

HOWARD STEVENSON*President, LPC(O)*

LPC(O)'s emphasis on EDA preparation notwithstanding, Liberals across this country and no less so in Ontario can all agree it has been less than a blast, results wise, since our AGM at the Windsor Casino to this weekend's downtown Toronto AGM

These events were bookended with By-Elections in Vaughan and Toronto Danforth, both losses at the polls but incredibly well supported with volunteers that might serve as a great model for a typical EDA to be satisfied they met the standard necessary to both create and pull the vote of identified Liberal supporters, an integral part of "Pound The Ground". Winning however includes a number of variables, EDA's can only contribute their quota

In between these events we had our date with Canadians on May 2, 2011 where we were remanded to third party status and reminded that the Liberal logo on a sign doesn't resonate as it once did. More pain than gain which we all want to remember and work not to repeat!

On a positive axis we enjoyed successful Executive Board Meetings along with a host of Regional Meetings, both at EB's and independently in the regions, focusing on Policy Motions and Constitutional Amendments all leading to vigorous and vocal LPC(O) sponsored contributions at the wonderfully attended LPC Biennial in January

The Biennial, while not an LPC(O) event, was well attended by LPC(O) members who voted in support of both directional and binding motions from the Road Map calling for change in how we conduct ourselves, present ourselves to Canadians and how we need to address growth through Membership. Also voted on was a bold new initiative called "supporters", who will be able to vote on who becomes our Permanent Leader

So we know there is an appetite for change and it's up to us to make it happen

It's Your Party, open minds/ears, constructive dialogue inside a mutually agreed Strategic Plan with objectives and accountability will provide the markers and timelines to make us competitive once again!

I want to offer my thanks to members of the Management Committee for their wisdom and solidarity in consistently working to reach conclusions they believed best served the interests of LPC(O) members and who did so for a period well beyond the term they signed on for and lest anyone forget I offer on behalf of us all our thanks to Judi Longfield and her staff for the amount and variety of tasks they fulfill with skill and enthusiasm. A standing ovation with a couple of curtain calls are in order.

In closing, there are a number of intersections in the role filled by your President and I truly appreciate the support, consideration and suggestions that have come my way. I look forward to more.

Respectfully,

Howard