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BLUE WAVE

OPCCA's Official Newsletter

UNITED & STRONG TO DEFEAT DALTON MCGUINTY IN 2011

Fellow conservatives,

After a long and grueling leadership race, our party has a new, energetic leader who will lead our party to victory in 2011.

Tim Hudak, our new leader, has led by example; reaching out to all former leadership campaigns to begin building a winning team for 2011. Each of us needs to do the same, to heal the wounds left by the race.

We also need to do our part to help build our party from the ground up. From August 14-16, OPCCA and OPCYA hosted an election skills training conference in Toronto, which was a huge success and is something



Tim Hudak & youth at the Leadership Debate in Ottawa, June 2009

We need to be visible, professional and active in order to attract students to our party.

While campuses may be dominated by the left wing, do not let that deter you from trying to recruit. There is no reason why a school with 50,000 students should not have membership lists of over 500, which amounts to only 1% of the total student population.

We need to all step it up and put in the time. Our party needs more volunteers and our party needs more youth to fill these roles. Campuses are the recruiting ground to make this happen. *You can make it happen.*

OPCCA has a busy year ahead, but if we all put the time in, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,



Eric Merkley
President

Ontario PC Campus Association

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Tim Hudak at the Leadership Convention in Markham, June 2009

OPCCA will be continuing on with.

In addition, we cannot lose sight about the importance of recruitment. The beginning of the school year has just begun and it is important for all campus club members to do their part in recruiting new members.

This means getting out there on campus and setting up recruiting tables, holding events, and being engaged in the campus media and in student politics.

OPCCA-OPCYA ELECTION SKILLS TRAINING CONFERENCE

BY ALEXIA J. FORRESTER

TORONTO- The OPCCA-OPCYA Election Skills Training Conference was a great success with an overwhelming turnout of 70 attendees during one of the hottest weekends of the summer.

Held from August 14-16 at the Holiday Inn Toronto Airport East, young conservative activists from all across the province came out to learn invaluable information about elections and campaign techniques from leading experts in the field.

Participants were asked to complete a questionnaire at the start of the conference, where they outlined their election campaign experience and associated skills. They were then divided into three different streams based on their



The Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources

experience; beginner campaign volunteering, field organization, and campaign communications. Throughout the weekend, participants attended sessions combining theory with hands-on, practical training in relation to their designated stream.

Speakers included: MPP Peter Shurman, Aaron Lee Wudrick; Campaign Manager for MP Peter Braid, Tim Powers; Vice-President, Communications for Summa Strategies, Chad Rogers; Principal for Navigator Limited, Blair McCreadie; Past President of the Ontario PC Party, Fraser

Macdonald; Program Coordinator for the Manning Centre for Building Democracy, and many more. The Minister of Natural Resources; the Honourable Lisa Raitt also joined the conference for dinner on Saturday, August 15.

Thank you to all the conference participants, speakers and of course, conference organizers, for making it both a productive and exciting weekend.

OPCCA believes this conference is a critical role for our organization to fill moving forward. Youth can make a difference in election campaigns and this conference was a good first step to training the activists needed to win the ground war in the coming election.



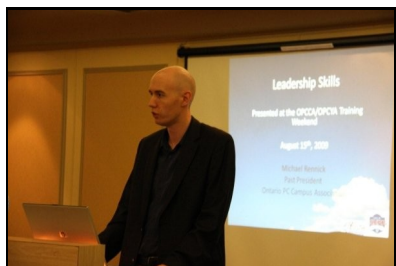
Fraser MacDonald, Program Coordinator for the Manning Centre for Building Democracy



Peter Shurman, MPP Thornhill



Left to right: John Capobianco, Josh Workman, Nick Kadysh, Blair McCreadie



Mike Rennick, OPCCA Past President



Conference Participants



Chad Rogers, Principal for Navigator Limited

CAMPUS CLUB TABLES- FALL 2009



McMaster Association of Conservatives



Wilfrid Laurier Campus Conservatives



Ottawa U Campus Conservatives



Carleton Campus Conservatives



U of Toronto Campus Conservatives

Send your club photos to: Forrester.Ally@gmail.com

ST. PAUL'S BY-ELECTION DEBRIEF

BY BETH CORBETT

TORONTO- Let's face it. For many of us, the recent defeat of PC party candidate Sue-Ann Levy to Liberal, Dr. Eric Hoskins in the St. Paul's by-election was disappointing. However, we knew this would be an uphill battle right from the start. Yet, in the end, we came within 4,000 votes of winning one of the safest Liberal seats in the province.

What did we do well? Thanks to the remarkable sign crew, we pulled out an amazing result in the sign war. This is evidence of how fed up many voters are with McGuinty and the HST, as well as their loyalty to Sue-Ann as a passionate advocate for Torontonians. Recognition should also be given to those who helped in

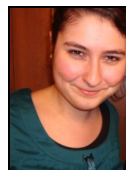
the online battle, calling out Dr. Hoskins on his absences and Liberal Party blunders.

What can we do to improve? Volunteers are always the lifeblood of the campaign and this was no exception. There were many committed people who came from far and wide on top of those from Toronto who were there whenever the office was open. However, we as young conservative activists could have done more to recruit our conservative friends to come out and help.

Regardless of the results, Sue-Ann, her campaign team, and all the campaign volunteers and supporters are to be congratulated. It was very important for us to put in our best effort on this by-election

for the sake of our new leader, Tim Hudak and the party.

After a constituent came in on election night to offer his condolences, I saw that Sue-Ann also served the crucially important role of acting as a voice for those who wanted change in Queen's Park.



Beth Corbett is the founder of the Conestoga College Campus Conservatives, currently studying Public Relations at Humber College, and assisted with volunteer recruitment for the St. Paul's by-election.



OPCCA members with Sue-Ann Levy in front of the Campaign Office



Beth canvassing with Sue-Ann Levy in St. Paul's

Schedule of Events

- **Sept. 23:**
 - Trent U AGM
 - Minister Gary Goodyear @ UGuelph
 - McMaster AGM & OPCCA Club Development training
- **Sept. 24:**
 - Minister Tony Clement @ U of T
- **Sept. 26:**
 - CCC Special Meeting & By-Election
 - Laurier BBQ
- **Sept. 29:**
 - U of T Scarborough Club founding
- **Sept. 30:**
 - OPCCA Club Development training @ Trent U
 - Justice Minister @ UOttawa

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 OPCCA President's Retreat
6	7	8	9 CCC & McMaster Club Table	10	11 UOttawa Club Table	12
13	14	15	16	17 St. Paul's By-Election	18	19
20	21	22 UWindsor Club Table	23 McMaster AGM & Club Development	24 Minister Tony Clement @ UofT	25	26 CCC Special Meeting & By-election
27	28	29 UofT Scarborough Club founding	30 Trent U Club Development			

Have an event you want advertised next month? E-mail the info to: Forrester.Ally@gmail.com

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CLUB OF THE MONTH

McMASTER ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATIVES

Congratulations to the McMaster Association of Conservatives for being recognized as OPCCA's campus club of the month.

During the summer, Bryan Vanderkruk stepped in as acting President and since then has been working extensively to ensure the association grows by becoming more visible, organized and active.

Their AGM on September 23 was a huge success, with Minister of State Gary Goodyear, MPs David Sweet and Dean Allison, and PC Candidate of



Minister Gary Goodyear & President Bryan Vanderkruk @ the AGM

Record, Chris Corrigan all coming out in support.

Elected to the executive were Bryan Vanderkruk, confirmed as President; Reet Hess for First VP Admin, and Sean Marshall for Director of Events. Congratulations to you all and we look forward to continue seeing your hard work pay off.

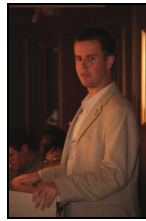
For more information on the McMaster Association of Conservatives, visit their facebook page or contact Bryan Vanderkruk, President at: mac@mcmaster.ca



Think your club should be # 1? Let us know why!

CONTACT US

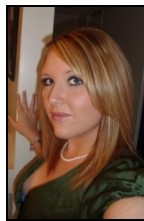
Eric Merkley



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