

FREEDOM FLYER

#36 - THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO



SEPTEMBER, 2004

- ELECTION 2003 EDITION #2 -

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ELECTION CALL TIMING FORCED BY FREEDOM PARTY CAMPAIGN!

LONDON - August 3, 2003 - Frustrated by repeated expectations and delays of an Ontario election call by *Progressive Conservative* premier Ernie Eves, Freedom Party executive members met on this Sunday morning and unanimously concluded that the time for campaigning could be postponed no longer.

Fp's executive meeting was held during the summer of the *blackout* and of SARS, both events used by Eves to continually delay an election call. (Even many *Progressive Conservative* candidates, in the expectation of a spring election, had already purchased billboards and rented campaign offices as early as March.)

As a result, the wheels were set in motion to launch Fp's election campaign on September 2, 2003 regardless of whether or not Eves held off his election call until the spring of 2004.

"By the time you receive this mailing," wrote Fp president Robert Metz in his September 1 covering letter to members and supporters, "a copy of the enclosed *Election'03* message from Freedom Party will have been distributed Ontario wide through the pages of the *National Post*. In all probability, Ernie Eves will have announced the election, even though he has until next spring before he *must* call the election."

To find how Freedom Party's brochure triggered the election, turn to page 4 for the story behind the story...

"The Right Direction..."

Fp PLATFORM STRESSES HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, ELECTRICITY

OSHAWA - May 16, 2003 - Released on the same day in response to the *Progressive Conservative* platform, *Experience for the Road Ahead*, Fp's official platform reminded voters that "Experience is no substitute for *The Right Direction*."

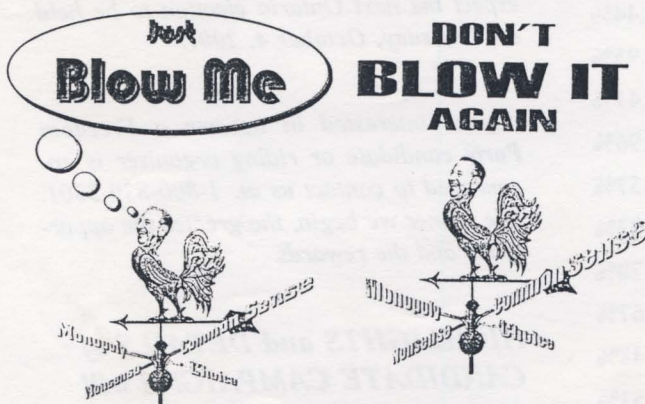
Calling for **choice in education**, **reliable electricity** at a lower price, and for **fast top-quality health care**, *Freedom Party's* platform was remarkably far more mainstream than what any of the major parties were talking about.

"Mr. Eves apparently thinks the road ahead, for Ontario, should continuously take you where you have already been many times before," responded Fp leader Paul McKeever from his Oshawa law offices in a province-wide media release. Referring to the go-cart track from which Eves released his party's platform, McKeever further added: "(Mr. Eves) is going around and around and getting nowhere at all."

Other highlights from *Freedom Party's Right Direction* platform included:

- * **Municipal Revenue Reform:** replacing the property tax with a consumption tax;
- * An end to the 4.3 cent per kWh price cap and a facilitation of "net metering" (which allows home owners to offset their own consumption);
- * An end to provincial **capital gains tax**; and
- * The introduction of a **voter card** that will curb the current grossly high potential for voter fraud.

Details of these, and other Freedom Party 2003 Election platform issues are available at Freedom Party's website: www.freedomparty.on.ca. {end}



Now you see it, now you don't. To see it again, see pages 4-5.

TWO DOZEN CANDIDATES PROPEL FREEDOM PARTY TO PROVINCIAL STAGE

ONTARIO - September 2 - October 2, 2003 - Thanks to the growth in the number of candidates fielded by **Freedom Party** in its sixth election, for the first time, the party was able to propel its presence beyond the local riding level into the provincial realm. **Fp's** growth in the number of candidates fielded since its registration in 1984 has been steady: 1985: 3; 1987: 9; 1990: 10; 1995: 12; 1999: 14; 2003: 24.

The recruiting efforts of **Fp** vice-president **Bill Frampton**, combined with several election workshops conducted by campaign director **Robert Vaughan**, almost doubled the number of **Fp** candidates fielded in the previous election. Factors affecting the final number of candidates all revolved around the ultimate timing of the election call, a matter entirely in the hands of Ontario premier Ernie Eves. To complicate matters further, long prior to the dropping of

the writ, many candidates were already on the election trail (see last issue, *Freedom Flyer*). Even with respect to calling the election, uncertainty was a trademark of the Eves' government.

Once registered and nominated, **Freedom Party** candidates were generally free to determine the size of their campaigns, based upon their own budgets, time available, etc. While some **Freedom Party** candidates distributed tens of thousands of pieces of literature, spent money on newspaper advertising, election signs, and received good media coverage, others ran minimal campaigns and/or everything in between. Regardless of the amount of effort expended at the riding level, vote results were fairly consistent, demonstrating once again the importance of

(continued on next page...)

Fp ELECTION RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Brampton Centre	Dove, Wally	356 / 0.93%
Brampton West-Mississauga	Purdy, John	266 / 0.42%
Davenport	Cauchi, Franz	264 / 1.00%
Don Valley East	Simmons, Wayne	119 / 0.32%
Durham	McKeever, Cathy	707 / 1.40%
Elgin-Middlesex-London	Monteith, Ray	671 / 1.54%
Huron-Bruce	Sabharwal, Robert	127 / 0.29%
Chatham-Kent Essex	Rodman, David	281 / 0.72%
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex	Forbes, Wayne	780 / 1.90%
London North Centre	Turner, Lisa	242 / 0.52%
London-Fanshawe	Davidson, Mike	493 / 1.27%
London West	Frampton, William	160 / 0.93%
Oshawa	McKeever, Paul	518 / 1.33%
Ottawa Centre	Szymanowicz, Matt	218 / 0.44%
Oxford	Blair, Paul	404 / 0.95%
Parkdale-High Park	Field, Richard	165 / 0.41%
Perth-Middlesex	Smink, Rob	384 / 0.96%
Prince Edward-Hastings	Tuck, Trueman	229 / 0.57%
Sarnia - Lambton	Falby, Andrew	316 / 0.83%
St. Paul's	Leborg, Carol	354 / 0.78%
Thornhill	King, Lindsay G.	304 / 0.67%
Toronto Centre-Rosedale	Ursomarzo, Silvio	218 / 0.48%
Haliburton-Victoria-Brock	Olito, Charles	273 / 0.53%
Willowdale	Byrnes, Vaughan	227 / 0.49%

***At Left:** Organized alphabetically by riding, the average vote percentages of **Freedom Party's** 24 Election'03 candidates were generally the same as that of candidates in its past five elections. What has increased (with each election) is the number of candidates fielded, the amount of money raised, and the provincial profile of the party.*

*Until **Freedom Party** reaches 'critical mass,' (i.e., a full slate of candidates with fully active full-time riding associations), votes, per se, will remain elusive, no matter how well the party may fare on any other level. It is for this reason that we must begin NOW to prepare for the next election. If Dalton McGuinty's government keeps its promise (!?) of holding fixed election dates, we can expect the next Ontario election to be held on Thursday, October 4, 2007.*

*Anyone interested in become a **Freedom Party** candidate or riding organizer is encouraged to contact us at: 1-800-830-3301. The sooner we begin, the greater the opportunity and the rewards.*

HIGHLIGHTS and DETAILS of CANDIDATE CAMPAIGNS will be featured in the next issue of Freedom Flyer.

(...cont'd from prev page)

establishing a strong party identity as a prerequisite to candidate success. But the relationship of candidate to party is symbiotic: the prerequisite to establishing a strong party identity is a full slate of dedicated candidates supported by volunteers and organizers. Call it a 'Catch-106', so to speak.

RESULTS

In his 'Freedom Party election debriefing' memo to candidates on the day following the election, **Fp** leader **Paul McKeever** assured candidates that their efforts represented a valuable investment in the future of **Freedom Party**:

"Thank you, and thank yourself, for doing this necessary job. It takes guts and determination, and you all showed both. Congratulations: because of your efforts, we (a) raised party revenues considerably, (b) for the most part did not get called 'fringe,' and (c) ran many more candidates than we ever did before.

"There were other successes too, though many of you may not be aware of them. We established contacts with, and respect from, important political writers, think-tanks and editors. We got TV coverage from sources we never have before. Most importantly, we grew - financially, in terms of candidates, in terms of supporters, in terms of credibility, in terms of peoples' awareness of us.

"Finally, let's be clear: the election was lost by the PCs, not won by the Liberals. The Tories have been gutted. Many ministers lost their seats, including red-Tory finance minister Janet Ecker. The red-blue split that occurred federally may very well now ripple into the provincial sphere. It needs to happen, because oil (socialism) and water (capitalism) do not mix.

"The whole situation spells OPPORTUNITY for **Fp**." {end}

Openers...

Opportunity Calling

Thoughts On the Ontario Liberal Sweep

- Bill Frampton

(Fp Vice-president and candidate for London West, October 4, 2003)

Well folks, the polls were pretty accurate and the *Liberal Party* was swept into office in Ontario winning 72 seats to 24 for the *Progressive Conservatives* and 7 for the NDP. This represents a great opportunity for **Freedom Party** to build for the future.

First, we have four years to prepare for a campaign that will consequently be much bigger and better than this one was. We'll be starting on that before long, and I have every confidence that we will have 106 committed, dedicated candidates ready to go before the next election is called.

Second, in **Paul McKeever** we have a leader who is second to none and who predicted this very outcome. Paul is a leader with vision who can implement a strategy for success in the years ahead. Last winter, Paul predicted we would have power blackouts before loing and in the summer he was proven correct. I was proud to be a member of Paul's team and would be equally proud to do so again.

Third, the PCs will be in disarray having been reduced to a small remnant of the caucus they had in the legislature before. It remains to be seen if Jim Flaherty or the other former Cabinet ministers will want the job of rebuilding the coalition of blue and pink Tories to challenge the Liberals who have won such a big victory. Indeed, the finger-pointing and scapegoat hunting has already begun and promises to divide the Tories even more than they already are. Putting 'Humpty' together again will be a hard, thankless task and **Freedom Party** will be ready to offer any disaffected PCs --- of which there are bound to be many after the hammering they took Thursday --- a home in which they can feel welcome and a platform they can be comfortable with.

Fourth, there is no way the Liberals can possibly keep the promises they have made, meaning that health care, education, electricity and auto insurance will continue to be major issues that only **Freedom Party** is ready and able to address with common sense, workable solution based on the principle of doing the right thing because it's the right thing to do.

To sum up, these results mean that opportunity is knocking on **Freedom Party's** door in a major way. The opportunity is ours to seize, and I have no doubt that we will do so. I salute all our candidates for their efforts in the campaign and I look forward with relish to the next one!

{end}

Freedom Party
Just right for Ontario...



FREEDOM PARTY ELECTION MESSAGE IGNORED, LOVED, HATED

ONTARIO - September 2, 2003 - Media silence was deafening as 130,000 copies of **Freedom Party's** 2003 election message were delivered across Ontario in a single day. Distributed as an insert in the pages of the **National Post** during the early hours of the morning, panic from the Eves' camp was clearly evident by late morning.

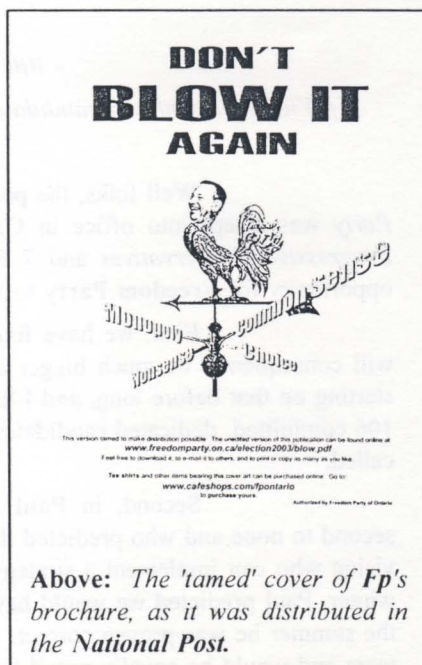
With an election call not expected for at least another one or two weeks (according to virtually every media source), Eves' sudden Tuesday announcement (first heard on *CFRB Radio* at 11:10 am, uncharacteristically without any prior media release) that a noon-hour media event would be held at *Queens Park* was no coincidence.

High noon on September 2 was the precise time and date that *Freedom Party* leader Paul McKeever and several of *Freedom Party's* candidates would be at the corner of King and Bay Streets to distribute the unedited version of the ad to pedestrian traffic in the area. *Freedom Party's* planned event was announced in an early morning media release, to coincide with distribution of the brochures in the *National Post*.

Eves' noon-hour election call served its purpose: all the media were at Queens Park, and not at King and Bay.

It was clear from the outset that no one was ready for the early election call, including *Elections Ontario*, which had not yet set up its riding offices or otherwise made its services available to local area candidates of every party.

It would be difficult to predict what response may have occurred had **Freedom Party's** brochure run in the



Above: The 'tamed' cover of Fp's brochure, as it was distributed in the *National Post*.

spring of 2003, and unedited, as originally intended.

HISTORY

Developed over a period of two years, the brochure, as it appears on the page opposite, was originally approved in May 2003 'as is' by officials at the *National Post* for distribution in the spring of 2003, which was when Ontario premier Ernie Eves was widely expected to call an election (See last issue of *Freedom Flyer*).

However, that election call did not come, and during the summer of 2003, management of the *National Post* changed hands.

"There are some new people who have reviewed the headline and apparently there are some concerns being registered about it," *National Post* rep Jim Beattie informed **Fp** president Robert Metz on the morning of August 6, 2003, only hours before **Fp**'s printer was about to ink 200,000 copies of the ad.

The cover of the originally approved ad at right was toned down at the last minute to accommodate the sudden new sensitivity at the paper. The phrase 'Just Blow Me' was changed by **Fp** executive to 'Don't Blow It Again,' a compromise that regrettably altered the intended message and focus of our ad.

In an attempt to prevent our message from being softened and misinterpreted, we first approached the **Globe and Mail** to distribute the original version.

Again, as with the *National Post*, we were first assured that there would be no problem, but after having the original version of the brochure reviewed by other *G&M* executives and lawyers, it was deemed unacceptable for

(MESSAGE... concluded on back cover...)

At Right: - from the National Post, Sept 2, 2003: *On the very day of the election call, and in the same issue that Fp's brochure was inserted, an unnamed "senior Tory source" predicts an election call "within days."*

Election call in days: Tory source

BY APRIL LINDGREN

TORONTO • Ernie Eves, the Ontario Premier, is expected to call a provincial election within days, setting the stage for a campaign that will focus on taxes and leadership and culminate in an early October vote.

The call will come "in the next several days, assuming we get a few things cleared up," said a senior Tory source. With provincial electoral laws requiring a minimum 28-day campaign, an election announcement tomorrow would allow for an Oct. 2 vote.

A call later in the week or early

next week would mean a slightly longer campaign leading to an Oct. 9 vote.

"Have we been given the official word of an official date? The answer at this point is no," another senior Tory source said yesterday.

While the Premier could wait until June, 2004, to go to the polls, even Tory faithful say that would test the endurance of a team that was ready to go earlier this year and is in high gear once again.

Mr. Eves recently received good marks from voters for his handling of the province's electricity crisis. But, surveys taken during and just after the blackout show the Premier's good performance rating

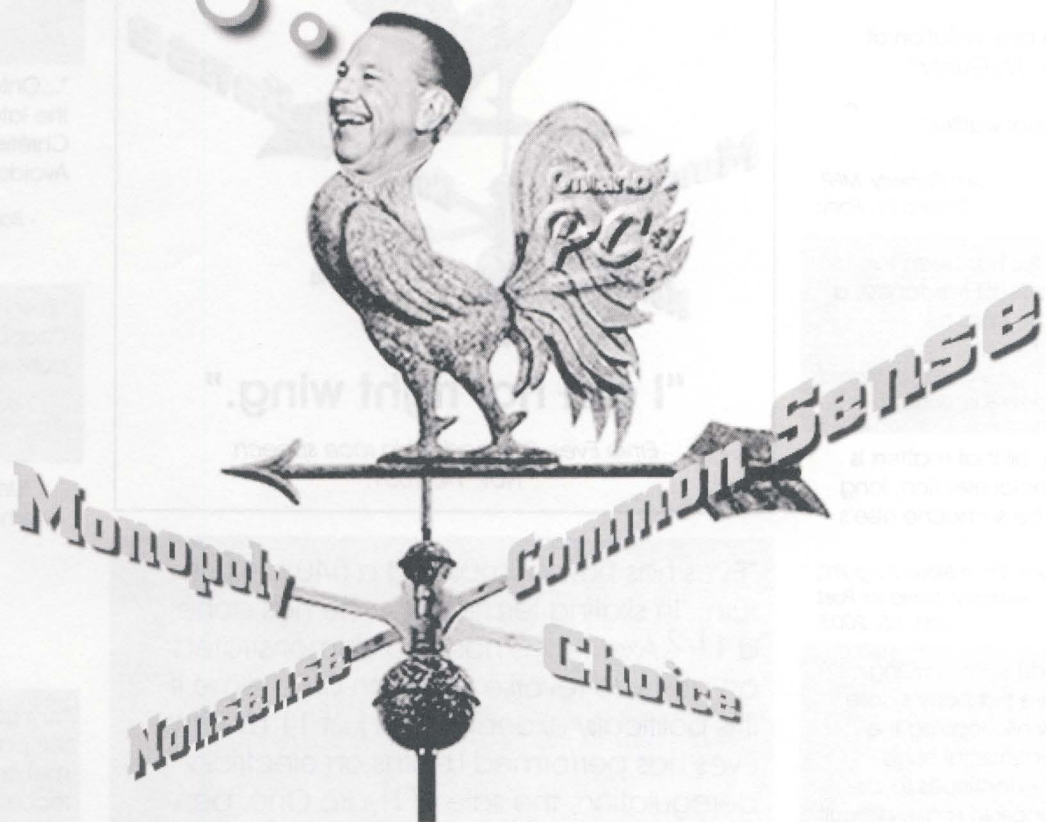
has not translated into improvements in his Conservative party's standing. The Tories still trail the Liberals under Dalton McGuinty by 13 to 14 points, depending on the poll.

Just before the 1999 election, the Conservatives had an eight- to 11-point advantage over the Liberals under Mr. McGuinty, a rookie leader at the time.

The New Democrats, under leader Howard Hampton, are trailing with 15% support in the most recent survey, but could play a key roll in any minority government scenario, something that has not been ruled out.

CanWest News Service

Just Blow Me



This publication can also be found online at:

www.freedomparty.on.ca/election2003/blow.pdf

Feel free to download it, to e-mail it to others, and to print or copy as many as you like.

Tee shirts and other items bearing this cover art can be purchased online. Go to:

www.cafeshops.com/fpontario

to purchase yours.

Authorized by Freedom Party of Ontario

Trust?

"He considers himself a Mike Harris conservative but Ernie Eves spent his first eight months in office repudiating the Common Sense Revolution of the former premier."

- Robert Benzie,
National Post, Dec. 30, 2002.

"It's disappointing...Eves seems to be saying that everything Harris did was wrong. The 'pink Tories' have taken over the ship."

- Richard Van Seters,
member of Tory "Blue Committee",
quoted in Report Magazine,
Jul. 22, 2002.

Ernie Eves:

"...a pale pink imitation of
Dalton McGuinty."

"A serial waffler."

- Jim Flaherty, MPP,
Ontario PC Party.

"Eves' style so far has been to take the line of least resistance, a marked change from his predecessor..."

- Christina Blizzard,
Toronto Sun, Jan. 24, 2003.

"...for Mr. Eves, all that matters is the next provincial election; long term pain will be someone else's problem."

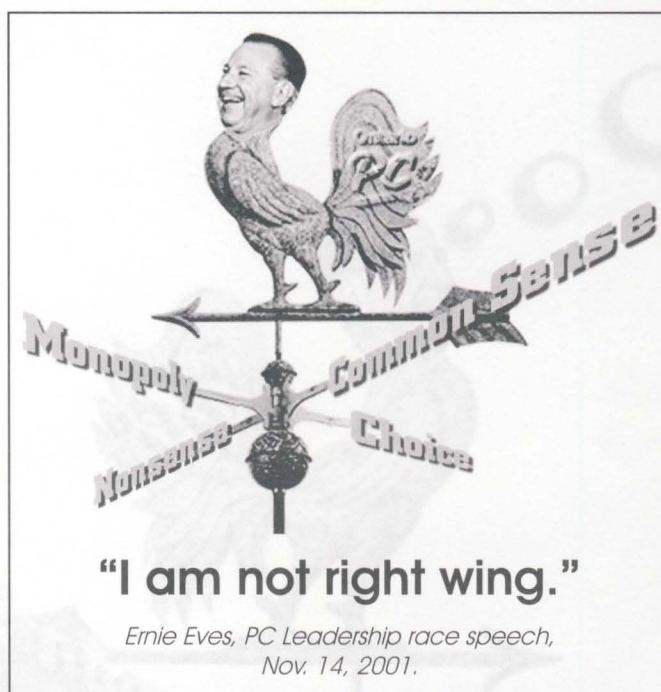
- from "Ernie Blows it Again",
editorial, National Post,
Jan. 25, 2003.

"Mr. Eves - apart from a willingness to alienate the party's core constituency while leaving the broad centre distrustful of his competence - continues to display a reluctance to make difficult decisions, a certain ineptness in choosing staff, and a general lack of engagement with his rather important job."

- John Ibbitson,
Globe and Mail, Nov. 25, 2002.

"[The Progressive Conservatives'] bungling of the Hydro privatization file, their delay of promised tax cuts last year, and their disastrous decision to deliver their latest budget at an auto parts plant, rather than in the Legislature, to cite just a few examples, are all signs of a government that lacks direction and purpose."

- Toronto Sun Editorial,
May 18, 2003.



"Eves has now completed a 540 degree turn. In skating terminology, he has done a 1 1/2 Axel...Eves has also demonstrated an ability to reverse direction on a dime if it is politically expedient. In just 11 months, Eves has performed U-turns on electricity deregulation, the sale of Hydro One, pension surplus regulations, nursing home fee hikes, and his own severance pay...He can always swallow himself again."

- Ian Urquhart,
Toronto Star, Mar. 24, 2003.

April 16, 2003: Eves on a mortgage interest deduction: "When I presented the cost to [Mike Harris in 1996], he asked me what drugs I was on. You can't go there." - Toronto Sun

May 16, 2003: PC platform features mortgage interest deduction.

On curriculum in independent schools: "These tax credits should be available only to parents whose children are in schools that teach the curriculum set out by the Ministry of Education."

- Ernie Eves, Globe and Mail,
Nov. 16, 2001

"...Ontario Premier Ernie Eves, the latest graduate of the Jean Chrétien School of Leadership Avoidance..."

- Barry Cooper and David Bercuson,
Calgary Herald, Apr. 30, 2003.

"Every day I grow more and more disappointed to be an Ontarian, a conservative Ontarian."

- Bay Street executive,
quoted in Globe and Mail,
Jan. 23, 2003.

"Unfortunately, I didn't know that we have a Premier who is a complete lunatic..."

- Rebecca MacDonald,
President and CEO,
quoted in Financial Post,
Nov. 13, 2002.

"...a government that has shown in the past eight months that it hasn't met any policy that it didn't want to reconsider if there was any electoral advantage in doing so."

- Murray Campbell,
Globe and Mail, Dec. 23, 2002.

The Tories are in total disarray."

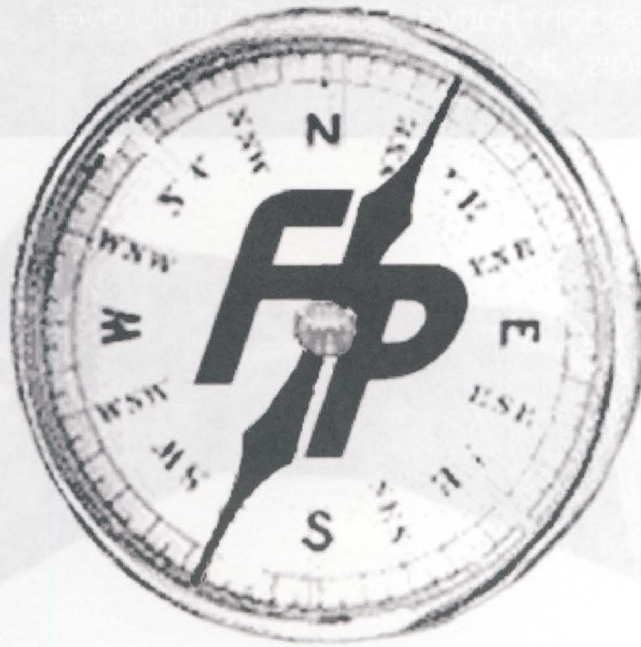
- Christina Blizzard,
Toronto Sun, Jan. 15, 2003.

"Ontario, in particular, has been directionless since the pathologically centrist Ernie Eves took over as Premier last April."

- National Post editorial, Jan. 16, 2003

Trust.

Freedom Party



Leading in the Right Direction

Choice in Education

Parental choice, including curriculum, teaching methods, and learning environment.
Pay only for the school to which you choose to send your child.

Reliable Electricity, Lower Price

More companies cleanly generating more electricity.
No borrowing, no rationing, no rolling black-outs, no brown-outs.

Fast, Nearby, Top-Quality Health Care

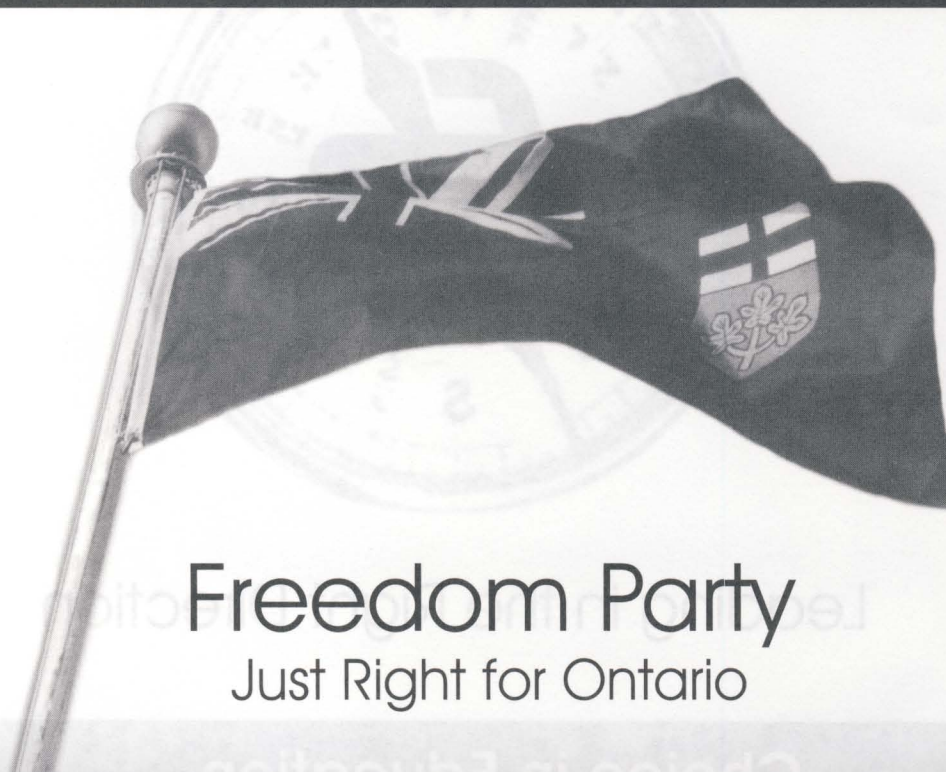
The freedom to access the health care you need, when you want it, where you want it, and from whom you want it. No rationing, no "queue".

A Message from

Paul McKeever

Leader, Freedom Party of Ontario

"I firmly believe that the greatness of a society is determined not by its government's tendency to divide a single loaf of bread evenly, but by the efforts of its members to produce enough loaves for everyone. Individual choice, personal responsibility, dignity, prosperity and justice. That is Freedom Party's vision for Ontario over the next four to five years. It all starts with *your* vote."



Freedom Party Just Right for Ontario

Find the name of your Freedom Party candidate on the web:

www.freedomparty.on.ca/candidates

Name: _____
City: _____
Phone (home): _____
FAX: _____

Street Address: _____
Postal Code: _____
Phone (business): _____
e-mail: _____

☐ I want to join Fp. ☐ You may put an election sign on my lawn.

I enclose my contribution* of (circle one): \$1000 \$300 \$100 \$25 Other: _____

I am making payment by (circle one) CHEQUE MONEY ORDER CREDIT CARD
(Please make cheques/money orders payable to "Freedom Party of Ontario")

Credit Card (circle one): Visa / Mastercard / Americian Express

Credit Card Number:

Expires:

*tax creditable



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Leading in the right direction...

McKEEVER TARGETS EVES' SOCIALISM

ONTARIO - September 21, 2002 - October 2, 2003 - In his first election as Freedom Party's leader, Paul McKeever set his sights on the first obstacle to Freedom Party's electoral advancement: the perception that Ontario's *Progressive Conservative Party* (PC) was still a common sense political party standing in opposition to government monopolies and market controls. Citing the election of Ernie Eves as leader of the PC party, McKeever, at **Freedom Party's** official election kick-off event in Belleville on September 21, 2002, called for a "re-assembly" of those who still supported a common sense approach to government.

"Mr. Eves abandoned his party's former course," stressed McKeever. "By amending it, he violated the spirit of the very Taxpayer Protection legislation that his own party made law. He did so so as to break with the commitments of the Harris government. He did so to court the left, and, in doing so, opened very wide a door for a political party with a track record of defending and supporting individual choice and personal responsibility." (See last issue of *Freedom Flyer* for a transcript of McKeever's address and for media reaction.)

It was this message, accompanied by vivid examples illustrating his point, that McKeever took to the media right across Ontario. A shrewd observer of the political scene, many of McKeever's political predictions proved to be prophetic, even some that seemed quite hard to believe at the time. Like his 2002 prediction that, as a consequence of Eves' 4.3 cent per kWh price cap on electricity, Ontario would experience a power black out and rolling brown-outs as soon as temperatures peaked in the summer of 2003.

"No borrowing, no rationing, no rolling black-outs, no brown-outs," reads **Fp's** election brochure, written and submitted to the *National Post* many months before Ontario experienced the black-out and a week of brown-outs in the summer of 2003.

GENERATING INTEREST IN ELECTRICITY

"The only way (they're) going to be able to save (their) skin, (whether we're talking Eves or McGuinty, because they're on the exact same page on this)," explained McKeever to interviewer **Jim Chapman** in London (*Jim Chapman Live, Rogers TV*, November 27, 2002), "is if they bring these nuclear reactors on line.

(McKEEVER... continued on next page)

At Right: - from the *Toronto Sun*, September 19, 2003: *Queens Park Columnist Christina Blizzard notes that Fp leader Paul McKeever "not only swiped the Tory colours, he has taken over the entire right wing of the political spectrum, and sounds an awful lot like a Mike Harris revolutionary."*

Perfect fit

Can union man Sid Ryan return Oshawa to the NDP fold?

Sid Ryan seems to have finally found the perfect fit. He is, after all, a gritty union guy. And Oshawa is a hardscrabble union city, the kind of riding that once regularly returned New Democrats to Queen's Park. Since 1995, though, Oshawa has been a Tory bastion, although Ryan, the head of CUPE Ontario, wants to return the city, home of the massive General Motors plant, to the NDP fold.

Ryan points to downtown Oshawa and tells you it's dying.

You hear it from residents, as well. They point to their downtown and wonder why it isn't thriving like Milton's or Burlington's.

And in neighbouring communities like Whitby and Bowmanville the waterfronts are attractively developed. Oshawa's is decaying and the marina was threatened with closure. There's even a fight to keep the hockey team, the Generals of the OHL, in town.

"Nothing attracts people into downtown Oshawa," says Ryan. Last election, he ran a poor third in Scarborough Centre. This time, he's well organized and has inherited some of Ed Broadbent's powerful election machinery.

"Why should a community like Oshawa lose its marina when they're putting millions into Whitby and Bowmanville?" he asks. Ryan points out that with its strong tax base from the GM plant, the city should be booming.

He hears the same things as he goes door to door. Brenda Marley and Ian and Anne MacLeod are having a morning cup of coffee in a lakefront backyard. They're upset at vandalism and pollution at a local pond. Anne complains about the doctor shortage. She became ill with pneumonia last winter and couldn't get care locally. Ryan rattles off the NDP mantra on health care.

When Ian raises the tax break the Tories will give to seniors, Ryan steers them over to the NDP plan for public auto insurance, and says they'll save more money on that than on a tax break.

Brenda and Anne MacLeod seem impressed. Ian doesn't appear swayed, but he's at least polite.

You hear similar concerns up and down the street. April West is a health care worker, but she's primarily concerned about schools. She's upset at the way the Tories cut Grade 13.

"We're talking about putting \$2 billion back in the school system," Ryan tells her.

"That's nice, but it's not going to help my daughter," West replies.

Curiously, Tory incumbent Jerry Ouellette isn't running under the classic Tory blue signs. Freedom Party candidate Paul McKeever has hijacked the colour.

Ouellette admits he's in a tight battle with Ryan. Part of the problem, he says, is that his duties as minister of natural resources kept him out of the riding.

"The difficulty is, when I was at Queen's Park and dealing with forest fires and softwood lumber, Sid was out campaigning," Ouellette says.

"He's been door-knocking full time and phone-banking full time while I've been busy as an MPP." All the same, the NDP's strong showing is strengthening the resolve of the Tories and more volunteers.

are showing up, Ouellette says. Liberal Chris Topple admits this just isn't a riding where the Grits have done well in living memory. In fact, they haven't won here in more than 50 years. But he has hopes.

"I believe it's a horse race," Topple says, adding that Ryan is "very condescending" at debates. A lifelong resident of the city, Topple ran second to Ouellette in the 1999 vote.

"Oshawa is no longer an NDP town. It's lost that CAW sponsorship," Topple says things are "volatile," and can go any way.

Meanwhile, while Ouellette is getting hammered on the left from Ryan, he's being torpedoed on the right by McKeever, who not only swiped the Tory colours, he has taken over the entire right wing of the political spectrum, and sounds an awful lot like a Mike Harris revolutionary. His views are strikingly similar to those of Tory Jim Flaherty, who represents the neighbouring riding of Whitby-Ajax.

"Eves is a red Tory in a blue ribbon," says McKeever.

"When we have a PC party led by Ernie Eves, we really have two Liberal parties and nothing on the right.

"That concerns me greatly. Five years is a long time to be governed by a Liberal, especially when you have a Liberal government federally."

Sure, the Freedom Party is considered a fringe, but with Ryan taking votes from the left and McKeever pulling away votes on the right, Ouellette's in a fight for his political life.

Blizzard appears Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays

E-mail: christina.blizzard@tor.sumpub.com



Christina
Blizzard
Queen's Park

(McKEEVER ...cont'd from previous page)

"Another huge mistake," explains McKeever. "If you look at the history of electricity and how we got into this mess in the first place, we were spending billions upon billions to run these price inefficient, cost inefficient nuclear stations when in reality what we needed to be focussing on was more cleaner sources, renewable sources of energy.

We shouldn't have been sinking \$2 billion of taxpayer money into putting *Pickering A* up --- years late, way over budget --- when in fact, even when we get it up and running, it's going to be very expensive to generate the electricity. Whereas if you had instead natural gas, water powered, air powered, solar powered alternatives to these things. What we're having right now is policy made up on the fly without any reference to the to the people who understand the system."

THE PRICE CAP SHELL GAME

"Eves is trying to distance himself from his own party's decision to open up the price of electricity to competition," said McKeever. "Which was wrong, not because there wasn't something to be done, but because he did the wrong thing.

"The right thing would have been to explain to the public how they can cap their own fees by entering into contracts with retailers, and to explain to them that this is a short term bumpy ride that is the result *not* of free market change, but (of) a pattern of twenty or thirty years of government controlled, price-capped, overly-taxed electricity suddenly coming on to your bill. The whole thing is shown; it's transparent. You can *see* it now. This is what you've *really* been paying for electricity all along. And now all he's really

doing is fooling people. Put a 4.3 cent cap on the bill, but the government keeps paying whatever the generator charges. So it's really a bit of a shell game."

Describing how the price cap was effectively a way in which to force people who conserve electricity into subsidizing the electric consumption of others, McKeever offered the following facts and explanation:

"Residential consumption in Ontario is 27%. The rest is commercial and industrial. When a good portion of it is paid through the tax system, guess what? The guy's who's doing his part trying to keep the lights low and just use a little bit of electricity pays a small bill but is paying for a lot of electricity that OTHER people use through the tax system. Who's hurt most? The poor! Ironically they're now going to be paying more for their electricity *with* the price caps, than they would have been paying *without* them. (November 27, 2002 - *Jim Chapman Live*, London)

McKEEVER on TAX REFORM

"No more property tax? You would say to people they don't have to pay any more property tax!?" reacted a somewhat disbelieving **Steve Pakin** to McKeever's proposal. "What would you replace it with?"

"We're saying that you've paid for that house with after-tax dollars," confidently responded McKeever. "It's your house. You're 70 years old. Why should you have to continue paying a rent to keep it? Instead, what should happen is that if you're consuming services, you should pay for your consumption. In conjunction with municipalities we would develop a consumption oriented tax from which they could then derive the revenues needed to replace the property tax."

Aired on September 11, 2003, McKeever's **Studio 2** interview on TV

Ontario generated more favorable public response to **Fp's** message than any other single identifiable media source. Host Steve Pakin's tight, informative and challenging interview covered all the basics: health care, education, electricity, property tax, auto insurance reform (eliminating no fault), and background information about **Fp** leader Paul McKeever.

ONTARIO'S FUTURE...

In a **CTV Television** news feature on **Freedom Party** aired in Toronto September 20, 2003, **Fp** leader Paul McKeever summed up Ontario's prospects for any meaningful change:

"We're going to be looking at 'Dalton Eves' or 'Ernie McGuinty' --- they really are the same fellow when it comes to policy. The differences are minuscule compared to what *Freedom Party* is offering the public. We really are offering them the only program that will make Ontario a better place."

Like the TV Ontario interview, *CTV's* news item covered all the essential policy issues, and in addition included footage of McKeever on the campaign trail in downtown Toronto plus an interview conducted in McKeever's own law offices.

UNCERTAINTY ON THE ROAD AHEAD

McKeever's Election'03 message continually emphasized the fact that both Eves and McGuinty could not be trusted, no matter what promises they might make to the public.

"If (Ontarians) cast their vote for the Liberals and the Conservatives again, they're going to get exactly what they've gotten," predicted McKeever.

(McKEEVER... continued on next page)

Tories roasted at debate

Education policies come under fire

BY LESLEY BOVIE
Staff Writer

OSHAWA - Somewhere across town, Jerry Ouellette's ears must have been ringing.

Unable to attend an Oshawa candidates' forum hosted by local teacher unions Wednesday night, the MPP and his Tory government were the evening's easy targets.

"An MPP is supposed to lobby government on your behalf," said Liberal Party candidate Chris Topple. "But nothing's been happening

for Oshawa for eight years."

"I hate to talk about the incumbent when he's not here, but it's his choice," added Paul McKeever, leader of the Freedom Party. "Let's face it, Jerry has a ministry that stocks fish ponds. I think there is a

See NDP page 5

At Left, Below: - from the front page of Oshawa This Week, September 19, 2003: Anti-Tory sentiment was front and center in media coverage of Fp leader Paul McKeever's home riding of Oshawa.

Ontario Election 2003



NDP would leave class models to bargaining

NDP from page 1

shelf-life for politicians and Jerry's past it."

Organizers of the forum said the Minister of Natural Resources had a previous dinner engagement with the Shriners Club. He offered an alternative date but it couldn't be accommodated, said Harvey Bischof, chief negotiator and executive officer of District 13 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation.

Asked if he felt the MPP's absence had anything to do with the fact educators were hosting the event, Mr. Bischof said, "He had a chance between the teachers federations and the Shriners. I think he knows who his constituents are."

In actuality, only two candidates were left to answer questions by the time the public had their turn. Sid Ryan, of

the New Democratic Party (NDP), had to leave one hour into the debate to attend another forum, while the Green Party's Karen Tweedle left at the close of the media panel's query, also for a previous engagement.

As expected, the right of teachers to strike was a hot topic. Mr. Topple blamed Mike Harris for evoking contempt for educators that has "filtered through MPPs right down to school boards."

"We will start with respect. We will start with good-faith bargaining, and investing \$1.8 billion over the next four years to education," said the Liberal candidate.

Mr. Ryan said the NDP would place a small surtax of about \$115 on incomes over \$100,000 to create a general education excellence fund. It would allow boards to hire more teachers and prevent labour strife.

"(Former Education Minister) John Snobelen said he was going to create a crisis in education and that's the 'most successful program he's ever put in place,'" said Mr. Ryan.

Asked about class sizes, Mr. McKeever said numbers didn't concern the Freedom Party, only performance. The Liberal party would cap classes at 20 students for up to Grade 3 and beyond that, only as more funding is available, said Mr. Topple.

The NDP would allow teachers to come up with class models at the collective bargaining table, said Mr. Ryan.

Like most of her answers that evening, Green Party candidate Ms. Tweedle was vague.

"We believe class effectiveness starts at home with parents," she said. "We'd like to see more after-school programs. We're just shuffling money around and our children are getting lost."

Below: - from the Toronto Sun, September 30, 2003:

Fp leader Paul McKeever's Official Platform message appeared as the paper's "Letter of the Day" two days before Ontarians cast their votes. Given the brief commentary made by Sun editors at the end of McKeever's message, it was clearly no secret which party would be winning the election.

LETTER OF THE DAY

FELLOW ONTARIANS, you have the opportunity to elect your member of the Ontario Legislature as little as once every four or five years. That is a long time between elections. Consider how much has changed in your life since 1999, or 1995.

In Thursday's provincial election, you will, in effect, be choosing your representative in a crew that will guide Ontario over sometimes stormy seas. But your vote will also play a much more important role: It will determine whether Ontario will merely follow the wind, or travel purposefully in a clearly mapped direction to a better future.

This is no time to sell your vote for a few cheap "wedge-issue" promises. In exchange for your vote, you deserve a clear vision for improvement and prosperity, not "experienced management" of the little you already have. A government with the courage to do what is right, consistently, rather than

the cowardly arrogance that schemes and flip-flops to avoid the loss of power and prestige. A premier who will work to facilitate Ontario's success, not someone who seeks only the easiest route to avoid failure.

From electricity to choice in schools, the very things that brought the Tories to power - a commitment to breaking up government monopolies, to more competition, and to more choice and personal responsibility - have now been ejected by the new red Tory management of the Ontario PC party.

In its place is a scatter-brained, make-it-up-as-you-go, grease-every-squeaky-wheel style of governance.

On the issues that will still matter five years from now - education, health, electricity - you will in fact see no real difference between the PCs, Liberals and NDP. All of those parties are firmly committed to forcing you to pay for

schools your children do not attend. All are committed to rationed health care. All are in favour of economically naive, dangerous and irresponsible price controls for electricity.

The Freedom Party of Ontario believes the greatness of a society is determined not by its government's tendency to divide a single loaf of bread evenly, but by the efforts of its members to produce enough loaves for everyone. Individual choice, personal responsibility, dignity, prosperity and justice: That is Freedom Party's vision for Ontario over the next four or five years. You can find out more about our platform at www.freedomparty.on.ca and we have 24 candidates running across the province. It all starts with your vote on Oct. 2.

Paul McKeever
Leader

Freedom Party of Ontario
(Good luck. It appears all right wing parties are going to need it)

(McKEEVER ...cont'd from previous page)

"A host of uncertainty. We've gone from crisis to crisis to crisis with this government. I can't see it being any different with Dalton McGuinty, who over the last week has changed about half of his policies 180 degrees from where he was two weeks ago. (Nov/02)

CAPITALISM vs SOCIALISM

"We are the only party proposing capitalism as a solution," McKeever clarified in two separate pre-election *Jim*

Chapman Live interviews aired in London on *Rogers Television*.

"People like to *believe* the Tories are proposing capitalism, but the fact of the matter is that if you look at the NDP, the *Liberals* and the Tories, their only solution is more public ownership of health care, more public ownership of schools, 'public-ownership-public-ownership-public-ownership', which can only mean 'tax-tax-tax' to fund them. That's not capitalism. That's socialism as much as they want to wrap it up in a capitalist robe.

"We are successful in Ontario *despite*

our socialism, not *because* of it," concludes McKeever. "More rules? If you look in the *Liberal* handbook, you'll find the word BAN or REGULATE more than you'll see anything along the lines of 'allow' or 'permit.'

"There are two ways in which to make people do something. You can either give them sugar, or you can give them a crack across the head with a whip. Freedom Party essentially says: 'Let people make a profit. Give them a *reason* to do something productive for society, and they'll do it.'" {end}

(...MESSAGE, cont'd from pg 4)

distribution. Concerns expressed by the *Globe and Mail* revolved not only around the double-entendre of the headline, but about the accuracy of the quotes on the second page of the brochure.

Perhaps the most frustrating part of the experience was knowing that virtually everyone at both papers who got to see the original brochure found it to be extremely humorous, some even suggesting that it was the "biggest laugh they've had in months." Most notably, it was clear that neither the *Globe and Mail* or the *National Post* made its decision on any majority rule process, since in both the cases, we were informed that it was only *one* executive or person in authority who vetoed the original version of the ad. Representatives at the *Globe and Mail* did not appear interested in distributing our version with the revised headline, and thus the decision to go with the *National Post* was made.

While some small papers and distributors had no issues with distributing the original version of Fp's brochure (i.e., the *St Marys Independent*, Fanshawe College's *Interrobang*), other papers such as the *Sarnia Observer* refused to accept Fp's advertising dollar with either version of the ad on the explicit grounds that they supported another political party. Other distributors, particularly in the Toronto area, refused to distribute Fp's brochure, incorrectly arguing that they were prohibited by government-imposed election black-out rules. Attempts to convince them that those rules do not apply to brochures (which is the fact), fell on deaf ears.

Over 10,000 Fp Election'03 brochures were hand-delivered door-to-door by **volunteers** in the London-area ridings, thanks to the incredible efforts of volunteers **Dave Durnin** (who was our #1 door-to-door distributor in Election'03), **Terry Clemens**, and **Dan Lenart**. While the vast majority of people clearly reacted favorably to Fp's brochure, a small but vocal minority predictably reacted with open hostility to having received a brochure with the words "*Just Blow Me*" in their mailboxes, and made sure to let us know. But the remarkable thing was this: *without exception*, when it was suggested by Fp president Robert Metz that they simply discard or throw the brochure away if they found it to be offensive, the typical response was: "No way. I'm going to show it to my friends..."

Mission accomplished.

{end}

Freedom Party



Just right for Ontario!

FREEDOM FLYER

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FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

Freedom Party of Ontario is a fully-registered Ontario political party. Contributions are tax-creditable for Ontario residents. **Statement of Principle:** Freedom Party is founded on the principle that: "Every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfillment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property. **Membership:** Basic: \$10 per year; **Provincial Executive:** *President:* Robert Metz; *Vice-president:* William Frampton; *Chief Financial Officer:* Paul Blair; *Executive Officers:* Paul McKeever, Gordon Mood, Carol Vandenberg; *Party Leader:* Paul McKeever.

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