

YOUR RIDING NEWSLETTER



Dear Liberal Friends,

It's been a busy couple of months for the Liberal Party. We are continuing to regain the trust and support of our fellow Canadians as we look for new ideas and hold the Harper Government to account.

I had the honour and privilege of Co-Chairing our National Biennial Convention in Ottawa in January. A record number of Liberals gathered to debate policy, make fundamental changes to how our party is governed, and above all else, show Canadians that the Liberal Party is the only united, progressive, fiscally responsible choice to lead our country. It was a remarkable weekend. In my opening comments I was asked to express my hopes for the convention. Two thoughts that came to mind – the first was that we finish the convention united in our desire to build a forward looking party with bold new ideas and a sense of purpose, and the second that we begin a new Liberal movement that would spread across Canada, person by person, community by community, city by city, until the positive, inspiring message of the Liberal party could be heard by all.

Message from your Riding President...

It has been a busy few months as our North Van our EDA is looking for new ways to engage our community. I have been encouraged by the local interest in the events and discussions we've put forward such as the policy roundtable in November and the popular visit from Justin Trudeau in January. Stay tuned because we will do more - such as policy-based discussions, forums and fundraisers with some very special guests. As our membership numbers continue to increase month over month, we need to capitalize on the public's need for an alternative to Harper's government. I hope to see more of each of you as we take our party's outreach to a new level in 2012.

Paul Marley

Liberal
North Vancouver

When we sat up on the stage for our final moments at the convention, I looked out onto the thousands that had braved icy roads, cold weather, long flights and long nights. I saw smiles, I felt a sense of hope, a sense of determination, and a commitment to work together in spite of our differences to build a better Canada. And as I stood beside the other Co-Chairs, Mauril Belanger, Noushig Eloyan, and Randy Boissonnault, each of us agreed that our party is strong and that we really are creating something new.

Coming out of that euphoria, we have renewed strength in pushing our message outward, North Vancouver Liberals are at the forefront of the fight against the Harper Conservative agenda on Canada. Joyce Murray and I joined Open Media at a forum at UBC on bill C-10, the Vic Toews sponsored legislation, that would force internet providers to provide law enforcement and government agencies access to the email accounts and internet records of ordinary Canadians without a warrant. For a government that refused to share Gun Registry records with the provinces based on privacy concerns, it is a curious and suspect move to allow law enforcement access to what we write and which sites we visit, without the need for a warrant.

continued...

Upcoming Events

Our EDA is busy organizing a few events on the north shore in the coming month. Stay tuned to your inbox for more details.

April 17, 2012 - starting 7:30pm PST Celebrations kick off to recognize 30 years of our Charter of Rights and Freedoms - events on the north shore and across the country. More details soon at liberal.ca

Late April - Environmental Policy roundtable with Joyce Murray and Taleeb Noormohamed. Details tba.

Similarly, over the last few weeks, we have been shocked by the abuse of democracy that is the Robo-calling scandal. Even Prime Minister Harper's own former Chief of Staff, Ian Brodie admits that "something has gone on, on a scale I've never seen before." A number of incidents have been brought to our attention in North Vancouver, and we are encouraging anyone who received a misleading call to alert Elections Canada immediately. These types of voter suppression tactics are an affront on democracy and I have called for a full Public Inquiry into these incidents so that Canadians will know the truth and the perpetrators can be held to account. If the allegations are true, then political operatives will have committed crimes that must be punished to the fullest extent of the law. It will be a fine opportunity for Stephen Harper to put his new prisons to good use.

I encourage you to challenge, at every turn, government policies that are reshaping our country for the worse – the new Crime bill, the new Immigration legislation, bill C-10 – the opportunities are limitless. **Find an issue you believe in, and hold this government to account.** This is truly a team effort, so talk to your friends and neighbors about these issues and make them aware of what's going on in Parliament.

We also have much to look forward to as spring begins, and many across North Vancouver celebrate the holiday of Norouz. Norouz marks the beginning of the New Year for the Persian and Ismaili communities. We extend a heartfelt Norouz Mubarak to all. This holiday marks a time of renewal and rebirth, and just as the Liberal party renews itself and welcomes new members and supporters, it is a time for us to reflect on the contributions that we can all make to our community and to our country as we celebrate the arrival of spring. We will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in April, and this should be a catalyst for us to reach out to our friends and share with them the Liberal vision for Canada that emanates from the Charter..

I look forward to seeing you all at our next event, and hearing from you with any ideas, comments, or thoughts you might wish to share.

My best,

Taleeb

Taleeb Noormohamed, past candidate for North Vancouver

In Case You Missed It...

The Conservatives have released their latest attack ad - this time targetting our own interim leader Bob Rae. <http://tinyurl.com/73mjyzt/>

In an interview with CBC Rae said the ad seems to be meant to "change the channel" away from the controversy over fraudulent election calls.

"The only thing I find interesting is here they're coming after me — the interim leader of the third party three years before an election starts," said Rae.

In a later email to LPC members Rae continues "We need to talk directly to Canadians about Harper's failure on the economy, about an election fraud scandal that has shaken Canada's faith in its democracy. And yes, about a Prime Minister who has cheapened and tarnished Canadian politics."

"That means rallying together as Liberals to show Conservatives that whenever they take aim at us, they make us stronger. That an attack on any one of us, is an attack on us all."

Rae says the Liberal party will fight back against the attack ad.

"We need to talk directly to Canadians about Harper's failure on the economy, about an election fraud scandal that has shaken Canada's faith in its democracy. And yes, about a Prime Minister who has cheapened and tarnished Canadian politics."

The scale of LPC's response will depend on how generous Canadians will be - you can contribute by supporting the "**Strong Start Campaign.**" Details at www.liberal.ca

Contact Us

Follow us on Twitter: @NVLiberals

Friend us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/North-Vancouver-Federal-Liberal-Riding-Association/200375930064394>

General Inquiries about the NVEDA:

Paul Marley, President pmarley@rampworth.com

New Members Welcome! Inquiries:

Susan Matheson, Membership Chair

susanmatheson@shaw.ca