



BLUE WAVE

HKLB BY-ELECTION DEBRIEF

BY EUGENE PASTERNAK

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LONDON- Although the result of the March 5th, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock (HKLB) by-election was not a favourable one, OPCCA demonstrated a strong effort during the campaign.

On February 14th a dozen OPCCA members from across the province converged on HKLB to go canvassing. This was repeated in the February 28th canvassing blitz in which OPCCA members from the Universities of Ottawa, Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier, and even as far Windsor participated. We helped with voter identification through door knocking and attended a John Tory rally in Lindsay.

A few of our members even

made it out on Election Day in the middle of the week to scrutineer.

On behalf of the OPCCA executive I would like to thank all



members that participated in the by-election. We need continued involvement of volunteers like you to win in 2011.

OPCCA will continue to encourage campus clubs to par-

ticipate in campaigns both federally and provincially, and provide the training for our members to play a big role. A strong campus effort will get Conservatives elected in upcoming elections.

Sincerely,



Eugene Pasternak, Director of Election Readiness
Ontario PC Campus Association

OPCCA CONVENTION 2009

BY LACEY LEWIS



Laura Moulton at the Convention

OTTAWA- This year's Convention was held in Niagara Falls along with the PC Party Convention.

We saw the new executive take over, had some great speakers which ranged from people who volunteered on campaigns to MPP's to members of the past and present

OPCCA executives.

As we were holding our convention along with the party, it was exciting times as many of our delegates also were party delegates and got to participate in policy sessions.

We kicked off the weekend with keynote speaker Lisa

MacLeod, MPP for Nepean - Carleton, who gave a motivating speech about how important youth involvement is in politics and reminded us that the people we meet now are people that will affect our lives forever.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Campus Conservatives, It is my honour to address you all for the first time in Blue Wave as your OPCCA President. I would like to start off by thanking Mike Rennick and the outgoing executive for all the fantastic work you did in the past year. Thanks also to all our delegates for making the 2009 OPCCA AGM in Niagara Falls a great success.

There is no doubt that the past month has been an emotional rollercoaster ride for our party. John Tory, and our party lost a critical by-election in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, and our leader stepped aside.

OPCCA salutes John Tory's dedication over the years to our party and our cause and wish him success in future endeavours. While the loss of the by-election is unfortunate, let us use the coming leadership race as a way to rejuvenate OP-

CCA and the party as a whole. Enthusiasm is building, and we need to tap into this to grow our party so we can be successful in 2011.

OPCCA has had a very successful year. We are coming off of three great campus activism training sessions at the University of Toronto, Wilfrid Laurier University and Carleton. We provided training to approximately 60 youth in necessary techniques to succeed in campus life as a conservative minded student and how to resist OPIRG and the Canadian Federation of Students. We have seen the viciousness of such organizations, with OPIRG secretly taping our training session in Waterloo. OPCCA will begin to actively assert itself as a voice of opposition to OPIRG and CFS.

Our new executive has a lot of work to do. Over the coming months we hope

to begin to prepare for September by laying the groundwork to enhance the brand image of our clubs through the development of club logos, literature and websites.

We will also be helping the OPCCA-OPCYA Training Committee organize a Youth Election Skills Weekend for May 22-24th, which I encourage you all to register for on the PC Party of Ontario's website. We need our activists trained in order to win in 2011. Our executive has hit the ground running and we will be ready for September.

I wish you all the best on your exams, and hope you all have a great summer.

Sincerely,

**Eric Merkley,
President
Ontario PC Campus Association**

THE NEW OPCCA EXECUTIVE

ERIC MERKLEY– President

Eric is originally from Kitchener and attends Wilfrid Laurier University, where he is enrolled in the Double Honours Political Science and History program.

Eric is currently the President of the Laurier Campus Conservatives and President of the Kitchener Centre PC Youth. In addition, Eric is Vice-President on the Kitchener-Centre PC Riding Association, and sits as Youth Chair on the executive of the Kitchener-Waterloo Conservative Electoral District Association. From 2007-2008, he sat as Director of Training for OPCCA.



JEFF FARNCOMBE– Vice President

Jeff is the Past President of the Carleton Campus Conservatives (CCC). Prior to becoming President of the CCC, he served on the executive as both the Vice President and Finance Director. He is currently in his fourth year at Carleton University, majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations and Political Thought. Originally from Paris, Ontario, Jeff graduated from Mohawk College in 2006, prior to his studies at Carleton.

Jeff is involved in many other activities on campus including: President of the Carleton Political Science Society, Past President of the Carleton Public Affairs Society, Prime Minister of Carleton's Model Parliament, and is a member of the United Nations Society, Model NATO Society and Classics Society.



RACHAEL EDWARDS– Director of Membership

Rachael is a fourth year political studies major at Queens University who has shown a commitment to conservative political activism by helping on campaigns, attending functions, and helping shape the conservative political future by attending conventions. She currently serves as the President of the Queens University Conservative Association.

Throughout the course of the academic year, Rachael has successfully fostered a new level of energy as President within the campus association. Her executive's top priorities continue to be raising awareness of the conservative cause on campus, and growing the association's membership. Rachael stands to bring focus, dedication and an ethic of hard work to the executive of OPCCA.



THE NEW OPCCA EXECUTIVE



CYNTHIA TRAN– Secretary-Treasurer

Cynthia first witnessed the importance of government while she worked as a Legislative Page at Queen's Park during the previous PC government. Cynthia now studies as an Outstanding Scholar in the Honours Arts & Science program at the University of Windsor where she pursues her passion for both Biochemistry and Political Science. In addition to her academic studies, Cynthia remains politically active, serving as Secretary on the executive of the Essex Conservative Electoral District Association.

Cynthia has also worked hard to re-establish and re-energize the University of Windsor Conservative Association. Currently serving as President of the club, Cynthia has spurred club growth and interest in on-campus conservatism. With the onset of an autumn federal election, she quickly recognized the significance of channeling interest in campus activism to local federal campaigns. As the Volunteer Coordinator of the Conservative federal election campaign in Essex and a self-admitted canvassing enthusiast, Cynthia directed an effective canvassing plan and student effort.

MARTIN DENDEKKER– Director of Policy

Martin is a 3rd year Political Science and History student at the University of Ottawa. Originally from the small rural town of Norwich, located in the blue riding of Oxford, he is actively involved in both the federal Conservative Party and the provincial PC Party of Ontario.

Martin has gained invaluable experience while in Ottawa having worked for the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs/Minister of Industry, Maurice Vellacott, MP Saskatoon-Wanuskewin and currently as a Special Assistant to Harold Albrecht, MP Kitchener-Conestoga.

This is Martin's second year serving as the Policy Chair on the OPCCA Executive and he will continue the work that he has started last year. First and foremost, he will continue the development of a comprehensive post-secondary education policy, with the intent of having it adopted as the official party policy on post secondary education for the election in 2011.



AMBER RUDDY– Director of Campus Activism

Amber's passion for politics all began in the riding of Newmarket-Aurora while she was still in high school. Upon entering the University of Western Ontario, where she is majoring in Criminology and Sociology, she became actively involved with the UWO Conservatives, and is the current Past President.

Amber has volunteered in the 2008 federal election, 2007 provincial election, London North Centre by-election as well as the 2006 federal election. Amber has worked for many politicians, including MPP Jim Wilson and Minister Tony Clement.

Amber looks forward to strengthening OPCCA by getting more young people engaged and aware of the opportunities around them. Reaching out to recruit and train those interested in getting involved is her goal. She hopes to use her experience to further the conservative cause on Ontario's campuses!

DAN WHITE– Director of Training

Dan is a fourth year student at Wilfrid Laurier University completing his degree in Political Science with a CO-OP Option. He is currently the Vice-President of the Laurier Campus Conservatives, the President of the WLU Political Science Association, student representative to the Political Science Department, and works as a Teaching Assistant.

Politically, Dan has worked as a Constituency Assistant in the riding of Perth-Wellington for Conservative MP Gary Schellenberger the last two summers, and is the current Youth Representative of the Perth-Wellington EDA. During the 40th General Election, Dan served on the campaign teams for Gary Schellenberger (Perth-Wellington), Peter Braid (Kitchener-Waterloo), and during the by-election for Gloria Kovach (Guelph). For Mr. Schellenberger, Dan helped coordinate GOTV, and served as a regular door canvasser for all three campaigns he worked on.



THE NEW OPCCA EXECUTIVE



ORI RUBIN- Director of Fundraising

Ori got his start in politics at age 16 in the 2000 federal election, and has worked on every election since then. His political involvement increased heavily during his undergraduate years in Halifax, Nova Scotia. In his last year of undergraduate, he served as a strong and strident voice for fiscal discipline, respect for democratic principles and moderate governance on the University of King’s College student union.

In his first year at Osgoode Hall Law School, he was elected as President of the Osgoode Hall Conservative Association, helping to reenergize the club and drastically expand its membership several times over. During the summer of 2008, he worked as an intern in then Government House Leader and Minister for Democratic Reform Peter Van Loan.

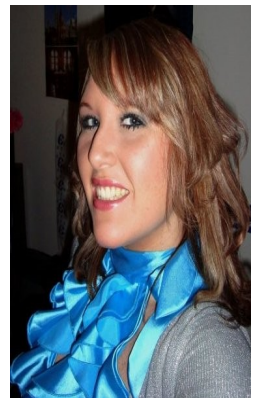
Ori currently serves on the Conservative Party of Canada’s board of directors for St. Paul’s riding, and still serves as the President of the Osgoode Hall Conservatives.

ALEXIA FORRESTER– Director of Communications

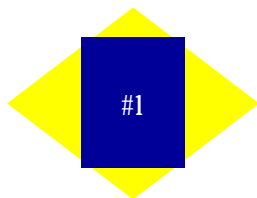
Alexia, also known as Ally, is currently in her 3rd year at the University of Ottawa, where she is studying Political Science and Communication.

She was born in Glasgow, Scotland, UK and grew up in Brampton, Ontario. She became politically aware at a young age and immediately identified with and advocated conservative ideals. She was voted in her high school yearbook as the most likely to be the Premier of Ontario. During the 2008 federal election, Alexia worked with the Department of Fundraising and Membership at Conservative Party of Canada Headquarters. She also worked at the local level for Patrick Glémaud in Ottawa-Vanier, and for Kyle Seeback in Brampton-West.

Alexia has also been active with the University of Ottawa Campus Conservatives, where she is the present VP of Administration on the executive. In addition, she works in the House of Commons for Greg Kerr, Member of Parliament for West Nova & Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs.



CAMPUS CLUB OF THE MONTH



The Carleton Campus Conservatives

BY JEFF FARNCOMBE



The CCC posing with the Peter Naglik Award for Best Campus Club

OTTAWA- The Carleton Campus Conservatives (CCC), with an impressive membership of over 120 people, consistently hosts professional events such as speaking engagements with MPPs & MPs, policy breakfasts and campaign workshops, along with regular social events like pub nights.

At the Ontario PC

Party Convention in February, the CCC was given the Ontario PC Campus Association’s Peter Naglik Award for Best Campus Club.

The CCC also held a notable AGM & Convention at the end of March, featuring seven speakers, workshops and awards given to their most dedicated members.

As former President of

the CCC and on behalf of OPCCA, it is my honour to congratulate the CCC on their hard work and success.

The CCC is an exemplary model for all campus clubs and we look forward to continue having them impress us.

Keep up the good work!

Schedule of Events

- **April 2nd:**
University of Toronto
Conservatives AGM
& Laurier Conserva-
tives AGM
- **April 16th:**
Conestoga College
Campus Conserva-
tives Founding
Meeting
- **April 23rd:**
Hon. Peter Kent at
York University
- **May 1st:**
Early bird Deadline
for OPCCA-OPCYA
Election Skills Train-
ing Conference
- **May 22-24th:**
OPCCA-OPCYA
Election Skills Train-
ing Conference

APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				U of T & Laurier AGM		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				Conestoga Founding		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
				Peter Kent @ York U		
26	27	28	29	30		

OPCCA/OPCYA YOUTH TRAINING CONFERENCE



Where: Holiday Inn
Airport East Toronto

When: May 22nd-24th

Cost: \$99 early bird,
\$129 regular

The 2009 OPCCA/OPCYA Youth Campaign Training Conference is an exciting opportunity for PC Youth and Campus Club members of all skill levels to come learn about elections and campaign techniques from some of the leading experts in the PC Party.

The event offers three different intensive streams for participants to take in:

- **Beginner Campaign Volunteering**
- **Field Organization**
- **Campaign Communications**

All streams will combine theory sessions with hands-on, practical training to teach you how to win Conservative campaigns.

Regardless of your background, come learn some valuable tips that will make you a big asset to your local campaign in 2011 and beyond!

If you have any questions, email:
training@campuspc.ca

Registration open at:
www.ontariopc.com

CONVENTION 2009

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On Saturday we had two OPCCA Members share the trillium award: Katlyn Harrison from the University of Ottawa and Grant Dingwall from Carleton University. A big congrats go out to the both of them.

Later on Saturday we held our policy and constitution session which was ran by Martin Dendekker, who may I add did an excellent job again this year. I was very excited to see a great turn out to this session and also to see many people speaking out for what they believed.

Then as Sunday came we had an early start to the day after a long night, with a breakfast panel on youth and politics. We had a good turn out for an early morning event with the great guest speakers: Aaron Wudrick, Dave Forestell and MPP Tim Hudak. They talked about the important role that youth play in today's political word

and also gave some insight on the best was for us to get involved. They took time to field questions from the people in attendance which was a nice change.

Next we got to hear about the training weekend that OPCCA has been planning for over a year. This time we got to hear from Mike Rennick, past president of OPCCA, Eric Merkley, current president of OPCCA and our good friend Mark Spiro, PC party executive member, who is a great OPCCA supporter. Here we got to learn, in more detail, about this great training weekend, a little into the curriculum and what skills we will come out of the weekend with. I am sure there will be more to come on this in the near future so stay tuned.

We then ended the great weekend with the new executive taking over. Team Merkley went uncontested and therefore were acclaimed. I have great

faith in this team and wish them all the best in the year to come.

So as you can see we had a full weekend of learning and fun, just like a convention should be. It was a great honour and privilege to be a part of the past OPCCA executive and then to be this year's convention chair. We worked hard all year with the help from all the campus clubs across the province and I am sure that the current executive will carry this work ethic forward into the new year.

We are in very exciting times of a leadership race which means there are many opportunities for everyone to get involved. I hope to see lots of people getting involved in what is looking to be an exciting race. Keep up the great work and best wishes to Eric and his team this year.

Lacey Lewis
2009 OPCCA Convention Chair

CARLETON TRAINING SESSION

BY ALEXIA J. FORRESTER

OTTAWA- At the end of March, OPCCA held its third Campus Activism Training Session of the year at Carleton University.

Key-note speakers included Fraser MacDonald and Richard Ciano of the Manning Centre for Building Democracy. Fraser briefed us on how to fight student elections as a conservative, while Richard taught us campaign strategies and tactics for challenging and defeating Public Interest Research

Groups and the Canadian Federation of Students.

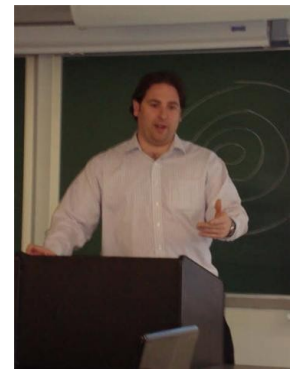
It was an insightful and informative session with a great turnout from Carleton and the University of Ottawa.

Training on how to resist and fight these left-wing organizations has never been more crucial in light of the recent actions of a representative from the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG), who lied about their identity in order to gain entrance to our February

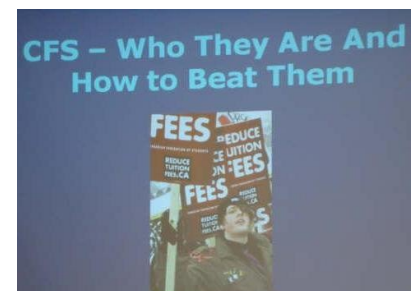
training session at Wilfrid Laurier University.

This individual taped the session and subsequently leaked it onto the internet in an attempt to make false accusations about OPCCA and the Conservative Party of Canada.

OPIRG's lack of respect for privacy, by lying to gain entry and then tape recording the session, should alarm students regardless of their ideology. Clearly, they will stop at nothing to suppress different views from their own.



Richard Ciano- Executive Director of the Manning Centre School of Practical Politics



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