

President's Message

Conservatives are not only listening, they are renewing



Keith Tuomi
President, University-Rosedale EDA

“ *the people are never wrong.*” So spoke **Stephen Harper** ... in his gracious election concession speech on October 19, 2015. Federal Conservatives, from all parts of Canada, have heard the people. At our National Convention, held at the end of May in Vancouver, delegates acted on these words: balanced budgets, measures to combat pollution, maintaining strong defence for Canada, fairness in recognizing marriage, promoting energy self-sufficiency – policies on all these topics were debated and passed in Vancouver. Common sense and decent policies for hard-working taxpayers. Policies for families. Policies in line with what University-Rosedale voters want.

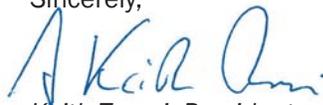
Conservatives are not only listening, they are renewing. Under the interim Leadership of **Rona Ambrose** a thorough and frank discussion is occurring within the party. In May, 2017, a new Federal Conservative Leader will be chosen. In this Newsletter, a brief message from each of the four confirmed leadership candidates is featured. **Dr. Kellie Leitch, Maxime Bernier, Michael Chong** and **Tony Clement** are all capable and proven advocates.

The renewal is taking place on a ‘grass-roots’ basis. On May 13, the EDA held a successful fundraiser featuring Maxime Bernier as special guest. On May 10, a National Council fundraiser was held in the EDA in support of **Ghina al-Sewaidi**’s bid to become one of the four members from Ontario of National Council. Both of these events were extremely well-attended.

Moving forward, this renewal will intensify. More events are planned for University-Rosedale, including EDA fundraisers, in the upcoming months, stretching into this autumn.

This is an exciting time to actively participate in shaping Canada’s future. Please be part of it!

Sincerely,



Keith Tuomi, President

2016 National Convention

Report from the National Convention



Interim Leader Rona Ambrose at the Conservative Convention in Vancouver on May 26, 2016.

Every two years the Conservative Party of Canada holds a National Convention, as mandated in our party’s Constitution. This national gathering has the power to amend and adopt our Policy Document, amend the Party’s Constitution, and elect National Council by secret ballot. The 2016 Convention took place from May 26 to 28 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Nearly 2000 delegates from across Canada, including 10 from University-Rosedale, attended.

On **Thursday** the main event was the opening of the convention, with speeches from our Interim Leader, the **Hon. Rona Ambrose**, outgoing party president **John Walsh**, **Laureen Harper**, and finally our former Prime Minister, the **Right Honourable Stephen Harper**. Every speaker stressed the importance of maintaining party unity if we are to be able to succeed in future elections. In a gracious and selfless speech, Mr. Harper thanked the many people who had put the Conservative Party of Canada into power for nearly 10 years, and closed by thanking his family for the support that made it possible.

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Visit us on-line for more news and photos:

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The 2017 Leadership

Meet the leadership candidates: *The first four confirmed Leadership Candidates provided these messages specifically for us here in University–Rosedale. We will elect our new CPC leader in May 2017. As a University–Rosedale member you can influence the outcome and future direction of the party. Please renew your membership now and get like-minded family and friends to join and participate in the discussion. Each riding across Canada will have an equal voice – but you must be a member to have an influence on the outcome!*



Kellie Leitch

I've been a Conservative activist since I was 14. I continue to work hard to visit ridings across the country and hear firsthand from EDA's like yours. Our members are the core foundation of our Party.

People often ask me what I stand for. The answer is simple: hard work and helping others. These are the values by which I've lived my life and I know many Canadians share and believe in these same values. Governments need to set

the conditions for people to work hard so that when they succeed they will better their families, their communities and our country. I want a government that increases the prosperity of Canadians. We do this through hard work so that we all enjoy the benefits of freedom. To beat the Liberals, we can't just talk about budgets and deficits. We have to explain, especially to young Canadians, why a strong, vibrant economy is important.

I have a lot of work to do as I travel the country and speak with members. I will work hard to earn your support and lead our Party to victory in 2019. If you would like to join our growing team, please contact us at [team@kellieworks.ca!](mailto:team@kellieworks.ca)



Maxime Bernier

Maxime Bernier is known as a dependable politician who speaks his mind. A man of ideas, his belief in personal responsibility and freedom is at the heart of his political vision. In his public statements, he expresses those values and his unwavering commitment to reducing the size of government.

Mr. Bernier has committed to balancing the budget in his first mandate. He proposes to put an end to the supply management cartel in Canada. He also wishes to phase-

out the CRTC in its role as a telecom regulator and allow foreign ownership and more competition. He also wants to put an end to all government grants, hand-out and subsidies to businesses but to lower taxes for all. He is an uncompromising conservative and believes that the Conservative Party will win the next election by sticking to its conservative free-market principles.

Mr. Bernier is a dedicated and experienced runner and has participated in several marathons. A tough and determined competitor, he once ran 106 km across his constituency, completing the run in 13 hours and raising \$165,000 for the Beauce food bank. He is the father of two girls.

www.maximebernier.com



Michael Chong

Why I'm Running

I'm running to be Conservative leader because it's time for a new generation of Conservative leadership.

I'm a fiscal conservative, who believes in lower taxes and balanced budgets. I believe Conservatives need to do better on environmental policy; to conserve Canada's environment for future generations is at the root of being

a Conservative. And I believe in restoring grassroots democracy – by empowering party members and elected MPs and curbing the power of the PMO. But most of all, I represent a new generation of Conservative leadership. My wife Carrie and I have three boys – we understand the challenges facing Canadian families. My family's story of immigration and hard work resonates with Canadians across the country - with those who have been here for generations and those recently arrived.

I believe we can do better than the path Justin Trudeau wants to take us down. And with your support, we will do better and we will win in 2019.

www.chong.ca



Tony Clement

"I am running on my experienced record as an economic, common-sense conservative that will focus on the pocketbook issues that Canadians care most about," said Mr. Clement. "On day one in office, I pledge to end Justin Trudeau's war on taxpayers and job creators."

Mr. Clement, an immigrant to Canada as a young man, a husband and father of three children, former small business owner, an experienced and

tested political leader elected in suburban and rural constituencies, is focused on empowering the party and country to succeed. "I am your leader who will empower our diverse membership, our caucus, the next generation, and all Canadians to realize their God given potential and succeed," said Mr. Clement.

Mr. Clement is committed to upholding conservative values at home and abroad. On the world stage, Mr. Clement has a strong record of standing-up for oppressed religious and ethnic minorities, and the promotion of freedom, human rights, justice and democracy. "I am the leader with a plan to expand our electoral coalition from big cities to small towns, and unite all Canadians behind a common-sense economic program that will deliver victory in 2019."

www.clementleadership.ca



Report from the National Convention (continued)

A huge crowd fills the main hall for the plenary session

Friday's main events were the breakout sessions, for discussion and voting on Policy and Constitution changes and amendments. The policy discussions were divided into three sessions, each attended by hundreds of delegates – *Role of Government, Environment and Economic Development;*



Stephen Harper and his wife Laureen at the Conservative Convention in Vancouver on May 26, 2016.

Criminal Justice and Social Policy; and *Foreign Policy, Canadian Culture and Diversity*. At each of these breakout sessions, delegates discussed and then voted upon new or amended policies, with the top 10 from each room moving on to the final vote at the Plenary session the next day. A similar process occurred for changes and amendments proposed for the CPC Constitution.

On Saturday nearly 2000 delegates came together in two sessions, the morning dedicated to Constitution issues and the afternoon for Policy Document changes that had made it out of the breakout sessions. We were organized by province, as the tally included not only the overall vote, but province-by-province vote, since a “double majority” (majority of total votes and a majority of provinces in support) was required to pass a new or amended policy.

Some of the policies that were passed included support for the development of Energy East Pipeline by private industry, removal

of a statement defining marriage as being the union of one man and one woman, conscience rights for religious organizations to not participate in activities that are incompatible with their faith and beliefs, and allowing peace officers to give tickets for possession of small quantities of marijuana rather than going through the criminal justice system.

The contribution of LGBTory members from University-Rosedale deserves special mention, as they spearheaded the change to the marriage policy, working together with fellow conservatives across Canada, taking the policy change through local and regional meetings so that they could be discussed in Vancouver, and then through the breakout and then plenary sessions. When this policy change passed, with support of several MPs who spoke in favour, it was the most emotional moment of the convention.



Delegates lining up to speak at the Criminal Justice and Social Policy issues breakout session.

The other important activity that occurs at each National Convention is voting for **National Council**, the body of representatives that runs the Conservative Party of Canada. Our very own **Ghina Al-Sewaidi**, founding president of the University-Rosedale EDA, ran for an Ontario seat. It was her first time at this, and although she did not win it was a close race, and a tremendous experience for her. **Scott Lamb** from British Columbia is the new President of the Conservative Party of Canada, taking over from **John Walsh**, who has done a

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Report from the National Convention *continued from page 3*



University-Rosedale's own Ghina Al-Sewaidi ran for National Council

tremendous job over the past seven years. The dedication and effort that this job requires cannot be overstated. Thank you John for all you've done, and thank you Scott for taking on this challenging role.

The event was extremely well organized and efficiently run (we are conservatives after all), with hundreds of volunteers helping out at all times. There were many other events, including an

on-stage Q&A session with the three then-declared leadership candidates, hospitality rooms from various organizations and the leadership candidates, a variety of social activities morning and evening, including the Fabulous Blue Tent - always the liveliest party at the Conservative Convention. National and local media were welcome at all of the events. Their coverage of the convention was very positive. The CBC described our party as "Democratic, Open, Self Aware, United, Young, Happy, Fun, Free and Proud". Yes, this was a CBC article!

The most striking impression we got from this event is of how broadly based and energetic this party is. It's obvious that all Canadians who believe in conservative ideas are welcome in the CPC – there are no barriers of sex, origin, language, race, religion, or sexual orientation. We have huge numbers of young active conservatives, and this portends a bright future. Our finances are sound, and we have a large caucus with considerable experience that has already proven itself very effective in Parliament. Our supporters contribute of their time and money more than those of the other parties. The future looks good – we just have to get out there and mobilize all these resources to win in 2019.



*Gyl Midroni
Communications Chair*

Meet Kary Cozens *Youth Chair*

The biggest university in Canada is located in the heart of our riding, a world-class institution of learning in science, law, business and the arts. The University of Toronto also has a "best in class" conservative students association, the **University of Toronto Campus Conservatives**.

We have been pleased to support a variety of their activities in the past year, including financial support to participate in leadership activities in Ottawa and support for a pub night when a leadership candidate came to town.



Kary Cozens

Kary Cozens, our Youth Chair, keeps us connected with the UTCCs and the issues that are important to young conservatives. These energetic young people are future conservative standard bearers, and it's vital that we encourage their participation in the political process. Your donations to the University-Rosedale EDA allow us to continue to support these conservatives of the future.

www.facebook.com/uoftconservatives

EDA Reception with Maxime Bernier



On May 13, 2016, an enthusiastic group at the home of Keith and Jane Tuomi heard the Hon. Maxime Bernier speak about his policies and vision for Canada. Proceeds from this event help support the University-Rosedale EDA. The EDA intends to invite each candidate for the Conservative leadership to speak at an EDA Fundraiser before the vote in May 2017, giving University-Rosedale CPC members an opportunity to meet the prospective party leaders.

Toronto PRIDE 2016



The conservative contingent in the 2016 Toronto PRIDE Parade on July 3rd included Kellie Leitch, Interim Leader Rona Ambrose, Patrick Brown (Leader, OPC), Maxime Bernier, Lisa MacLeod (OPC) and Michael Chong.

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