



Cambridge Conservative Voice Newsletter

Cambridge Electoral District Association

November 2007 Volume IX

Message from Gary Goodyear, Member of Parliament

**STRONG LEADERSHIP.
SAFE AND SECURE
COMMUNITIES.**

No matter where you live in Cambridge or North Dumfries, families should have the peace of mind that our kids are safe to play outside, that drugs, gangs and illegal guns are kept away from our schools and neighbourhoods, and that dangerous offenders are always held accountable for their crimes.

The commitment to safer communities and streets should unite Canadians regardless of where they live or how they vote. I have worked hard for the past many months to help Minister of Justice and Attorney General Rob Nicholson and Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day work to hold dangerous offenders accountable for their acts.

The Harper government has shown leadership by introducing the Tackling Violent Crime Act. This law sends a clear message that actions have consequences and that we will always place the needs of law-abiding Canadian families first.

Through this law, criminals charged with serious gun crimes would face much stiffer criminal penalties, people charged with driving under the influences of drugs would be held accountable for their actions, and our children will be protected from sexual exploitation by raising the age of sexual consent from 14 to 16.

In addition, under this new law criminals convicted of repeated violent or sexual offences would be more easily subjected to a 'Dangerous Offender' label that will keep them behind bars and off our streets.

Protecting Canadians from violent crimes is far too important to be the subject of yet more Liberal political games. Unfortunately, in the past, Stéphane Dion and his Liberal colleagues have nonetheless used political tricks to try to block the passage of these badly needed new laws. Some of our local Liberal MP's have actually stood up in the House and said crime was on the decrease!!! This, after promising to get tough on crime during the election.

The big losers from such political tricks are the innocent victims of crime and the innocent people who are at

risk of becoming victims of crime, should dangerous offenders be released back on the streets due to ineffective laws. They deserve better.

Our local businesses struggle with exploding insurance rates, due to crime. We all pay dearly when criminals are put into the current revolving door law and order system designed and supported by the Liberals.

Canadians will have a clear choice before them. Only one leader, Stephen Harper, is prepared to stand up for our children, our families, and law-abiding citizens everywhere with real action to get serious on guns, violence and sexual crimes. In contrast, the Stéphane Dion Liberals have shown that they are prepared to put politics ahead of public safety and, in doing so, leave innocent families unnecessarily at risk.

I not only wish you all the very best Christmas, wonderful family moments, but I promise you that I will not give up working hard for you in Ottawa to get the job done. We are re-building this great land. We can be proud that we have a clean Government, a strong economy and a country more respected globally and more united at home than in many many years.



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Happy New Year!

Gary Goodyear, MP

President's Message

Hello everyone:

I am honoured to be the new President of the Cambridge EDA of the Conservative Party of Canada. I appreciate the faith you have demonstrated in me by electing me to this role and vow to do my best to serve you well.

For those of you who do not know me, please allow me to give you a brief picture of myself. I have been married to my husband, David, for 11 years. A former Credit Manager for Jacuzzi Canadian Operations, I took on my new role as Mommy in 2002. Since then, I have been at home doing the far more important job of raising my three sons Joseph (5), Michael (3), and Alex (6 months). Having led two board meetings thus far, I can verify what all Moms know: that leading 27 board members who love to quarrel about politics is much easier than

raising three young boys all day.

I was introduced to federal politics in 1997, when I became involved in the Bill Donaldson campaign. I have been on the board since and have participated in all campaigns including two for Reg Petersen and, of course, the election and re-election of the man who serves Cambridge so well: Gary Goodyear.

Thanks to Larry Hardman, our past President, for his service to date. We will remember Larry as the first President of our new Party, the fellow who had the challenge of bringing two disparate Parties together. Larry's peaceful demeanour and warm, knowing smile must have been key elements to achieving this goal.

The Conservative Party now recognizes the Cambridge EDA as one of the leaders in Canada and certainly in Ontario. As your new President, I aspire to get things further organized this year and call members to take action!

Together with the Executive, we have organized a committee structure this fall and have recruited enthusiastic chairs for each committee. All chairs have already taken active roles in getting things

rolling and there are some great new ideas out there! The seven main committees are:

- Fundraising – whose goal is to build the campaign war chest.
- Election Readiness – who will ensure we are prepared when the time is called.
- Communications – charged with the responsibility of communicating to you, our members, and spreading the Conservative message to others in print and over the internet.
- Special Events – who organize various activities for you throughout the year – please come out!
- Policy – who ensure that our Conservative values are maintained and current through active policy development.
- IT – who maintain our growing databank of information.
- OutReach / InReach – who have a dual purpose of reaching out to new members while taking care of the equally important task of ensuring that we don't lose existing support, by



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demonstrating to our members that we maintain conservative values.

The politically left in Canada are vocal and active. Many of us talk about our Conservative values ad nauseam amongst ourselves, but are shy or even afraid to stand out for Conservatism. Do not be afraid to speak up and stand up for Canada and our families! Now is the time for conservative action!

Come out to meetings and events where Gary or other Conservatives are speaking. It is important that they know they have our support.

Our Communications committee has rolled out a totally revamped website – www.conservativecambridge.com. Visit it often. I understand a polling tool may be coming soon that will solicit your opinion on matters of the day. Results of these polls may be used to form new policy submissions or to communicate with the Party, so let us know how you feel.

At the end of December, most memberships expire. Please renew them! We need your support.

With the Christmas season approaching, attentions turn to

our families and our fellow man. Among Conservatives in Cambridge, it also turns to turkeys. Many of us will buy a turkey for Christmas anyhow. Why not support Conservatives at the same time and receive a healthy credit just before tax time?

Our Conservative family is holding a Christmas Social on December 6th at Grand Valley Country Club at 7:30 pm. A flyer is enclosed with this newsletter. Please come out – your board and fellow Conservatives wish to meet you.

Have a Merry Christmas, safe and fun time with family, and a happy New Year! I hope to see you on December 6th.

Jennifer Perlock
President@ConservativeCambridge.com

Outreach / Inreach

Dear Fellow Conservatives:

It is with great pleasure that I communicate with you as Chairman of the Outreach Committee.

After many hours and incredible input from all the members of this committee, we put together a presentation to the Board, on ideas, values

and suggestions on how to go out into our community and be informative and educational, while at the same time embrace all like-minded Conservatives, in order to broaden our base of support.

The Outreach Committee encompasses and interacts with all the committees set up by our CPC President.

We have a well-balanced and talented Board. All other committees, from Communications to Policy to Special Events, etc. have stepped up and have supported the proposal and outline put forward by the Outreach group.

I thank them for their cooperation and look forward to continually building on the progress that is being realized to date.

Peter Tudisco
Outreach Chairman



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Communications

Fellow Conservatives:

Together with money, Communications is at the heart of politics. After all, why are there political parties? It's because a sizable sub-group of society shares the same general values and principles and wishes to organize and persuade the other sub-groups of the rightness of its cause. The organization part requires effort and money; the persuasion part requires just as much effort and effective communication!

Our EDA takes very seriously its mandate to deliver the Conservative message to the Canadian public. This fall, after the election of our new Board, this committee met and we came up with a comprehensive plan for fulfilling that mandate

Central to delivering our message to the public effectively and economically was the updating of our website:

www.conservativecambridge.com. For that, I must thank our webmaster Dave E., who has done a fantastic job of making it current, visually attractive and accessible to our members and the public. Well done, Dave! Please visit the website often, since we plan to change

its content frequently. Among the features we will be introducing will be an archive of letters to the editor, a polling tool so that you can let us know your opinion on various issues, and a photo journal of our MP's travels and appearances, so you can all see just how hard Gary works for this Riding.

Another concern of this committee is that the left has a virtual monopoly on public discourse. To counter this, we must ensure that the Conservative viewpoint is heard in the media, especially through letters to newspapers. I would strongly urge you, if you've ever read or seen something and said to yourself: "This is nuts! I should write a letter to the editor!" then please do so! We need our voices to be heard frequently and loudly. If you are interested in helping with this very important task, then please send me an email to the address below and let's talk.

Another area of politics which needs volunteers is a phone committee. Often, public events are held where it is important that a lot of Conservatives show up, either to show support for the person or cause, or simply to annoy the protestors. ☺ The best way of getting the word out quickly and cheaply is to form

a phone committee. We plan to structure it like a pyramid, so that no-one has to sit there all night calling hundreds of names. At worst, we would have each committee member call 7 – 10 names, thus spreading out the workload. If you have time to make some phone calls between 6 and 8:30 pm (when most people are home) then please let me know. Your EDA needs you!

Now communications is not just about sending a message, it is also about listening. We want to hear from you, our members. As well as writing letters to the media, I invite you to tell your Board about what is important to you. Please send any comments or suggestions to comments@conservativecambridge.com and let us hear from you. The website also has a link to Gary Goodyear's site if you wish to send him a message or opinion.

Finally, let me leave you with a call to action. In Canada today, Conservatism is the philosophy which dares not speak its name. It's time to change that! Do not ever be ashamed of your political opinions. Edmund Burke once said "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing". I ask you to talk up Conservatism with your friends and neighbours,



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whether out socializing and yes, even at work. The left-wing view of society is pervasive in most of our media and people think that it is what most Canadians think! Show them how wrong it is. Show them that real Canadians have very different opinions from that of the CBC and the Star. When you encounter blatant lies and distortions (hmmm. Can't get CBC out of my mind) point it out and publicize the truth. I ask you to stand up for your values and not be cowed into silence by artfully feigned shock and offence. If you do, then the bad guys win.

But enough pessimism. (That's the Polish in me). We are quickly approaching a season which celebrates hope and joy. In that spirit I would like to leave you until the next newsletter. Please stay informed of politics and stay involved with our EDA. There are a lot of good people on this Board working very hard to ensure that in Cambridge and North Dumfries the Conservative message will be heard. And remember, when you are out shopping in the next month and the clerks bleat out some non-offensive, politically correct "Happy Holidays" let them know loudly and in an annoyed voice: "It's Merry

Christmas, darn it!" And God bless us, everyone!

Richard M. Sieminski
Communications Chairman
communications@conservativecambridge.com
519-658-6125

Website

Work continues on our website, www.conservativecambridge.com. There is still lots of work and improvements to be done. I invite you all to visit and provide us with your feedback. Let's make it your website!

With thanks and appreciation,

David E.
webmaster@conservativecambridge.com

Policy

It's about tax cuts, stupid! (to borrow a Republican mantra from the Clinton election). Will the next election be about tax cuts? Well, we think so, and your policy committee has proposed a couple of serious tax measures that will significantly reduce the amount of taxes you send to Ottawa. Sound intriguing to you? Well it should be!

In the last year, the policy

committee undertook a policy process that needed to be conducted at a rapid pace because of the rules set forth by party headquarters. We were pleased to have the participation of some of our general members in that process, and some of the ideas proposed really created some exciting discussion.

Sometimes our board gets carried away with the day-to-day activities of keeping a thriving Electoral District Association running on all cylinders that we forget about one of the most vital things to a political party – that is crafting a vision of Canada through an intricate set of policy ideas that are consistent with our principles and values as Conservatives. Part of our job is to keep reminding ourselves that policy discussions are a vital to a vibrant political party.

In the next year, we will continue following the policy process set out by our National Council. Since our policy proposals have already been submitted, our attention is now focusing on the constitutional amendments process that is also set out by party rules. While many may consider this to be a dry subject matter, I can tell you with confidence that our constitutional amendment proposals have



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produced the most passionate discussion at our board meetings. We have been given the task by our members to be quite activist and vocal when it comes to our duties, and we intend to do so.

We hope that you will find the time to write to us about the policy ideas that matter to you, your family and friends, or business. We want to focus on giving constituents a reason to vote for us. We believe that good ideas have the capacity to unite people and to build the bridges to voters that a political party ought to be building. So get involved! We'd love to hear from you. You can correspond with us through our web site at policy@conservativecambridge.com. Also please let us know if you are interested in attending a policy seminar or two in the next year. That's all for now. Merry Christmas to you all.

Rob Leone
Policy Chairman

Information Technology

In order to communicate with our members as effectively as possible, we need accurate e-mail addresses. If you have received the paper copy of this newsletter and you do have an e-mail address, please let us know what it is. It will cut down on our mailing costs and enable us to let you know right away of upcoming events. Send us an email through our website and you will be entered in a contest to win 2 free passes to our upcoming Christmas Social on Dec. 6. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

On another note, please be aware that most memberships will be expiring at the end of the year. We enclose a membership renewal form for your convenience. Please ensure that you sign and date it or HQ will refuse to process it and we'll have to return your money. Finally, please be aware that 5-year memberships are "on special" this year for only \$35. Thank you again and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Dave Stocker
IT Chairman

Donations

Please note that **100%** of all donations made directly to the Cambridge Electoral District Association (EDA) benefits Gary Goodyear's re-election campaign and supports your Cambridge EDA. Please make cheques payable to *Conservative Fund Canada*.

Meanwhile, Cambridge only receives 10% if donations are made directly to National HQ. If you receive a telephone solicitation, feel free to ask the caller who benefits from the donation and make an informed decision.