

## “MONOPOLY UBER ALLES”

LONDON - APRIL 7, 2016 - It was Round Two in a one-on-one confrontation between London taxi industry representative Roger Caranci who wants to keep the city's regulated cab monopoly entrenched, and FP president Robert Metz, who wants to see the taxi industry freed from the shackles of city hall entirely. Round One occurred back on August 31 2015 and both rounds were heard on CJBK am 1290's Live Drive talk-show hosted by Andy Oudman. (Both can be heard in their entirety on line.)

After hearing several members of the taxi industry complain about Uber because the 'ride-sharing' service is not operating on "a level playing field," it became quite clear that the level playing field being advocated was really a levelled playing field - a continued monopoly with a maximum number of licensed drivers permitted to operate within a municipality. Shamefully, none of the monopolists will face up to this stark reality - including Roger Caranci who after having twice been asked if this is the real objective, continued to use distraction and other non-related issues to avoid answering the question.

### The bottom line on Uber:

When the current taxi monopolists say that they want Uber to operate on a 'level playing field' or to 'obey the law', the real law being pursued is the political limit set on the number of licenses for cab drivers permitted within the city - a limit that should never exist in anything resembling a free market. In a free market, prices determine how many providers of a given service will exist, and those numbers will change and fluctuate with supply and demand. That's why prices are always lowest in a free market, and of course low prices are not what the taxi monopoly wants. Like all monopolies, they want to offer less for more.

Opposing the taxi monopoly is nothing new to Freedom Party, which was already campaigning for a free market in taxi services



long before anyone ever heard of Uber. As long ago as November 1993, when FP supported the Taxi Reform Coalition in its bid to end 'Licence Trafficking', FP's stand on fighting government monopolies in the economic marketplace has remained consistent and principled.

### A limited playing field, not a level one:

Whatever else one may observe about the Uber phenomenon, it certainly serves as a test-tube illustration of how politicians are at constant odds with a free market. It is a classic example of how politicians at every level choose to represent special interests rather than individual rights and the general welfare of the public or consumers. Politicians limit and ration services, set high prices well outside of market rates, and pick their own winners and losers in the marketplace.

On September 16, 2016, a day designated as an 'International Day Of Protest' against Uber drivers, FP president Robert Metz found himself debating James Donnelly, president of Blue and White Taxi in London, again, on Andy Oudman's Live Drive talk show.

"We get a city-set rate," said Donnelly during his exchange with Metz. "In return, the city helps us maintain sustainability in slow times by limiting the number of cabs. That's it."

And that is it. Crony politics. Nobody else even gets a vote.

Worse, to justify this unjustifiable state of affairs, Donnelly resorted to bizarre and irrelevant distractions, arguing that: (1) the food supply is heavily regulated (Who knew there was a limit on the number of bananas and apples allowed?); (2) that cabs are an essential service (and therefore must be limited by law - to 'prevent a flood' of service providers !?!); (3) that competition in the industry is already illegal and should therefore be kept so (too self-serving to need comment); (4) that Uber drivers lack everything from adequate insurance, safe vehicles, adequate back-ground checks, and all the other distractions used in the attempt to hang on to their monopoly.

"Monopoly means one. Four is not one," argued London's taxi monopolists, referring to the four cab companies permitted to operate in the city. But their monopoly is not a business (economic) monopoly; it is a political one. The 'one' is the city. In London, the city sets the rates; none of the four 'competing' cab companies may do so. The city sets the number of drivers allowed; the 'competing' cab companies must all ration the allowable number of drivers between them.

We call that a monopoly. Stay tuned for more. {end}

## DECISION ON COMPLAINT RENDERED

ELECTIONS ONTARIO, January 11, 2016 - In response to a complaint filed by Freedom Party that London-West Liberal Party candidate Ken Coran's campaign was contravening regulations by advertising on radio during the official blackout period in the 2013 by-election, Freedom Party leader Paul McKeever has now been informed of the final decision:

Kevin Thomas, Manager of Compliance Enforcement with Elections Ontario reports: "Following a full investigation and consideration of the facts, the Chief Electoral Officer has decided to take no further action against the Ken Coran campaign or AM980 in relation to this matter and your complaint has been closed accordingly.

"We have written to the Ontario Liberal Party and the radio station, stressing the importance of future due diligence in relation to the timing of publication of political advertisements during political campaigns, indicating that future such infractions may not be tolerated." {end}

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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." Freedom Party advocates capitalism solely because it is the only system compatible with reality, reason, and the pursuit of one's own happiness.

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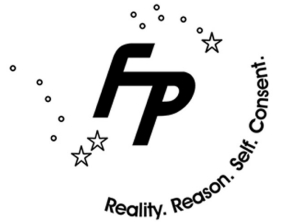
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# FP NEWS

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## CARBON COPIES on CLIMATE CHANGE

Kathleen Wynne (L) - Patrick Brown (PC) - Andrea Horwath (NDP)



ABOVE: Not right, but left: PCs finally come out of the closet

### Whitby-Oshawa by-election...

## “NO THANKS...” says FP candidate Doug Thom to Ontario’s beer monopoly

WHITBY-OSHAWA - JANUARY 17, 2016 - The long-awaited by-election in Whitby-Oshawa was finally called for February 11, 2016, and a new year of preparing Freedom Party for the next general election had begun.

FP candidate Douglas Thom assured that Freedom Party had a spot on the ballot and made it possible for voters in his home riding to have a real choice at the polls. With Wynne's government having begun to hypocritically entrench its state monopoly on brewery sales (for foreign-owned by private interests!) through an illusory expansion of consumer 'choice', Doug's stand was clear:

"A six-pack in the grocery store? This isn't freedom, it's a rude insult to remind us we have nothing of the sort. Too many laws are out there to protect us from ourselves and too many taxes levied to fund them. Politicians have no idea how to run a brewery, and no business meddling in it. It's time for a government that stands behind you, and not in your way."

Adds Doug: "I am a member of a local craft brewery and love to stop in for a sip of the latest concoction. To see what they've gone through just to get me that sip is astounding. Innovation, the bravery to start a business, the compassion to employ people and bolster the community, the desire to grow, and all of these bombarded by all kinds of arbitrary roadblocks."

{BY-ELECTION continued on page 3...}

### The Taxing Realities of Carbonated Politics - by Robert Metz

TORONTO - March 7, 2016 - We have seen our enemy and the enemy is Ontario's Progressive Conservative Party. Purporting to be a party of the 'right,' Ontario PCs continually demonstrate that this is not so. In response to PC leader Patrick Brown's commitment to "carbon pricing," Freedom Party leader Paul McKeever mimicked:



The response made two things clear: (1) the extreme contrast between FP and PCs, and (2) the extreme similarities between Ontario's PC and Liberal parties. Brown's prior Progressive Conservative declaration could just as easily have been made by Liberal Kathleen Wynne herself:

"Climate change is a fact, it is a threat, it is man-made, we have to do something about it, and that something includes putting a price on carbon."

### Climate change is a 'fact' - a political one

When Patrick Brown says that "climate change is a fact," he does not mean - nor does he care - that it has been scientifically demonstrated that man-made carbon dioxide is a significant factor in actual climate change. What he means is that it is a 'fact' most voters believe this to be the case and therefore to win an election one must appeal to this "fact."

{CARBON COPIES continued on page 2...}

AT RIGHT: Whitby-Oshawa FP candidate Douglas Thom offers a toast to - Freedom!



{... CARBON COPIES continued from page 1}



"The reality is we teach climate change now in the schools, and I realize some want to have a debate on that," explained Brown in a CFPL am 980 radio interview with talk-show host Andrew Lawton on his March 17, 2016 broadcast.

"But the vast majority of people in Ontario care about the environment," Brown continued, "and we cannot take positions that are inconsistent with that."

Based not on any facts or evidence of climate change itself (which are never offered by Brown), but on the public's state-indoctrinated *belief* in climate change as being a 'fact,' Brown explained that his party cannot win elections "if you take positions that are ignorant to 90% of the population..."

In other words, according to Brown, PCs must not shine a light on that ignorance nor oppose it; For PCs, the 'right' thing to do is to appeal to this ignorance to get elected.

## Finally out of the closet:

Of course, all of this positioning on Brown's part is not really about climate change at all; it is about his party's continued commitment to anti-capitalism and anti-freedom, which reside at the heart of all leftist environmental motivations. Taking a stand in favour of 'carbon' taxation is Brown's way of bringing his party out of the closet: declaring that the *Ontario Progressive Conservative Party* is now officially and fully left-wing and socialist. And like all socialists, wealth redistribution by politicians and governments is what their agenda is all about.

Brown's announcement does not represent any change in PC policies of the past, only an declaration that his party has always been socialist. Ontario's PC's have been a party of the left since long before FP's founding in 1984.

Perfectly in keeping with past PC leader **Ernie Eves'** expressed leftist philosophy that "the purpose of government is to redistribute wealth," the PC's current support of 'carbon pricing / taxation' is, again, not about climate change, but about deceptively using taxes to redistribute wealth - like all left-wing socialist parties do. It was no different under just-past PC leader **Tim Hudak**, with his support of 'fighting climate change' through 'cap and trade.'

## Continuing past deceptions:

Yet, Ontario's PC party continues to attract - and disappoint - voters of the right, and thus prevents a real alternative on the right from ever forming. The reason? Because the PC party has been a party of deception leading its supporters to believe it is different from the Liberals or NDP.

Even after now having come out of the leftist closet, Brown continues (noticeably with great discomfort) to call the PC party 'conservative,' 'right-wing,' etc., inapplicable labels he knows from experience will nevertheless attract voters who see themselves as being on the 'right' or being 'conservative.' Dependably, these voters - including many who would genuinely like to see more rational governance, lower taxes, and a prosperous economy with a bright future - keep getting fooled by PC promises to lower taxes and improve the economy.

PC voters continue to support the party despite its clearly stated leftist philosophy expressed in the term "progressive." Continually, they are surprised by the party's long-term direction, never coming to terms with the reality that a party of the left (i.e., any 'progressive' party) operates on principles incompatible with the freedom and capitalism necessary to accomplish goals like lower taxes or improved economies.

## Brown's new climate of deception:

Though Brown denies that his 'revenue neutral' carbon pricing scam is "re-distributive," this cannot be so; otherwise no such scheme would be necessary.

It is clear from several of his public interviews now on record, that Patrick Brown supports carbon pricing as a means of transferring wealth from consumers and taxpayers to 'industry and business' or other favoured groups in the hope of 'stimulating' the economy. By 'protecting' favoured groups from the uncompetitive tax rates and the high cost of power in Ontario, and shifting the burden of their costs on all Ontario individuals, Brown thus claims that taxation through 'carbon pricing' is 'revenue neutral.'

Moreover, the very term 'carbon pricing' is fraudulent. It's not carbon that's being either priced or taxed; it is carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide has no real marketable value that can be 'priced.' What's being called a 'price' is really a tax - on production, plain and simple.

## No 'neutrality' for taxpayers:

While in theory it is possible for a tax to be 'revenue neutral' to *the government itself* - it simply is never so for taxpayers. The PCs will simply 'Rob Peter' (one particular group of taxpayers) 'to pay Paul' (another particular group of interests) and in so doing, falsely and immorally claim that such a tax is 'revenue neutral' by using this term to imply that taxpayers themselves will not be paying higher taxes.

Under the logic of this highly collectivist 'revenue neutral' notion of taxation, *all* taxes collected by governments and 'returned to the people' in the form of services, subsidies, welfare payments, or whatever, could be considered 'neutral' - to the government's own revenue. It is the ultimate shell game of deception and misdirection.

One thing is certain. Whether disguised as a carbon tax, or as cap and trade, the PC plan is not a *morally* neutral wealth transfer scheme. It is grossly anti-freedom, anti-capitalistic, and depends upon a demonstrably false collectivist argument to sell it.

After all, one can easily argue that *all* taxes levied for the specific purpose of wealth redistribution are 'revenue neutral' - taken from the collective and 'redistributed' within the same collective with no net gain to the government. Under 'revenue neutral' taxation, individuals are no longer differentiated and cease to exist - as *individual* taxpayers. If Paul gets Peter's money through state wealth redistribution, that's still 'revenue neutral' to the government. Sorry, Peter. No *tax* neutrality for you.

Most significantly, though a topic for another day, in using the term 'revenue neutral,' *Patrick Brown has subconsciously admitted that his plan of carbon pricing/taxation falls outside the proper purview and function of government itself.* He's admitting that the money raised from carbon taxes is not going towards any legitimate function of government.

## Carbon copies in triplicate - freedom's deniers:

Of course, government *does* have a proper and legitimate function: to protect everyone's right to life, liberty, and property - the very principles upon which **Freedom Party** is based. There can be no question that PC Brown, Liberal Wynne, and NDP Horwath all thrive on policies that continually restrict, deny, and violate everyone's right to life, liberty, and property. It is their defining characteristic.

Help fight Ontario's freedom deniers. **Freedom Party** requires your voluntary and "revenue positive" support to keep providing both a voice and a choice for rational governance in Ontario. When it comes to freedom, we're never 'neutral.' Nor should anyone be. {end}

{... BY-ELECTION continued from page 1}



## HUDAK PCs COMMITTED TO 'FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE' VIA CAP AND TRADE - P McKeever

**FREEDOM PARTY ARCHIVE - JUNE 3, 2011 -** Hudak's commitment to using taxpayer dollars - and energy policy - to fight climate change was made even more clear last Tuesday, when Ontario's Environment Commissioner, Gord Miller, issued his annual report. Miller said that Ontario has little chance to meet its greenhouse gas reduction targets by 2014, and he proposed that Ontario impose road tolls and carbon pricing to meet those targets. Tim Hudak's response? According to the Toronto Sun (May 31, 2011):

PC Leader Tim Hudak said he "absolutely" believes in the science behind climate change concerns and the environmental danger it poses.

"The question is what do you do about it," Hudak said. His party isn't proposing any road tolls and would oppose a carbon tax but is open to working with the federal government on continent-wide cap and trade plan.

There you have it: not only an unequivocal reiteration that Hudak buys into the idea that human activity will cause catastrophic climate change, but also a promise to implement cap-and-trade.

In essence, cap-and-trade involves - arguably, is intended to cause - wealth redistribution.

Under a cap and trade scheme, those who create little or nothing - hence, who create little or no CO2 - are nonetheless given an equal share of licenses to produce CO2 which are, essentially, licenses to produce things of value, because the production of things of value generally involves the release of CO2.

Carbon trading is a system designed to force wealth-producing winners into making a lose-lose decision: either pay underproductive losers a share of the wealth that the winners produce, or stop being wealth-producing winners. Cap and trade is welfare for the moochers and looters of industry, made politically viable only by the popularity and propagation of the belief that human-released CO2 - human wealth creation - will cause catastrophic climate change, and that human beings must therefore prevent the climate from changing.



**ABOVE:** -from Freedom Party's on-line archive, more recent history on the PC's climate change philosophy

 **Paul McKeever** @McKeever\_tweets · 22m

. @Kathleen\_Wynne: Stop Climate Change? Who are U trying to kid? You can't even stop your own over-spending. #onpoli



Doug's story is one that affects not only the brewery industry, but all business and industry in Ontario. Ever-increasing taxes, a continuing growth of state intrusion into the economy, and electricity prices so shocking (over-supply, yet high prices - just like beer!) that it's clear the parties in the legislature are determined to continue in their leftward-bound direction.

The married father of "three great kids, soon to be out and on their own," Doug has been self-employed since he was 15, now as an Information Management Consultant since 1994. "I moved to Whitby when I was 6 and have been here ever since."

He admits that he still plays with trains. "I've even driven a train! I hope my kids have learned what they need to succeed, will keep learning about the world around them, and enjoy doing it at least as much as I do. Who knows? Maybe one day that curiosity will even get them the opportunity to drive a train!"

Though **FP** votes, not surprisingly, represented less than 1% of the percentage cast in the very low-voter turnout, that vote (and perhaps even the voter turnout itself) may have been much higher had more been aware of their **FP** option at the polls. **FP's** Whitby-Oshawa presence has not been as well established as in London-West, where vote recent vote totals have reached 5%. It is a long-term process that requires a long-term investment of time, money, and establishing an identity and reputation that will appeal to a broad sector of voters.

In a riding long held by the *Progressive Conservative Party*, the victory by PC candidate **Lorne Coe**, again, came as no surprise. Despite the fact that the by-election was triggered by PC **Christine Elliott** resigning her seat after her leadership loss to **Patrick Brown**, the PC electoral victory has been touted by Brown as a sign that the PCs are surging in the polls and will defeat the Wynne Liberals in the next general election. Indeed, the failure of Wynne's bid to bolster the *Liberal Party* support in Whitby-Oshawa by appearing with the very popular Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** at a rally might lend credence to Brown's argument.

However, the rest of Ontario is not like the riding of Whitby-Oshawa, and the PC victory in the riding came before Brown brought his party out of its left-wing closet to reveal that his party's policies were essentially no different from those of the *Liberal Party*.

The by-election was also plagued by the usual gang of political malcontents who clutter the ballot as a form of directionless protest, including **past PC Greg Vezina**, whose antics will be the subject of a future feature within these pages. Though no longer with the PC party, Vezina still relies on PC tactics to distract the public with protests against the political process itself; his '**None-of-the-above Party**', though legally named, should never have been a name registration permitted by **Elections Ontario**.

Vezina was also a founder of Ontario's **Green Party** which he says was registered with the intent to split to votes on the left so that the *Progressive Conservatives* would have a better chance of a victory. Ironically, under the leadership of Patrick Brown, the PCs have effectively made it clear that they are Ontario's *fourth* 'Green' party - being last in line after the *Green Party* itself, and following the Liberals and NDP.

During the course of the Whitby-Oshawa by-election, Vezina contacted **Freedom Party** in the hopes of getting **FP's** support to have him quash the by-election via a court injunction. Naturally, **Freedom Party** did not support him in this regard. However, Vezina does succeed at getting the attention of the media - though his protests and strategies offer no solutions to any of the problems faced by Ontario voters. Watch for more on this political aberration in a future edition of *FpNEWS & Commentary*.

There are a few more significant stories behind the events leading up to the Whitby-Oshawa by-election, from the antics of candidates like Vezina to the story behind Patrick Brown's take-over of the *Progressive Conservative Party*, which will leave many internal scars on that party for years to come.

Particularly for new political parties forming on the horizon, running in elections is not just about winning votes - but about winning party supporters. The handful of voters who actually choose to support political parties - with their time and money between elections - are the true participators in democracy by getting involved in the electoral process at a point in which they can actually affect policy and political direction. **Freedom Party** now stands out Ontario's only political party on the right. Opportunity knocks. But the door cannot be opened without the on-going financial input of our members and supporters. To open that door, make your contribution to **Freedom Party** today. {end}