



Cambridge Conservative Voice

Cambridge Electoral District Association

March 2008 Volume IX

**Message from
Gary Goodyear,
Member of Parliament**

Dear Friends:

As we enter 2008, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on our progress in Ottawa over the past year, as well as our future.

Last year was indeed a productive year for the Conservative Government. Throughout 2007, we remained focused on our fundamental values; to build a stronger, healthier, safer and more prosperous country.

In 2006 we inherited a country left in great difficulty on all fronts by a dithering and unfocused Liberal government. Our health care was in trouble, greenhouse gases were up 33%, foreign countries were setting up camp in our North, our military was virtually dismantled, taxes were on the rise, and our debt was at record highs. Through strong leadership, our Government has stopped that slide, and has begun a new trend.

We have paid down the debt by \$37 Billion dollars (that's \$1,570 for every man, woman and child in the country!!!) AND at the same time, we

have reduced taxes by some \$190 Billion dollars over the next five years in sixty different areas!

By continuing to lower taxes, we are making life easier for Canadian families and insulating the economy. This is extra money in the pockets of seniors, students, small business and middle class families, just to name a few. This is your money, and it amounts to, in some cases, thousands of dollars per person in Cambridge and North Dumfries. Simply put, our Government has proven that we are focused on you and the future of Canada!

In addition to these record tax cuts we are firmly on track to restoring health care and our military. We have addressed the fiscal imbalance, added support for industry, asserted our sovereignty, and have made great strides in our long ignored aboriginal community. We have invested record amounts in preserving sensitive lands and battling climate change, at home and under Stephen Harper's leadership; I am confident that a global consensus will be achieved.

I am pleased to have received Federal support for low-income housing, for better

health care as well as infrastructure locally. I was able to have \$18 million in GST payment refunded to some twenty-nine school boards including one of our own.

On a more solemn note, I was deeply saddened when I read about the violence which occurred in our region over Christmas. Despite obstruction by the Liberal opposition, last fall we introduced new anti-crime legislation which respects victims and law-abiding citizens. I have never supported the "Soft on Crime" approach; rather, I believe that we must help those in need and we must address the root cause of crime. At the same time, Canadians deserve a justice system which favours victims over criminals, property owners over grow-ops and the rights of our children over those of predators.

My New Year's resolution is simple. I will keep working hard for all of you, and I will continue to deliver real results through action not just words! I will continue to ensure that our community, students, seniors, families and businesses are protected and served at all times, even if the opposition calls an election.



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Please accept my sincere gratitude for your continued support and the privilege of serving this great community. As always, I encourage you to contact me should you have any ideas, concerns, or questions as the New Year unfolds. On behalf of my family and office staff, I wish you and your loved ones a Happy Easter.

Yours truly,

Dr. Gary Goodyear
Member of Parliament
Cambridge/North Dumfries

President's Message

Hello Fellow Conservatives

It has been an exciting winter so far. With no less than 13 confidence motions ranging from Afghanistan to crime and spending on the table in the House over the last few weeks, the threat of an election has been looming.

The latest Conservative budget was presented on February 26. This budget contained what many are calling "a few surprises". A new tax-free savings account allows Canadians to invest up to \$5,000 per year and any income generated from this savings is tax-free. A total of \$10.2 billion is planned to go towards paying down the National debt, and an increase in the Guaranteed Income Supplement exemption for seniors from \$500 to \$3500 will be presented.

At the time of writing this message it appears that the Liberals plan to support the budget so it is unlikely that there will be an election this spring. The vote on March 5 will confirm the answer to this question.

As always, Conservatives must be ready to defeat Dion whenever an election is called. Although the next election may not occur until 2009, there is still plenty of preparation to be done.

A couple of weeks ago I emailed previous volunteers to ask for your time to support Gary in the event of an election this spring. Thank you to all those that responded positively, from teenagers to people in their 80's. We

appreciate your help and we will surely make good use of your time. Even with no election likely, we can still use your help to make us even stronger in our war against the Liberals.

Please email offers of assistance, no matter how small, to cambridgecpc@rogers.com or visit our website at www.conservativecambridge.com.

Of course, we continue to build our financial war chest as well. Please help by supporting our Easter Ham fundraiser, which you will find enclosed with this newsletter. Donations, of course, are always welcome.

Looking into the future, please note on your calendar the date of our Annual General Meeting and BBQ, which has been set for Sunday September 7th, 2008 at the Newfoundland Club on Dunbar Road in Cambridge. With plenty of advance notice we hope to see all of you there.

Congratulations to the riding of Guelph on their successful Sir John A. MacDonald birthday dinner in January. It was great to see Conservatives from all over Ontario, including some from



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Cambridge, in attendance. Cambridge Conservatives took the opportunity to welcome Guelph's newly nominated candidate, Gloria Kovach and we wish her every success.

Finally, a big thank you to our ever persevering Member of Parliament, Gary Goodyear. Sessions in the House this winter have been hectic and full of turmoil. Gary, as usual, has thrown his heart, soul and full effort into representing the people of Cambridge and North Dumfries. Thank you again, Gary. We appreciate all your hard work.

Have a great Easter! I hope to see you all at the AGM in September.

Jennifer Perlock
Email:
President@ConservativeCamb
ridge.com

Campaign Manager's Message

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has indicated he will govern until the end of his mandate. However, the next federal election could be called soon as Liberal Leader Stephane Dion has threatened to force an election to "get back to power as quickly as possible."

The next election will provide a clear choice for Canadians. Prime Minister Harper has provided strong focused leadership and a productive government for our country. Moreover, in order to continue along this path we need to win the next election for Gary Goodyear to be part of a Conservative majority government. It is important to re-elect Gary, so he can continue to work hard on behalf of the residents of Cambridge and North Dumfries. Gary has a proven track record of getting things done and providing a strong voice in Ottawa for his constituents.

Therefore, we must be ready for an election whenever it comes. We are in the process of developing a strong campaign team. The key to any campaign victory are the volunteers. Many of you worked to get Gary elected in 2004 and re-elected in 2006. Your help was so valuable and would be greatly appreciated again.

In addition, we are looking for new volunteers who would like to experience the satisfaction of contributing to the democratic process, standing up for what they believe in as well as develop

new skills and be part of a great team of dedicated volunteers. Even if you can only commit to a few hours during the election writ period or help out in other ways, all contributions will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please get in touch with us.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

Kindest regards,

Larry Hardman
Campaign Manager

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.



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Fundraising

Greetings from your fundraising committee – Andrew Johnson, Ron Dancy and Bonita Dua. Your fundraising committee has made a commitment to lead the EDA in raising approximately \$30,000 annually for the puposes of maintaining the association, and preparing for federal elections.

We are blessed to have a healthy bank account as of today’s date, however with an election likely sooner rather than later, we need to draw in 2008’s income quickly and efficiently. In 2007 we established two levels of donation recognition: the ‘**Century Club**’ and the ‘**Member’s Circle**.’

For 2008, we will continue to advocate these levels, as follows: \$100* donation admits an individual to the Century Club level, and a \$500** donation admits an individual to the ‘Member’s Circle.’

The intent of these recognitions is to encourage steady, dependable giving. Your board will revisit the manner in which the levels are treated (ie complimentary admission to summer bbq’s, and special invitations to limited-access events, etc). Regardless of that issue, the funds still need be raised.

With this in mind, today we remind members and friends of the association to declare your 2008 giving plans now, with our personal invitation to meet one of these two levels. Here is a calculation of the benefits of giving to the local EDA.

Your Donation	Your Actual Cost
\$100*	\$25
\$250	\$63
\$500**	\$150
\$1000	\$442
\$1100	\$508

Please make cheques payable to **Conservative Fund Canada** and return to any member of the board when you can. We need your help to keep Gary Goodyear on Parliament Hill working for us! Many thanks from the fundraising team.

Andrew Johnson, Chairman
Fundraising Committee

Communications

Fellow Conservatives:

Your Communications Committee is meeting on a regular basis to develop strategies for reaching our two major goals: to educate and persuade the public regarding Conservative policy and to continually show the

Conservative Party and our MP, Gary Goodyear, in a positive light.

Look soon for a very public, very visible series of messages brought to Cambridge by our EDA. I won’t say any more at this time – I want it to be a surprise for the opposition!

As always, we need volunteers to help with writing letters to the Times and Record. This is an excellent way of presenting the conservative message to the public. If you have a way with words and can make a clear, persuasive case then please let me know at the e-mail below. Your help and input will be greatly appreciated!

Another initiative we are trying to launch is to set up a phone committee. Not only is it extremely important during a campaign, but very much needed in a pre-writ period such as we are in now. It is an excellent method of keeping our membership informed (since not everyone has email addresses). Ideally, we would like to set this up so that each telephone volunteer would have only a small number of constituents to contact. So please, folks, if you enjoy people and can give an hour of phoning 10-20 people once



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every few weeks or so, then let us know!

Finally, I ask for your help in cleaning up our database. It is very important that we are able to reach you with news and announcements of coming events, as well as with this newsletter which you are now reading. The least expensive way for us to do that is through email. So please take a moment right now to send us an email at the address below, with whatever contact information (address, phone, fax, email) you wish to give us. It will help your EDA to serve you better.

That's it for now. Please keep spreading the Conservative message with your friends and co-workers. If we have an election soon, I hope to be working with many of you personally. Happy Easter to all!

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

Website

Work continues of the website, with most of it up and running. In order to keep it updated and interesting (ever changing),

your input and contributions would be greatly appreciated. If you'd like to help, just send me an e-mail. Thank you.

David Estabrooks
webmaster@conservativecambridge.com

Information Technology

One of the jobs of the IT department within our constituency association is to keep track of our membership numbers, and to maintain an accurate database. We must consider the possibility of a Federal election at any time so if your membership has lapsed, then there is no better time than the present to renew your membership. This can be done easily online, and with the \$35 renewal fee for 5 years, it is not going to get any cheaper.

Another aspect of the IT department is, of course, our computer equipment. Our association considered the costs of renting versus the cost of buying, and purchased some used computers. These were in place prior to the last campaign and performed well as expected. They are in storage at the moment, awaiting the chance to propel our candidate to victory in the next election. We continue to

upgrade the machines as needed, as well as adding additional printer power. The computers are easily upgradeable to handle any software we might require and are more than up to the task of handling the Riding's IT needs in the foreseeable future.

Another very important task that the IT section has is to ensure that our contact database is as clean and accurate as possible. As you can imagine, this requires constant manual effort, since people are always moving, or changing their contact info. If you are able to donate some time, we could definitely use your help! This could be as simple as adding a phone number from the phone directory, or correcting an address. Also, due to the increasing cost of mailing, the more correct e-mail addresses we have, the better we are able to communicate with our members. We will be making a major effort this Spring to gather as many e-mail addresses as we can. Your help here would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me if you can help. Thank you in advance.

Dave Stocker
IT Chairman



Dear Conservative Member,

It's that time of year again! The Cambridge Electoral District Association is again holding its annual **Easter Ham Fundraiser**. Your continued support helps to fund the ongoing expenses of the Association as well as prepare for the next federal election campaign **to re-elect our MP, Gary Goodyear**.

Shown below is the **minimal cost of only \$18.75** for your donation after the tax credit.



<u>Donation</u>	<u>Zehrs Certificate</u>	<u>Tax Credit</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>
Personal Donation			
\$100.00	\$25.00	\$56.25	\$18.75

We thank you in advance for your generous financial support in making this year's Easter Ham Fundraiser another great success and Happy Easter!

Order Form

Yes, I would like to participate with a personal order and a \$100.00 donation.

Please make cheques payable to: **Conservative Fund Canada**

Please mail to: P.O. Box 23010, Cambridge ON N1S 4Z6

Form of Payment: Cheque Enclosed Visa/MasterCard/American Express

Name: _____ Street: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please Check Credit Card type:

Visa

MasterCard

American Express

Credit Card Orders may be Faxed to: 519-658-5156