



# The Blue Wave

January 2012

## OPCCA Executive

**Aaron Hunt**  
President

**Craig Draeger**  
Vice-President

**Patrick Beatty**  
Director of  
Communication

**Amanda Brodhagen**  
Policy Director

**Peter Flynn**  
Director of Campus  
Activism

**Anosh Jacob**  
Director of Training

**Nahielly Fernandez**  
Fundraising Director

**Michelle Berman**  
Director of Outreach

**Mike Torossian**  
Director of Membership  
and Recruitment

**Ian Merkley**  
Appointed Director

**Saro Khatchadourian**  
Appointed Director

**Nick Bergamini**  
Past President

## Message from the President:

Dear OPCCA Members,

I am incredibly excited to be writing the welcome letter to our Blue Wave newsletter – a project that our executive is pleased to bring back.

Upon being elected in May, our team turned our attention towards the October election campaign. We made some very real progress – winning a whole batch of new seats with strong MPPs who have formed a revitalized Ontario PC caucus at Queen's Park. Through canvass blitzes, socials, OPCCA t-shirts and literature, our association is stronger than ever.

For those of you who were unaware, our association offers all campus clubs a 300 dollar expense claim, which can be used to offset costs your campus club may incur. I strongly recommend your club taking advantage of this money during this semester, and putting it towards making your campus club more recognizable and active on your local campus.

OPCCA also offers campus clubs a variety of literature and swag. In late August, we sent out packages to your campus clubs to ensure they were ready for Frosh Week. These packages included literature, t-shirts, and some OPCCA branded merchandise. The contents were provided in order to help recruit new members, and they should continue to be used during clubs weeks in the upcoming semester.

Since the election, our Association has moved forward with new Facebook advertisements, updated our website with our brand new logo and events, held a highly successful Christmas Party, and continued to support our campus clubs through our \$300 stipend. I encourage you all to attend our upcoming events as your involvement will help shape the future of our campus clubs moving forward.

I wish you all the best in running your campus club this semester. Please do not hesitate to email me at [aaronjhunt@live.ca](mailto:aaronjhunt@live.ca) or call me at [647-463-6975](tel:647-463-6975) with any of your questions and concerns. With your hard work and dedication, our campus clubs will be a key part of ensuring Tim Hudak becomes the next Premier of Ontario.

Aaron Hunt  
President, OPCCA

## Winter Recruitment and Engagement

By Peter Flynn

With the holiday season come and gone, it's very important for your campus club to retain and engage with the new members recruited during the provincial campaign. A well-run winter recruitment strategy should hold on to new members and help turn them into conservative campus activists.

There exist many different ways to keep interested students involved in your campus club. The most important thing is to ensure that your club has a constant mix of events for members to attend and get involved with. Different events will attract and retain different students, so it is essential that the winter programming planned by your club is varied and substantial. Speaker events, pub nights, campus activism activities, and charitable drives will all reach out to different members and encourage them to remain involved. Well-advertised and run delegate selection meetings (for the upcoming PC and OPCCA AGMs) can engage your club's membership and make sure that everyone has an opportunity to get involved at the provincial level.

Don't forget that your campus club provides one of the best opportunities for new students to get involved, meet new people, and have a great time. Furthermore, these opportunities do not need to happen only on campus. Even though we just finished a campaign, your campus club should aim to connect students with your local EDAs in order to begin building for the next campaign. While many of us will no longer be on campus by the time the next election comes around, it is important to train the campus activists of the future. Providing opportunities to volunteer now, whether it be with canvassing in the local neighbourhood or data entry and clean-up, will help to ensure that your campus club is effective once again next election. Additional events that provide your

new members with a chance to gain experience now could even include canvassing trips to local ridings, taking advantage of the up to \$300 in funding that OPCCA will provide for your club.

If your local ridings are represented by Conservative MPs or PC MPPs, try to arrange to have campus club members volunteer in their offices. Not only do opportunities such as this encourage new members to continue to stay involved, they also help maintain a positive relationship between your club and your local representative. Cultivating these connections now will provide your club with a great opportunity to train new members and grow an active, involved campus club.

Perhaps the most important thing to remember in planning your club's winter recruitment and engagement is to simply have fun. As you likely already know, some of the best friends you will make in university will be through your experiences with politics and your campus club. Many of your club's new members will be bright, enthusiastic, and informed students just like yourself, take advantage of the opportunity to build some new and lasting friendships. If you need any assistance or have any questions about implementing your winter recruitment and engagement strategy, don't hesitate to send me an email at [flynn.peter@hotmail.com](mailto:flynn.peter@hotmail.com). Good luck!

*Peter Flynn is the Director of Campus Activism*



*Tim Hudak – Leader of PC Party of Ontario*

*I'm not the most popular guy in the country – Dalton McGuinty*

***No kidding! – by Patrick Beatty***

Let me tell you a scary story.

It is a story about a province that used to be the strongest in Canada – a province called Ontario.

Ontario was enjoying several years of steady growth and prosperity. The conservative Premier in power had eliminated the deficit, lowered taxes and improved welfare delivery.

Then one dark day, a liberal leader- let's call him Malton DcGuinty – took over as premier.

Malton DcGuinty was determined to undo every good thing his predecessor had done. Malton raised taxes many times. He imposed an eco-tax one day and revoked it the next. No one in the province knew what to expect.

Malton created a \$16-billion deficit. Somehow the extra taxes didn't cover all the new spending.

His government even distributed a slush fund to his friends.

Do you know the scariest part? Malton managed to compromise Ontario's position as leader in confederation. For the first time in history, the province received transfer payments. Ontario became a have-not province.

This is a true story. It happened.

In Ontario.

We did not make this up.

*Patrick Beatty is the Director of Communications*

## **Our Executive pledged:**

- New Members
- Facebook Ads
- Twitter Account
- Election Preparation
- Blue Pages
- OPCCA T-Shirts
- Campaign Blitzes
- Club Packages

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Fundraiser – January 24th**

**AGM – February 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Join us:**

On [Twitter](#) (@OPCCA\_Exec)

On [Facebook](#) (Search for Ontario Progressive Conservative Campus Association)

### **Contact us:**

**Aaron Hunt** – President:  
[aaronjhunt@live.ca](mailto:aaronjhunt@live.ca), 647-463-6975

**Patrick Beatty** – Director of Communications  
[patcibt@gmail.com](mailto:patcibt@gmail.com), 519-860-4632