Health Canada will use licences, permits, and authorizations to control activities. This level of control is necessary to prevent diversion of Cannabis to the illicit drug market." Among the regulations is the continued prohibition of the cultivation of hemp (which has no psychoactive qualities!) within one kilometer of any school grounds or any other public place frequented by persons under 18. The stage already appears to be set for future regulations which may prove to be more irrational and ineffective than prohibition.

Meanwhile, as hemp growers have managed to partially free themselves from Rock's "outdated philosophy," multiple sclerosis sufferer **Lynn Harichy** who uses marijuana for medical purposes is still a victim of that philosophy, and she appealed to Rock to allow her the same degree of freedom.

"I told her we are taking her position very seriously," Rock said.

Rock credited rural members of Parliament with making him aware of the value of hemp, though in actual fact, it was not until Fp founding member **Marc Emery** challenged

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)

The  
**Freedom**  
*EVOLUTION*  
R Fp

Common  
Sense



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

Canada's censorship laws forbidding the dissemination of such information (in 1992) that it was even possible to legally discuss the issue here. (See *Freedom Flyer*, December 1992 for background on the hemp story.)

"Ten thousand acres of hemp will produce the same amount of paper as 20 years' growth of trees on 40,000 acres," Rock said. "It's unbelievable!"

What's really unbelievable is that Canadians are still being treated as criminals for using cannabis as a recreational drug. Worse, judging by federally legislated trends, it looks like tobacco users may soon find themselves sharing a similar fate.

### ☞ RACIST ON CAMPUS

LONDON (October 7, 1997) - "YOU, sir, are a RACIST," was the conclusion of one student following Fp president Robert Metz's presentation before a University of Western Ontario Law and Social Welfare class taught by London lawyer Jeffrey Schlemmer. The indictment followed Metz's presentation on the nature of law, in which he introduced the ideas of philosopher-novelist Ayn Rand and French economist/statesman Frederic Bastiat.

"How is it," asked Metz, "that you can call me a racist right after you've explicitly heard that I support laws which treat all people equally, regardless of race, color, creed or sex? What have I possibly said that would lead you to such a conclusion?"

At this point the unnamed student referred to two *Consent* essays appearing on Freedom Party's website, one written by Vaughan Byrnes (Discrimination - The Positive Perspective) and the other by Cathy Frampton (Body of Knowledge). Both expressed views opposing political correctness and policies of official multiculturalism. According to the student, Metz's affiliation with the views expressed in those essays was all that was needed for an assessment of character. (Ironically, that's how racists think!)

Quoting isolated sentences from each essay, he refused, when asked by Metz, to place the quotes in the context of the articles in which they appeared. Needless to say, the exchange sparked a lively debate and round of questions, few of which had anything to do with Metz's presentation.

Another student objected to Metz's emphasis on philosophy, questioning its relevance to practical law. There was a degree of noticeable hostility towards Metz on the part of a few students, while others appeared entertained by the accusations and subsequent

debate. After the presentation, a couple of other students privately approached Metz for more information and told him that they were intimidated by the prospect of entering the debate in class, and thus remained silent. Referring to the student leveling racist charges, one of them remarked: "Some people have their own agendas."

Another learning experience.

### ☞ PICKETS FOR PAUSE

LONDON - (October 31, 1997) - Fp leader Lloyd Walker and Fp president Robert Metz were among a concerned group of 30 Londoners calling themselves Parents Against Unions Stopping Education (PAUSE) who protested outside the offices of the Ontario Public School Teacher's Union (OPSTF) on Commissioners Road West. Across the street, about 100 teachers were picketing in front of the constituency office of London South MPP Bob Wood. (Coincidentally, Freedom Party's office is only one block away.)

Locally organized by Fp member Craig Stevens and concerned parent Cindy Theriault, the counter-protest to the illegal walkout by teachers objecting to the provincial government's Bill 160 was held to focus public attention on three major issues: (1) the unlawfulness of strike action, (2) the implications of teachers becoming poor role models, and (3) the campaign of "misinformation"

being spread by teachers' unions.

"The majority of our children's teachers are hardworking and dedicated and we appreciate them," said Theriault. "But today we are very, very disappointed in them. We know they have concerns about Bill 160 but we ask that they fight this battle on their own time and STOP using our children as political pawns."

The half-hour counter-protest was enough to draw the attention of the media and to make the point.

### ☞ VAUGHAN RE-ELECTED EDUCATION TRUSTEE

LONDON (November 10, 1997) - Fp member Robert Vaughan was handily re-elected as an education trustee in the London area, though this time for the new Public District School Board #11 created by the Harris government. His victory follows a tumultuous term where, as a trustee who was often the lone voice on a host of issues facing the board, he has earned a reputation for not being afraid to buck a trend.

One of those issues involved his backing an injunction to end the illegal teachers' walkout only a month earlier, while his criticisms of exorbitant administration costs have been a constant theme of his message. (See reproduced media coverage, next page.)

(BRIEFS.... cont'd next page)

BELOW: - reproduced from the *London Free Press*, November 1, 1997



MICHAEL JORDAN The London Free Press

Michelle Theriault, left, a Grade 8 pupil at Kensall Park public school, and her sister, Nicole Theriault, a Grade 12 student at Banting secondary school, take part in a demonstration with parents who are part of PAUSE — Parents Against Unions Stopping Education. The group demonstrated Friday on Commissioners Road West. Across the street, teachers were demonstrating at the same time.



## Freedom Briefs...

(...cont'd from prev pg)

On other political fronts, Vaughan has stepped down as president of the **London Fanshawe Progressive Conservative Riding Association**, and, citing a lack of time due to his commitment to his role as trustee and to his business (*Direct Video*) says he has also become somewhat inactive regarding his **Reform Party** directorship in the same riding.

It is possible that the focus of Vaughan's political activities may take a new turn in the very near future. Referring to his experience as education trustee and as an executive member of the above-mentioned riding associations, he has undertaken to write what some might regard as an expose of Canada's democratic institutions.

"We're living a lie," suggests Vaughan, "if we believe that we can change things simply by changing our elected representatives. Our elected politicians are not leaders; they only HIRE our leaders --- the unelected bureaucrats who run the show."

For the whole story, stay tuned to a future issue of *Consent*. [END]

## Teachers broke law with strike action

Shame on the teachers' unions for urging their members to grub around and claim the maximum \$400 child subsidy for their recent illegal strike.

One must take exception to reporter Hank Daniszewski's use of the phrase "teachers challenge the law" in *Teachers to test law, seek subsidy* (Jan. 15). As with Bill 160, the teachers were not challenging the law, but rather breaking the law.

It is absolutely remarkable how lawlessness can be soft-pedalled. Let us not forget it was the teachers' unions that brought about and inflicted immeasurable harm on every school board in Ontario. It was their actions that brought the education of our children to a halt; to divide, mislead and upset communities.

How can union leaders direct their membership to partake in such an immoral action?

CRAIG STEVENS  
London

## Vaughan triumphs his own interests

A school board trustee is one who can be trusted to act on behalf of the students and the staff while serving the public. Trustee Robert Vaughan has blatantly neglected his duties since the introduction of Bill 160. It's more important to Vaughan to remain a friend of the Tories than to protect our students against Bill 160.

His latest shameful act was to vote to deduct two weeks' pay from striking teachers out of one paycheck when spreading the deduction over two pays would cost no more. Thank goodness all of the other trustees voted for the reasonable and intelligent alternative.

Vaughan should put the welfare of students, staff and the public before his own self-interest.

T.E. (TOM) COSTELLO  
London

## No self-interest in trustee's stand

In his letter, *Vaughan triumphs his own interests* (Nov. 29), T.E. (Tom) Costello suggests that my recent actions as a trustee at the London board of education were in my self-interest. He also inaccurately suggests that because I opposed the teacher's strike I was in favor of Bill 160 and not acting in the best interests of the students and staff and serving the public.

My criticism of Bill 160 is a matter of record. I suggest Costello and others look up the Ontario Hansard website to see exactly what I said about the bill during my presentation to the government committee in Chatham on Oct. 23.

As to Costello's opinion that I was putting my own interests above those of the public, I fail to see how opposing the single biggest voting block for trustee, that is teachers, during an election for that office can be acting in my best interest. As well, the polls revealed a substantial percentage of the public were in favor of the strike. I certainly expected my stand on the issue to cost me the election. As it turned out, over 24,000 Londoners apparently agreed with the way I was serving them and chose to re-elect me.

As a trustee, I believed it my responsibility to oppose any employee group who would illegally break their agreement with the board, illegally prevent London children from receiving an education, and illegally prevent the many teachers who wanted to work from doing so. It would have been nice to have had the support of my fellow trustees (and Costello). However, we apparently have different views on how best to serve the public interest.

ROBERT VAUGHAN  
Trustee  
London board of education

# Trustee backs an injunction to end strike

By Jonathan Sher  
Free Press Reporter

London public school board trustee Robert Vaughan wants to order teachers back to work with a court injunction — an issue many of his colleagues won't touch.

"I would move for an injunction to send employees back and end an illegal strike. We have a commitment to the kids of this city," Vaughan said in answer to a question at an all-candidates meeting for the soon-to-be-amalgamated English-language Public District School Board No. 11.

Vaughan was openly opposed by trustee Bill Brock, who said, "I'll stand on the picket line."

But most trustees refused to disclose their positions, even those who have grave misgivings with an education bill they say would unhinge democratic decision-making.

Trustee Marlene Patton said: "You can't force an injunction. You have to have happy teachers to have happy students and a happy school."

But later Patton said she would not say whether she supported the strike nor if she would seek an injunction to end it.

Also refusing to commit to a position were trustees Heather Wice, John Townshend and Joyce Bennett.

Townshend said he had a position he would not state publicly for fear it would cause division among teachers and compromise the future board's ability to deal with its employees.



Trustee Bill Brock  
district school board candidate

"I'll stand on the picket line."

Brock was joined in his support of striking teachers by Breton Downe, running for the new board, and trustee Alex Sutherland, who said, "I'm appalled at the insult to the democratic process."

Teachers went on strike Monday over Bill 160, a package of education reforms that aim to trim preparation

time for secondary teachers, cap class sizes and recruit non-certified staff for non-teaching duties.

The teacher strike has done little to alter apparent apathy among the electorate over the future school board.

"I would move for an injunction to send employees back and end an illegal strike. We have a commitment to the kids of this city."



Trustee Robert Vaughan  
district school board candidate

Only 30 or so showed up for the meeting at the London public library central branch, their questions few.

Vaughan, who has frequently sailed against the prevailing winds of the current school board, took shots at his colleagues, saying they were spending too much on administration.

Vaughan questioned why the new amalgamated board will need 18 superintendents, the number being recommended by a local education committee co-chaired by Wice and Townshend.

"Their job is policy and it's the same job whether it's 40,000 students or 80,000 students," he said.

But Wice defended the recommendation, saying the new board will be bigger than Shell Canada, and that the number of superintendents would likely be within the range to be approved by the province.

The amalgamated board will bring together four boards, which offer different programs in key areas such as pre-kindergarten and special education.

Candidates differed on whether it was possible to bring them all up — or down — to the same level in terms of program.

"It may not be a case of bringing them up... in some cases it may mean bringing them down," Vaughan said.

"Not everyone is going to have access to every program and that's not going to be popular," Wice said.



# feedback

*we get letters...*

(...cont'd from page 2)

so odd after all. I've especially enjoyed:

(1) Joe Armstrong's article, "Legitimize Dissent! --- Or Lose the Federation." He has made what has become so complex and confusing and issue --- so simple!

(2) hearing of Robert Vaughan's work with the London Board of Education. Would he be interested in moving to Peel and running for trustee here? We need him! Please pass on my congratulations to him for having the board recognize phonics as a fundamental component of reading instruction, NOT just another reading "clue". Again, I'm consoled.

(3) Lucky London to have the mayor they do, standing up to the Human Rights Commission!!!

You might be interested to know that I've gotten NOWHERE with the PCs regarding fairness in child care in Ontario. The final straw was Eves' announcement in the May ('97) budget on the new Ontario child care tax credit. This credit is ONLY for RECEIPTED care. Again, at-home parents are excluded. The real pinch is that the same receipt can be used for the Ontario tax credit AND the federal Child Care expense deduction --- a double whammy --- it goes from bad to worse! Maybe Robert Vaughan could help out on this issue? Please advise.

Sorry this letter is rather messy. My son was home ill today and it's 10:55pm; I'm running out of steam and not very coherent. But at least I wrote my thoughts to you.

*Cheryl Stewart,  
BOLTON Ontario, January 8, 1998*

We are honored that someone would take the time, at the end of an obviously stressful day, to write **Freedom Party** about an array of issues that are of personal concern to them. Your thoughts on these varied issues have been MOST coherently laid out for our consideration, and we can assure you that they reflect the feelings of many people. You are certainly not alone, and your thinking is not in the least bit 'odd'.

In fact, quite the opposite. We think it's odd that our public 'education' system managed to drop phonics as a reading fundamental in the first place. We think it's odd that Canada's political leadership, in framing a

vision for the future of Canada, failed to include freedom as part of that vision. We think it's odd that 'Human Rights' tribunals can intimidate and fine elected political officials for taking a stand on an issue.

We think it's odd that parents who provide their own day care cannot take into consideration, for tax purposes, the economic costs associated with their choice, while parents who use government subsidized day care facilities get to claim all the tax benefits.

We'll certainly pass your message on to Robert Vaughan for his input and advice. But in addition to that, by taking the time to write us, your comments will be seen by many others who are similarly thinking about the future of their country, and who feel 'odd' that no one else seems concerned.

Our task now is to get as many of these people as possible to support those groups and individuals who are working hardest to reverse these 'odd' trends. It's a pretty simple rule: the more support groups like **Freedom Party** get from those who share our concerns, the more impact we'll continue to have in the political marketplace.

And the more thought-provoking and consoling our newsletters will get. [rm]

## ☞ GENEROUS IS BETTER

(From **Freedom Party's** issue paper):

"Socialism and the War On Wealth

'I've been rich and I've been poor, and honey, rich is better!'

--- the late Sophie Tucker."

Socialism and the War on Greed

I've been greedy and I've been generous, and honey, generous is better.

--- the early John Carrick

*John Carrick,  
\*crs1198@inforamp.net,  
Sept. 5, 1997*

One advantage of living in a free society is that people are allowed to choose between being greedy or generous (or any degree in between). There are times when a person may choose either extreme. For example,

someone who loses his job may well take actions that others may view as 'greedy' (but finds it necessary to avoid losing his/her home or whatever). That same person may, when financially secure, be quite generous.

This brings us to the socialism part of "socialism and the war on greed". Socialism eliminates the options for the person described above, certainly not a very generous position to take on any front.

Socialism itself is based on greed. It is completely consumed by a fascination with other people's money and how to get it from them, without having to earn it. Socialism is entirely about greed. It's proponents cloak its inherent greed with noble claims of 'equality' or 'social justice' in the hope that people will accept that the end (one they claim they will reach, but which has never been attained by socialism) will justify the means (something it has never done). It is a shame that those who are obviously sincere in their sentiment of generosity haven't yet discovered that socialism isn't a war on greed --- it is an institution of greed which cannot possibly hold any long-term hope of a better future. [lkw]

## ☞ TOO MANY PARTIES

Geez, I thought the '**Freedom Party**' was an open house to everything. But

(FEEDBACK cont'd on next pg.)

Freedom.  
Responsibility.

Inseparable.





# feedback

*we get letters...*

(...cont'd from prev. page)

then who really cares about another political party? We have too many now.

**Frank Poole,**  
frankpoole@ns.sympatico.ca, Aug. 4, 1997  
(responding to previous posts)

We're pleased to see you've recognized the error in your estimation of what **Fp** stands for. After all, if we were an 'open house' to everything, we'd be Liberals!

What concerns us, however, is your presumption that there are 'enough' political parties. This assumes that Ontarians are expected to vote NDP, PC or Liberal (presuming that those are the choices that comprise 'enough' parties).

An open question we must pose is this: How should people who find those parties equally offensive vote? --- or should they simply be relegated to sit at home and complain about the government on the Internet?

Also, who would introduce alternative approaches to the political marketplace, particularly alternatives that appear to be beyond any consideration by the major parties? For example, **Freedom Party** has supported an education 'voucher' system (or some system offering more choice for parents & students) from day one, a policy you won't see being supported by the 'big three.'

Nor will you find them entertaining many new ideas. Without alternative choices, how would the process of bringing fresh ideas directly to the political marketplace be replaced? These are questions that all those concerned with the healthy operation of a free democracy should seriously consider. [lkw]

## ALIVE AND WELL?

Surfed onto your site. I am an American who follows Canadian politics and I really like what I see from you folks: that the idea of freedom of the individual is alive and well North of the border. Keep up the good work!

**Patrick K. Robb,**  
pkrobb@oakland.edu, March 16, 1998

The IDEA is alive and well... [rm]

## REAL POLITICS

I think that both Green and Freedom parties are people who cannot make it in real politics. What have either of these parties ever done? Maybe I will start my own party; lets see, I'll call it "I want to be noticed party."

I've read some of the articles written by Bob Allisat of the Green party; Bob you really have to get a life.

**Brad Smith,**  
bradsm@idirect.com, February 26, 1998

You've made an ironic point about our not being able to make it in 'real politics,' because in a sense, we agree with you.

Judging by past history, 'real' parties apparently all believe that government can run everyone's life better than individuals can run their own lives. By that definition, a 'real' politician believes that the government's function is to regulate and control things. The only difference between the 'real' parties is that they can't agree on which part of our lives they should be controlling most.

Though we can't speak for the *Green Party*, **Freedom Party** leader **Lloyd Walker** comments:

"Brad Smith is right on one point. I couldn't make it in those parties. I'm not interventionist enough. I lack the desire to run someone else's life. In fact, I consider government doing so to be immoral.

"What Brad misses is that there really are people who are not conservatives, liberals or dippers," he adds. "Until I started working with **Freedom Party** in 1985, I was unable to find a party worth supporting. They all turned me off. Now, 12 years later, I've run in 3 provincial elections and was able to help focus the debate (if only in my riding) on issues, raising alternative views that would never have been voiced in an election that allowed only 'real politics.' I'm proud of what **Freedom Party** has accomplished in the past 13 years and very proud to have played a small part in it."

In your assumed world of 'real politics,' it would appear that the electorate is expected to remain helpless and that real change is simply out of the question. Fortunately, some still care enough about Ontario (and Canada) to decide that working for change (even from a small start) is worth the effort.

To quell any doubts about what has been accomplished by **Freedom Party**, we invite readers to visit our world wide web site at "[www.freedomparty.org](http://www.freedomparty.org)" or to ask for a copy of our publication, 'On The Record,' which literally lists those accomplishments on a month-by-month basis, from the founding of the party in 1984, to present. [lkw;rm]

## COLLECTIVE LIMITATIONS?

So I am free to walk through your home any time I feel like it? So I am free to take your food if I am hungry? I thought even libertarians concede that your freedom ends when it encroaches on the freedom of another. That requires that even a libertarian society must have certain collective limitations on individual freedom. By your reasoning that means a libertarian regime will eventually become totalitarian.

**Danny Low,**  
dlow@ppg01.sc.hp.com, Sept. 19, 1997

Freedom does not mean licence. By definition, freedom includes accepting responsibility for one's actions. So, while you might be 'free' to walk through anyone's home if you were willing to be arrested for break and enter, you never have a 'right' to someone else's property no matter what your circumstance.

Any system of government that provides for freedom must also be a government that protects people and their possessions (the result of their work). That's why, even in a free society, you will get into trouble for punching someone in the nose, breaking into their home, etc.

This limited (protective) role can hardly be described as totalitarianism. Rather, it provides the *framework* (there's that word again!) needed to protect the rights of citizens, those rights being life, liberty and property. Why liberty and property? Liberty gives us the freedom of peaceable action required for a free society to function. (Note: (again) being held responsible for one's own actions is always a part of freedom.) Property is the result of your actions.

Under such a framework, power resides with the individual. How can that be called totalitarianism? [lkw]

## ABORTION AND LIBERAL RELATIVISM

Abortion is the killing of a human, and that is violence which does not deserve respect. It is also wrong to say that abortion is a right. Nobody has the right to kill a baby before it is born or at life's end; whoever advocates those things won't have the blessing of God!

Even if you have everything else right, this one thing shows that your party subscribes to the liberal philosophy of relativism; whatever you believe is right for you is ok! There is such a thing as right and wrong, and abortion and ass-



# feedback

we get letters...

(...cont'd from prev. page)

**isted suicide are the wrong things to do!  
That is so basic it is beyond arguing!**

**This point alone will sink you!**

**Eivind A. Eide,**  
**ed.eide01@ibm.net, January 28, 1997**

You may be interested to know that **Freedom Party** and the **Family Coalition Party** are the only two Ontario provincial political parties who have publicly stated that they would withdraw government funding of abortions. However, **Freedom Party** would not prohibit abortion, unlike the **Family Coalition Party** which is the only party which has stated it would do so.

Ontario's three major political parties support something quite different from freedom of choice in abortion --- they support **FREE** abortions on demand, thus forcing people like yourself to fund the very practice you abhor. This policy, with which we disagree, certainly has not 'sunk' them, politically. It is part of the socialist philosophy and mentality which drives most **POPULAR** political parties in Canada.

We recognize that there are many people who feel as you do, and we regard it a violation of your freedom of conscience and association when our government forces you to fund the abortions of others. **Freedom Party's** policy on abortion would certainly never force you fund abortions.

**Freedom Party's** philosophy is not based on relativism, but upon an objective code of values that defines each individual's right to his or her own life. Though it may be accurately argued that each human's **LIFE** begins at conception, individual **RIGHTS** do not begin accruing until birth, since this is the first moment a human life becomes individual.

Rather than prohibit abortion, we prefer to encourage social conditions which would make the perceived necessity of abortion obsolete. Sexual abstinence, better contraception methods, and adoption would certainly be preferable to abortion, but it is not the legitimate right of any political party or government --- in a free society --- to force some people's preferences upon others.

Morality has a greater strength than law, and issues of 'right and wrong' are only applicable to those areas where freedom of choice exists. If most Canadians felt as you do, abortion simply wouldn't be an issue, legal or not. Your argument is with those who make the choice to have an abortion and with those

parties who force you to pay for it, not with the policy of any political party which may or may not support the right to make such a choice.

However, we're glad to hear that you think we 'have everything else right', and would remind you that our policies on every issue, including abortion, are based on the same philosophy of individual rights and responsibilities. **Freedom Party**, unlike the major parties, does not **ENCOURAGE** abortion (through government subsidy); we **DISCOURAGE** it, but without a policy of prohibition. Popular or not, we think that's the **RIGHT** thing for a political party to do.

The rest is up to individuals. [rm]

## RIGHT WING LOONIE TUNES

**Just what this country needs --- Another Ultra-Right Wing Group of Looney Tunes --- Isn't the Reform Party Enough?????**

**Have you guys not found a remote Montana farm house yet???**

**Jay Winkler,**  
**winklerj@cadvision.com, January 3, 1997**

Sorry Jay, there are no Montana farm houses in Ontario --- they're in Montana! But what would make you think that **Freedom Party** is right wing?

For example, 'right wingers' support censorship. **Freedom Party** supports freedom of speech.

'Right wingers' support drug prohibition. **Freedom Party** opposes prohibition.

'Right wingers' support prohibition on abortion. **Freedom Party** supports freedom of choice in abortion.

'Right wingers' support business subsidies. **Freedom Party** opposes government business subsidies. Etc. Etc.

As to the *Reform Party*: While **Freedom Party** may agree with several *Reform* policies, we have just as many disagreements. In fact, the *Reform Party* disagrees with us in three out of the four examples just cited.

Nevertheless, one thing that we've learned from our own political experience is that labels (i.e., 'right wing', 'left wing', and even 'loonie tunes') give their users an easy and convenient way to avoid discussing the issues.

So if there's a particular issue you don't happen to agree with, please let us know; we'd be happy to address your concerns. What this country definitely doesn't need, is more people who paint all political parties with the same brush. [rm]

## LEAVING CANADA

It is with regret that I must inform you that I will no longer be making financial contributions to **Freedom Party** because I have decided to emigrate to the USA. I have accepted a position as a programmer/analyst with a firm in South Carolina to start on July 1, 1997.

There have been many factors affecting my decision, but I have concluded that there is simply no future for young professionals in this country. I am convinced that the American south will offer a much better standard of living that I could hope to have here.

Some examples:

1. Without taking exchange rates into account, my salary will be \$3000 per year, lower than what I am currently earning, but a calculation by my new employer's payroll department showed that my net pay will be the same, even after paying for health insurance. Bottom line: With the exchange rate, I'm about \$10,000 ahead.

2. Thanks to lower gasoline taxes and lower insurance rates, I will be able to afford a car.

3. My new employer is emphatic in its policy of not instituting mandated racism in hiring and promotion.

4. Thanks to the absence of rent control, landlords are competitive. Luxury apartments are quite cheap and a deposit of \$150 is considered high. (Nobody asks for first and last.) Due to lower rents, lower taxes and lower real estate costs, I will be in a position to purchase a home within two years.

Although I have found that Canada has much to offer, it has definitely become a 'paradise lost.' This point was brought home to me during the federal election campaign: It is frightening to realize that the political 'center' has shifted so far that the *Reform Party*, which would not end the state-run health care monopoly nor give people the right to choose whether to invest for their retirement, is nevertheless branded as a force of right-wing extremism.

Even though I will no longer be involved in Canadian politics, I do wish you every success in your continued efforts to educate the public about the importance of personal liberty.

**John LeBlanc,**  
**TORONTO Ontario, May 29, 1997**

Sorry to hear that Canada is losing yet another citizen who understands what indivi-

(FEEDBACK cont'd on next pg.)





(...cont'd from prev. page)

dual freedom is all about. Your story is just one of many that have crossed our desks at **Freedom Party** of late.

However, on the brighter side, you may be interested to know that many of our members who have moved out of province or to the United States still continue to support **Freedom Party**, even though they cannot take advantage of Ontario political tax credits.

Since individual freedom is a universal concept for us at **Freedom Party**, contributions and subscriptions received from out of province are used to help maintain our educational and lobby efforts on behalf of individual freedom everywhere. That includes the maintenance of our website, the publication of our literature and newsletters, and the provision of public speakers for interested groups anywhere in North America.

The United States you describe today was once the Canada of yesterday. The Canada of today may be the United States of tomorrow. Freedom requires eternal vigilance wherever free individuals exist, and we need as many contacts and supporters in the United States as we do in Canada and in Ontario.

Here's wishing you all the best with your endeavors in the US, but we hope this isn't the last we've heard from you. Perhaps in the future, you may rediscover Canada as a 'paradise regained'. Looks like that's up to us though, because nobody else seems to want the job. [rm]

#### ✉ ABORIGINAL VISION

Subject: "Drawing the Line - Property Rights and the Aboriginal Question" by Robert Metz

Thank you for providing this essay. In BC, I work endlessly toward the goals espoused in this essay. My immediate rewards usually come in the form of verbal abuse and criticism from the Indian leaders who stand to reap the rewards of continued land claims industry machinations. The more long term rewards come in the form of the quieter thanks and support I receive from those Indians who, like myself, choose to live in modern day Canada.

Please keep sharing this vision; the self respect of an entire race of people depends on the courage of those who will thwart the current crop of Indian 'leaders'.

Deb Logan,

bcsa3@island.net,  
January 1, 1997

Thank you for your encouragement. The essay in question was originally written as a brief to the *Reform Party of Canada's Aboriginal Affairs Task Force* on February 26, 1995, and was received quite warmly. Unfortunately, as you have clearly illustrated, there are still political interests who benefit from what you have appropriately called the 'land claims industry.' They want no part of any vision that would suggest all Canadians, aboriginal and non-aboriginal alike, work together to get the government to entrench private property rights for all.

Anyone interested in 'sharing the vision' can find this essay on **Freedom Party's** world wide web site, or by writing us for a back-issue of *Consent* #23.

#### ✉ WRONG ADDRESS

I'm looking for a socialist party to connect with. Is the **Freedom Party** sympathetic to Marxism? If so, tell me more. If the **Freedom Party** is closer to the American system, please let me know so I can distance myself. Thanks.

John Leiper-Laing,  
jleiper@ibm.net, January 27, 1997

There are many socialist parties from which you can choose. They include the *Communist Party of Canada/Ontario*, the *New Democratic Party of Canada/Ontario*, the *Liberal Party of Canada/Ontario*, the *Progressive Conservative Party of Canada*, and to a lesser degree, the *Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario*.

The only sympathy we have regarding Marxism is for the victims whose lives and property it has destroyed.

As to the American system, it is a mixed economy, a concept which **Freedom Party** does not support. We consistently support individual freedom of choice, and the moral principles of a free society on which it rests.

On the basis of our reply and your stated preferences, we can only offer this advice: distance yourself. Come to think of it, isolating

## Party Time!

Join us.



oneself from the ideas of one's ideological opponents is perhaps the only way to defend Marxist dogma.

#### ✉ OFF TRACK

I'm dismayed by your bit of emotional discharge entitled "Railroaded". It trivializes the experience of actual political prisoners, and gives a pretty good idea of why some public service workers become thick skinned ("appropriately" --- boos, jeers, etc? Give me a break.) What about civility? Perhaps you might have learned a bit more about what the problem was if the atmosphere was a bit more polite.

It sounds like you expect servants, not service --- that doesn't sound like good grounds for a "freedom" party to take! Although I live south of the border, I ride *Via* at every opportunity (about 10,000 miles in the past year) and find the staff civil and professional (and particularly good with kids). Most trains arrive promptly, even ahead of schedule seems to be the norm on the eastern corridor. So, what's up? Think a bit about what you mean by freedom before writing this stuff.

Jennifer Sarah Tiffany, RN, MRP,  
jst5@cornell.edu, January 1997

(FEEDBACK cont'd on next pg.)





(...cont'd from prev. page)

Thanks for taking the time to send along your comments about our December 1989 essay, 'Railroaded' by Marc Emery. Rest assured that we DO take freedom seriously. However, that won't stop us from taking a lighthearted or humorous approach to the issues.

We're pleased to hear that *Via Rail* has improved its service since that article was written. Perhaps the improvements in service were in some way a result of all the criticism levied against *Via* at that time. That would mean that you are now benefitting from past actions, and that pleases us greatly.

The fact that you have had one particular experience with *Via* does not in any way negate the experience of any other individual. One may find oneself in great disagreement with many people when displaying such an attitude toward the experiences of others.

Mr. Emery's experience with *Via Rail* was not unique. Around the same time that 'Railroaded' was written, FP president Robert Metz reported an experience with *Via* which was far more uncomfortable than anything Mr. Emery related --- a veritable page out of *Atlas Shrugged*.

However, that was not the point of the article. Rail consumers lack choice in Ontario. True competition in rail service is still not permitted in Canada and that's unfortunate. There have been reports of private rail services from around the world bidding to bring their high-speed 21st-century rail technology to our part of the world, but who are experiencing bureaucratic delays and rejections.

Even if marginally improved, Canadians still do not have freedom of choice in this basic service. *Via Rail* should still be privatized, and open competition should be the rule of the rail.

Those who browse through **Freedom Party's** web site or newsletters will generally discover articles of every caliber and tone: Serious. Humorous. Angry. Sad. Happy. Funny. Simple. Complex. Emotional. Reasoned.

But all are about the theme of individual freedom, and written by people who deeply care about, and have a passion for, freedom.

We hope you take the time to check out some of our other essays (bearing in mind their originally published dates), and see for yourself whether or not what we've just told you holds up to scrutiny. [rm]

## Freedom Party of Ontario

240 Commissioners Rd. W.,

LONDON, Ontario

N6J 1Y1

519-681-3999

1-800-830-3301

FAX: 519-681-2857

Mailing Address: Box 2214,

LONDON, Ontario N6A 4E3



### PROBABLY PAID BY CONRAD BLACK

I have a strong feeling that the *Freedom Party* exists to solely to keep the discussion of politics from ever veering too far to the left. People like Mr. Metz and Mr. Block are probably paid by people like Conrad Black and other prosperous millionaires and gazillionaires to make sure that no truthfully thought out discussion takes place.

If you hadn't donated any money to the Clay case that's before the courts I would have never taken the time to read about your party. It is commendable that you are behind this cause, but I would not be one to accept money from you.

I highly agree that privacy of the individual is very important, but the arguments put forth by these two people make me shudder. Taken at face value, the suggestions and the context of the arguments lead me to believe that the FP is racist, sexist, and anthropocentric to the extent that all other forms of life and our causal relationship is nothing but a farce.

If this is the kind of "freedom" you're talking about, I have no doubt that it would end up being a totalitarian state.

Some of what you say makes me think of the "good ole" days like the 1860's or so, when those with the gun and the ruthlessness could go to any homesteader and forcibly remove them from



# feedback

*we get letters...*

(...cont'd from prev. page)

their land. Hey, I'm all for a little privacy, but the playing scales are hardly balanced in my best interest. There is no way that the present economic market could go from what it is now to what you people envision without the playing field being totally skewed towards those that are already in power. And by that I don't mean the "G". Big business already runs the "G" far too much as it is.

You have to be joking when you say that through private property everyone is going to become responsible; if there wasn't any "G" around to dampen the economic interests of the big companies, they'd be raping the earth and its inhabitants even faster than they are now! This is probably not even going to be read by you so I'll stop now. It was worth a try.

Marc Bowes,  
mbowes@awinc.com, June, 1997

Thanks for taking the time to write us, but we sure would appreciate it if you could let us know what we've said that led you to your conclusions. Certainly, based on what you've written above, your conclusions appear totally based on assumptions, even to the point of your assumption that we 'probably' won't even read your mail. While we do not always have the time to respond to all the mail we receive, rest assured that we do read all our mail, and that many of our letters find their way to a permanent position on our website, as will yours.

Your suggestion that Dr. Block and Mr. Metz are in some way paid by 'people like Conrad Black' is certainly fanciful, and we at Fp would certainly welcome such funding. Unfortunately, it just isn't so. It is a fact that the largest recipients of corporate political contributions are the Liberal and Conservative parties, while the NDP is the main recipient of big union contributions. Freedom Party is totally funded through the voluntary contributions of individuals, and we are unaware of any who claim access to vast amounts of wealth. Nor would it matter, since contributions to political parties are severely limited to minuscule amounts. Financial records of all political parties are also open to public scrutiny, though in light of the contribution restrictions, we would prefer to see that contributors to political parties retain their privacy.

Your statement that **Freedom Party** exists 'solely to keep the discussion of politics from ever veering too far to the left' and to

prevent any 'truthfully thought out discussion' is way off mark. Strictly speaking, **Freedom Party** is neither a 'left' nor 'right' wing party, since we believe in both economic (unlike you) and personal (like you) freedom. What we find puzzling is why a person like yourself, who sees the value of personal freedom, seems to have a problem with the concept of economic freedom. Perhaps you'd like to let us know.

If you really believe our discussions are not 'truthfully thought out', then on what grounds would you explain our support of hemp activist Chris Clay?

You have stated that the arguments put forth by Dr. Block and Mr. Metz make you 'shudder'. What arguments? We'd certainly appreciate an opportunity to allay your fears, but without any specifics, how can we? Most importantly, what possible arguments put forth by us would lead you to conclude that Fp is 'racist, sexist, and anthropocentric'?

We believe that all individuals are equal before and under the law, and we repeat this message constantly. Those interested in a 'truthfully thought out discussion' bear the obligation to let us know what specifics are being referred to.

Your comments are symptomatic of many criticisms levied against the philosophy of freedom: Labeling, evasion of specifics, and a misrepresentation of the opposition are three clear signs of an argument that has no interest in truthfully thought out discussion.

A prime directive behind **Freedom Party's** philosophy is that no individual, group, or government has any right to INITIATE force against any other individual, group, or government. To suggest that such a philosophy of individual freedom could possibly lead to totalitarianism would be a contradiction in terms. Again, if we've said or printed anything that contradicts this aspect of our philosophy, please let us know.

Your reference to criminals forcing people from their land seems to indicate that you value the institution of private property. However, you seem to suggest that private property means that there wouldn't be any government. Quite the contrary.

Protecting property rights is one of the prime legitimate functions of government. It is the failure of government to do so that has led to unnecessary pollution and environmental problems. It is no coincidence that environmental problems are worst in those countries where the government owns and runs everything.

If you would provide us with evidence of your conclusions about Mr. Metz, Dr. Block, and/or **Freedom Party**, we'd sure appreciate hearing from you! Then we could address your concerns more directly. [rm]

## FAKE PHONICS ON SESAME STREET?

I believe you may want to update "10 Alibi's" in your Whole Language section [on Fp's web site - ed] because you state *Sesame Street* has been exposing the children to phonics. Well, they used to do phonics, but now their "reading" vignettes are instead presented as some form of whole word recognition, which as you know, is the method used in Whole Language. At least, that's the *Sesame Street* we see down here. The only real concession Whole Language has made to phonics is to teach the initial consonant sound, and so maybe that little bit of phonics has led some to believe the "*Sesame Street* teaches phonics."

Background: Mother of 5, whose children hated reading and couldn't read, write or spell, either! After I trained them in phonics, all love reading, and only one can't spell very well still (probably lazy).

Love the work you are doing up there  
--- best wishes always!

Jeanne Harris,  
MOISER, Oregon USA, March 1997

Thank you for your kind comments and for taking the time to write us. Your observations are consistent with many that we have received about *Sesame Street* no longer teaching 'real' phonics. Our original article on the ten alibis for whole language was written in 1992, and our example of

*Sesame Street* was used simply to counter the alibi that "too much TV" is a cause of illiteracy. Of course, whole language taught on TV can be just as harmful as whole language taught in the schools. Similarly, phonics taught on TV can be as beneficial as phonics taught in schools.

However, in the near future, we will post your comments on our site as an update and footnote with a link to our *Sesame Street* example. Thanks again for writing to bring this to our attention. [rm] (END)

# feedback

*we get letters...*

Readers are encouraged to send their letters to  
**Feedback. Write: Box 2214,  
London Ontario N6A 4E3;  
Fax: (519) 681-2857; e-mail:  
feedback@freedomparty.org**



## Roots of Change Conference...

(...FREEDOM FIRST cont'd from pg. 7)

or concern. Subjects ranged from **organizational software solutions** for the 'right' in Canada (Tim McKay), to a call for **lowering the voting age** to 16 (by 15-year-old Karl Baldauf, whose compelling arguments will find their way to the pages of *Consent* magazine in the very near future).

Toronto Sun money editor **Linda Leath-erdaile** kicked off the whole event by distributing Canadian flags to all attendees in commemoration of the "flag flap" in Ottawa.

"We have the fastest-growing tax burden in the western world," she marked with alarm. "I don't understand why Canadians aren't screaming in the streets."

**London South MPP Bob Wood** offered an excellent electoral history (1985-1995) of the Ontario **Progressive Conservative Party**, using that party's history as a way of demonstrating how it managed to appeal to the "three kinds of conservatives" required to build an **electoral base**: economic conservatives, populist conservatives, and social conservatives. Wood's suggestions were both practical and useful, based on his experience with the "theory, history, and science" of political activity.

He warned attendees to avoid arguing about "minor issues" in public, or "all three voting groups will stop listening to you." Uniting under a single political party is not necessarily a solution to the issues people want resolved, Wood reminded the audience:

"Have more than one political party exist, but find ways to work together."

### DEMOCRACY, EH?

Possibly the best mechanism for parties and individuals to work together on issues where they can agree is **proportional representation**. That was the bottom line of a most entertaining and animated presentation made by author, writer, and political activist **Greg Vezina**, whose book (co-authored by John Deverell) **Democracy Eh? - A Guide to Voter Action**, may well be the only publication to earn the endorsements of people ranging from Mike Harris to Judy Rebick.

Using a healthy dose of humor, cynicism, and sarcasm, Vezina aptly demonstrated how "our Canadian democracy makes it impossible" to effect any meaningful change. We have "Liberals for life" under the current constituency system of Canada's first-past-the-post system, he argued, and then offered ways of defeating that electoral system.

"Don't beat them, join them!" Vezina suggested. "Nice guys don't even finish, let alone finish last. Politics is for animals, not people. Some people actually think it's to do the right thing! Politics is about obtaining POWER. Period."

Until we have proportional representation, Vezina recommended that individuals take over existing party executives and candidate nominations. Other tactics recommended included the formation of a new amalgamated party, and/or a focus on strategic or negative

voting. But his bottom line was clear:

"Endorse candidates who endorse proportional representation!" Vezina concluded.

### COMMON GROUND

**Roots of Change** organizer **Craig Chandler** wrapped up the two day conference by calling upon attendees to arrive at some consensus on the issues they could all agree to support, despite their many fundamental differences in philosophy and areas of concern. Surprisingly, support was virtually unanimous on six key issues, all of which are supported by **Freedom Party** policy:

- (1) End government funding of abortion;
- (2) Seek an alternative to Canada's first-past-the-post electoral system;
- (3) Repeal the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*;
- (4) Oppose the *Calgary Framework* in its current form;
- (5) Promote less government, lower taxes, more individual freedom;
- (6) Limit law-making to those issues that protect individual rights.

We are pleased to report that the last item (#6) was included at the behest of **Freedom Party** founding member **Mary Lou Gutscher**, who was quick to warn all that item #5 was too vague and could be interpreted in ways not consistent with individual freedoms.

Chandler vowed to integrate these recommendations into **PGIB's** lobby platform when he returned to Calgary following the conference. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to both Mr. Chandler and the **Progressive Group for Independent Business** for hosting a most provocative and stimulating event.

{END}

#### FREEDOM FLYER

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#### FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

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