

Winnipeg South

Federal Liberal Association

Newsletter

Spring 2014

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President's Message

As your new President, I look forward to working with all of you, as we unite with Liberals across the country in working toward our goal of having a Liberal government in place in 2015. Locally, many activities are coming up in which many of you will be involved and I thank you in advance for your hard work. Jacquie Field did a fabulous job in this position, and has left big shoes to fill – but I am confident that with help from her and all of you, we can continue to be an active and effective riding association.

Chas van Dyck

President

Winnipeg South News

New Boundaries Prompt Founding Meeting



New riding boundaries resulting from a federal redistribution required the Winnipeg South Federal Liberal Association to hold a founding meeting on February 18. More than 50 people crowded into the Pembina Trails Library to participate in the process. A new executive was nominated and confirmed. Names of the executive are posted on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WSFLA>. On behalf of WSFLA, Terry Duguid presented outgoing president Jacquie Field with a bouquet of flowers to thank her for her hard work as our President. A warm thank you to Sachit Mehra for providing the delicious snacks available at the meeting. A map of the riding's new boundaries is available at <http://www.elections.ca/res/cir/maps/mapprov.asp?map=46013&lang=e>

Photo (L-R): Terry Duguid, Pat Ferguson & Jacquie Field.

Did You Know that we have 374 Members and 1563 Supporters?

Manitoba Matters II

WSFLA had the largest representation of any riding at Manitoba Matters II, held on November 30, 2013 in Headingly. Discussion of policies to be forwarded to the Biennial Convention were preceded by presentations from three speakers: Treaty Commissioner Jamie Wilson, Keystone Agricultural Producers President Doug Chorney and MP Stephane Dion.



(L-R): Neil Johnston, Mintie Grienke & Al Grienke



<https://www.facebook.com/WSFLA>

Did You Know that our new **website** will be launched soon? Watch for it!

National News

Biennial Convention

Between February 20 and 23, 2014, approximately 3,000 Liberals from across the country gathered in Montreal for the Liberal Party of Canada's Biennial Policy Convention. Over the course of the weekend dozens of presentations were made by prominent Liberals on a wide range of topics and more than 160 policies submitted by members in each Electoral District Association were discussed and voted on. In the end more than two dozen policies were adopted by convention delegates and will become part of the party platform. Also of note, Anna Gainey won the race to be the new Party President. After a weekend full of exciting talks, policy discussions and eventful gatherings, convention delegates departed Montreal with a renewed energy and optimism that they brought back to their respective ridings, just in time for candidate nomination meetings.



Photo: (L-R) Jacquie Field, Neil Johnston & Al Grienke, three of the 84 members of the Manitoba delegation, recognizable by their metis sashes (not pictured). For more photos of Winnipeg South delegates at the convention see the photo album at <https://www.facebook.com/WSFLA>.

In Our Community

The (Un)Fair Elections Act

On March 11, a panel of electoral system experts discussed Bill C-23, the so-called Fair Elections Act, at an event organized by the Manitoba Institute for Policy Research at the University of M. Although the participants presented different reasons why the feds want to reduce the powers of the CEO of Elections Canada, there was consensus that much more debate was needed before this Bill becomes law. Exactly the opposite is happening; the Bill is on a fast-track.



There is no evidence that voter-instigated fraud was widespread or frequent in Canadian federal elections. Marc Mayrand, quoted by Josh Wingrove in Globe and Mail, said, "It is essential to understand that the main challenge for our electoral democracy is not voter fraud, but voter participation."*

*<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/bill-would-disenfranchise-voters-hand-parties-too-much-power-electoral-officer-warns/article17347400/>

Saving Lake Winnipeg



Winnipeg South Past Candidate Terry Duguid was one of four speakers at the Community Forum "Lake Winnipeg: Strategies to Save Our Lake" organized by the Winnipeg South Centre Federal Liberal Association on February 16 at the Qualico Family Centre in Assiniboine Park.

Upcoming Events

Wonderful Wednesday

Winnipeg South will be hosting Wonderful Wednesday, a mix and mingle event for Liberal Members, Supporters and Friends on June 4. Watch your email for more wonderful details!

Liberal Party of Canada (Manitoba) Annual General Meeting

When: Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3

Where: Holiday Inn South, 1330 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Register: <https://manitoba.liberal.ca/files/2014/03/2014-AGM-Registration-Form.pdf>



Victory Fund

The simplest and most affordable way to support the Liberal Party and help pursue our national and local goals:

- You make small, monthly contributions of \$10 or more.
- Part goes to the national office and part goes to the riding of your choice.

You not only help the Liberal candidate in your riding but also allow the party to develop policy to help build a better Canada and share our vision from coast to coast to coast.

After a year-end tax credit of up to 75%, your minimum \$10 monthly donation to the Victory Fund will cost you as little as \$2.50 per month - less than 10 cents a day! Give to the Victory Fund and help build the Canada of tomorrow, today. <https://action.liberal.ca/en/VictoryFund>

Quotable Opinions

"These (Economic Action Plan) ads are ubiquitous and you are paying for them, courtesy of the Conservative government's flagrant, costly and determined use of your money to brag about itself."

Jeffrey Simpson, March 8, Globe and Mail

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/the-conservatives-very-own-oscarsselfie/article17357485/#dashboard/follows/>

"But Harper's Conservatives are increasingly looking like denizens of a daycare protecting their turf in the sandbox." *Tim Harper, The Star, February 27,*

2014. http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2014/02/27/stephen_harpers_conservatives_move_from_partisan_to_petty_tim_harper.html

"The next election will be about both style and substance... Mr. Trudeau is a new, young leader who listens. Canadians want a different kind of politics. And Canada deserves a better, more compassionate, and more competent, government." *Bob Rae, February 24, 2014, Globe and Mail.*

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/trudeau-reveals-a-talent-and-resilience-that-his-foes-should-respect/article17061949>