



The *InFormer*



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ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF
FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

Interviews

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INTERVIEW WITH MARY- LYN MUSHINSKI

By David Warner

"Believe in what you are doing and you can achieve it." - Marilyn Mushinski

Marilyn Mushinski, having emigrated to Canada from England in 1967, settled in Scarborough. A bit later, married and a stay-at-home mom, she sought something interesting which would connect her to her community. The local library had a program, sponsored by the Canadian Mental Health Association, for young mothers. Childcare was provided. There were regular guest speakers who explored socially relevant topics. This led to her interest in housing for developmentally challenged adults, a Women's Centre and other local social issues. It was the beginning of decades of dedication to local issues.

A phone call from a neighbour was the catalyst to take Marilyn's local advocacy issues to another level. The neighbour asked, "Did you know the city is widening McCowan Road without any consultation?" The answer to the question was in the form of creating a community association and attending council meetings. Marilyn Mushinski was bitten by the political bug.

Grassroots activism resulted in a 12-year tenure as a City of Scarborough Councillor. As most city councillors do, she tackled a wide range of issues. The common thread

was the focus on local decision-making. A change was in store for Mushinski when she became the MPP for Scarborough-Ellesmere. "Party policies and the Party line were more important than local decision making. On the Council, political partisanship was not part of how we arrived at decisions. This abrupt change, I experienced at Queen's Park was like being thrown into the deep end of the pool."

As an MPP, travelling the Province, getting to know Members from across the aisle, and working with talented, committed staff at Queen's Park, all contributed to a memorable experience. "My time in the Legislature gave me the opportunity to make new friends, appreciate those on the other side of the House and gain an appreciation of the Assembly staff."

Marilyn Mushinski's Private Member's Bill, while passing 2nd reading, enjoying support from the three Parties, "caused a headache for the Attorney General (Jim Flaherty). I introduced 'The Judicial Accountability Act' as a way to address what I saw as 'judge shopping' by some criminal lawyers in an effort to get more lenient sentences for their clients." The Bill

did not become law.

Life after politics featured an appointment to the Social Benefits Review Tribunal. "Hearing appeals by those whose application for benefits had been denied was a good experience. Listening, making decisions and writing reports was demanding of time and energy, but rewarding. Some of my decisions ended up in summary reports. And as a bonus, I learned how to use the computer!"

Mushinski sat on the Tribunal for 11 years and might have stayed longer, but health challenges intervened, resulting in her retirement.

Marilyn Mushinski acquired some guiding principles from her mother while pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree at York University - and from John Sewell (former Mayor of Toronto). Her mom stressed "think globally, but act locally." Toronto's former Mayor instilled "We can

achieve anything if we believe in it. Never forget where you came from."

Marilyn Mushinski has accomplished a lot over the years and she certainly has never forgotten her roots.

Political Career

Councillor, City of Scarborough 1982 – 1994

MPP, Progressive Conservative

Scarborough-Ellesmere 1995 – 1999

Scarborough Centre 1999 – 2003

Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation 1995-1998



Marilyn Mushinski

INTERVIEW WITH RANDY HOPE

MPP New Democrat 1990-1995 Chatham-Kent
Mayor of Chatham Kent 2006 - 2018

By David Warner

“Leadership involves meeting people where they are at, bringing yourself into their world.”

- Randy Hope

Randy Hope's leadership skills have been highlighted in a wide variety of circumstances. In a span of 3 decades, Hope served as President of the Canadian Auto Workers Local 1941, President of the Chatham and District Labour Council, Member of Provincial Parliament and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Community and Social Services, and Mayor of Chatham Kent.

In each of these positions of responsibility, Hope applied the same approach. “In each position I held, I was dealing with issues affecting working individuals and families. The key is to listen, understand the situations and connect the dots. Whether it is business or labour, bring yourself into their world. You need to meet people where they are at, in their environment.”

Randy Hope, whose father died when Randy was fifteen, acknowledged, “perhaps because I was young when my dad died, I always wanted to prove myself. I learned early on to listen carefully, pay attention to what was being said and be engaged in problem solving.”

In 1998, twenty-three communities were amalgamated, creating the municipality of Chatham-

Kent, a move which was not popular. The area, which is about one half the size of Prince Edward Island, has a population of 110,000, with a mixture of urban and rural communities stretching over 2400 square km, with a great diversity of challenges.

In 2006, Randy Hope was elected Mayor of Chatham-Kent. “The municipality had a debt of \$186 million and was a divided community. Amalgamation brought about the feeling that everything would revolve around the City of Chatham and those other communities would be forgotten. I needed some way to bring the rural communities into the discussions around tackling the issues which also affected them. First, I began with the creation of a Community Council; volunteers coming together in each smaller community. Then, I created a Community Leaders Cabinet comprised of the private sector, community groups, First Nations and government agencies to work on a strategic focus on how to grow Chatham-Kent, be viable, reduce costs, while at the same time providing the highest quality of life for citizens within the Municipality. The various sectors were able to develop a shared vision. People

felt engaged, part of government. They helped set the stage for the achievements which were to follow. ”

Education and Learning

- Promoted the Canada Learning Bond
- Promoted hosting international students
- Took part in World Read Aloud Day
- Hosted Education Sector Connection meeting

Economy

- Participated in EmployerOne Survey
- Supported SWIFT Project
- Championed Future Generation Project –CK
- Participated in CK Plan 2035 development
- Supported Bill C-274 (transfer of small business or family farm or fishing corporation)

[Bill failed]

Healthy Living

- Advocated for access to dental care for low-income adults
- Championed Welcoming Community Designation
- Used Meet Well Guidelines
- Advanced Living Wage
- Championed Mental Health Promotion
- Went Green for Mental Health Week
- Creating a green community and receiving financial reward
- Wind turbines: the Municipality

accounts for about 25% of all wind turbines in the province and 12% of the entire country. “We are producing more than 881 megawatts of power through wind.” and putting community foundation funds into place so groups could access funds

Chatham-Kent grows for the world

- Agriculture is more than a \$3 billion industry in Chatham-Kent. “Our crops are not grown in a lot of other places in Ontario or even the United States. With over seventy-three different crops and with the worlds largest freshwater fishing ports, which is why I stood strong with the Great Lakes and St Lawrence Cities Initiative, and working with our USA Mayors, to protect the fresh water.
- In 2015, Chatham-Kent officially responded to our country's commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees. In return the Canadian government recognized the Municipality as an official “Welcoming Community” for all newcomers.

Life After Politics

When the pandemic hit, Hope made use of the international connections he had made while Mayor to obtain a donation of 10,000 masks from Liyang, China, a city of about one million.

“I established White Knight Advisory International Inc. We offer site selections services for companies National and International, offering government relations work at all levels and project management. We assist a wide range of activities from innovation companies to investment companies. It was important to take what I had learned over the years and



Randy Hope

take what I had learned over the years and put it to good use.”

An example of Hope's advisory work is his direct involvement with 'The Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative.' This group's task is to produce a strategy for dealing with the problem of toxic algae bloom incidents that have become more frequent in the western basin of Lake Erie.

Perhaps one of the best testaments to Randy Hope's tenure as Mayor was recognition by the

World Health Organization of Chatham-Kent as an age friendly community.

INTERVIEW WITH PATRICK REID

'The Man from Rainy River'
By David Warner

Patrick Reid, age twenty-four, came from Fort Frances, a small town in north-western Ontario. He was elected as the Liberal-Labour MPP for Rainy River in 1967. He was emulating his older brother John, who two years earlier had been elected as the Liberal-Labour MP for Kenora-Rainy River. Patrick served for 17 years, his brother John 19 years, both coincidentally retiring in 1984.

"Politics was in my blood," said Patrick. "My parents were always politically active. There was lots of political discussion at the dinner table. My dad ran Provincially in 1943, as Liberal-Labour, losing by a handful of votes."

Soldiers returning home from the World War I battlefields found it extremely difficult to find jobs. Unemployment became a catalyst to create the Labour Party of Canada, a Party for workers, strongly emphasizing that they were not socialist, the Communist Revolution having recently occurred.

1926, Kenora Riding.

The Liberals and the Labour local Parties realized they were always splitting the vote, allowing the Conservative to win. So, each Party held its nomination at the same time

and in each case nominated the same individual, Peter Heenan.

Queen's Park – 1968

"The House didn't sit as frequently as it does now, so although I was elected in October, 1967, the House didn't sit until the following March. Perhaps because it didn't sit a lot, whenever anyone gave a speech, everyone was on hand to listen. A wonderful vivid memory for me was that before rising to make my maiden speech in the House, Premier Robarts sent me a note wishing me good luck."

What was it like for a 24-year-old MPP in a House of mostly much older Members?

"I think that because of my age I was underrated. The average age of Members at that time was forty-eight. At first I was simply dismissed."

What those seated in the Chamber didn't know was that Patrick Reid had a background which prepared him quite well for the political arena. While in high school, Patrick accepted the opportunity to learn public speaking by taking a course sponsored by Steep Rock Iron Mines and given by Roger Thew, Safety Superintendent.

Safety Superintendent.

Political Career Starts in Manitoba

Patrick Reid, age 16, was elected to the Students' Council of the University of Manitoba, then elected as Senior Stick of St. Paul's College. He participated in the debating society as well as being part of mock parliament.

Editor's note: Senior Stick is the same as College President of the Students' Council.

Memories of Queen's Park

"I enjoyed the debates, although in the last few years they were not quite so enjoyable. There was a nasty tone at times, and it was obvious that some members who joined in a debate were not well prepared. I appreciated being on Committees, especially the Select Committees. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet Members from

other Parties. I found that, just as in life, having a sense of humour in the political arena was helpful.

A highlight of my time there was serving on the Public Accounts Committee. This turned out to be where I could make a substantive difference."

Patrick Reid chaired the Public Accounts Committee for 7 years. During that time, he changed the way in which that Committee functioned. There would be close collaboration with the Provincial Auditor in focusing on the prominent issues that affected the Ontario Finances. Reid was able to establish an annual meeting of the Chairs of the Public Accounts Committees across the country at the same time as the Auditors were having their annual meeting. The Chairs would meet a half-day together to discuss items of mutual concern.



Patrick Reid, MPP at age 24

"The staff at Queen's Park were wonderful; my own staff and Legislative staff."

Life After Queen's Park

Although Patrick Reid was not a geologist or an engineer, and there were thirty candidates for the job, he was hired in 1984 as the Executive Director of the Ontario Mining Association, a position which he held for 20 years. Part way along his title was changed to President.

"I came from a Riding where mining was important. I knew the issues and I understood mining operations. And it was important to me to maintain my northern roots.

There was lots of committee work, constant contact with government departments over a wide variety of issues and concerns. Obviously, the most important issue being that of health and safety. I enjoyed my time with the OMA."

The Last Liberal-Labour MPP

Patrick Reid retired from the Legislature in 1984. Shortly after that, the local Rainy River District Liberal Association decided to drop the Liberal-Labour designation. Perhaps they realized they had hit a high-water mark and couldn't do better than the "Man from Rainy River."

"WOMEN IN POLITICS"- INTRODUCTION

"I do not want to be the angel of any home; I want for myself what I want for other women, absolute equality. After that is secured, then men and women can take turns at being angels."

- Agnes Macphail, first woman Member of Parliament in Canada, 1921-1940.

In 2017, our Special Edition, "Women and the Vote" was published to commemorate (some) women getting the vote in 1917. The path

to gender equality in politics has not been an easy one. Eventually all women were allowed to vote, then able to seek elected office. There have been female Premiers in Canada and one (albeit for a very short time) female Prime Minister. Trying to establish gender equality in terms of attitudes and behaviour is a task not yet completed.

The experiences of three former MPPs are told in this edition of The InFormer.

“WOMEN IN POLITICS” INTERVIEW WITH GILLIAN SANDMAN

By David Warner

Let's talk about women in politics. Take me back to 1974. There was a federal election. You are living in Peterborough, Ontario. This was your initial foray into the political arena. Why did you want to run?

“I didn't seek the nomination. It was clear that we would come a distant third and it was difficult to find a candidate. None of the men were willing to run and I was finally persuaded by Walter Pitman to accept the nomination. And, yes, I did come a distant third.

The following year it was equally clear that Peterborough had a good chance of sending an NDP member to Queen's Park. A nomination meeting was held. What a coincidence that those men who were so reluctant the year before were now front and centre at the meeting! Those were the days when it seemed that women candidates were mostly found in ridings that were not winnable.

It was also a time when many middle class women with children didn't go out to work. Some men would proudly say “I wouldn't let my wife work,” as if doing so would somehow

diminish their own value. Luckily I'm married to a feminist, so that question didn't arise in our household. But it very often did on the doorstep.

One of the advantages of being a woman candidate in a potentially winnable riding was that a large group of women - who were normally not active in campaigns - joined the large volunteer team. Many of those women would normally have supported the Liberal candidate but they were motivated not only by the chance to upset the long Tory reign but also by the hope that a woman could do it.

Now that women candidates are a normal feature of campaigns, I think that women are less likely to cross party lines. In the recent Federal election there were four women candidates in Peterborough, one of whom had held Cabinet positions in Trudeau's government. How times have changed!

I think I was fortunate to have been elected in a gentler time before the excesses of social media made extreme attacks on women in politics so easy and so ubiquitous. But it was also a time when misogyny was so pervasive

that it often went unquestioned and even unnoticed.

Immediately before I was elected I was a Probation Officer and it was obvious that many people, including men on probation, felt that wasn't a suitable job for a woman and that was also a pervasive belief about women in politics.

There were 125 Members at Queen's Park in 1975. Seven of us were women; the largest contingent of women to sit in the Pink Palace. I joined Evelyn Gigantes and Marian Bryden in the NDP caucus. Bill Davis had some impressive women on the government benches and appointed them to his Cabinet. It was only 15 years later that Bob Rae had an equal number of women and men in his first Cabinet and the atmosphere was completely different. I'd like to think that what happened in 1975 was perhaps a catalyst for change. [Editor's note: The other women were three Progressive Conservatives; Margaret Birch, Margaret Scrivener, Dr. Bette

Stephenson and one Liberal, Margaret Campbell.]

On my very first day in the Legislative Chamber I found myself, much to my surprise, rising on a personal point of privilege. I thanked the Speaker for the seating charts that were helpfully provided for us but wondered why it was necessary to identify the marital status of the women members: we were all listed as either Mrs. or Miss while the men were plain David Warner or John Smith.

I remember that in those far off times, a married woman had to rely on a husband to be able to perform many simple activities. The Toronto Star ran a story (cleverly orchestrated by the brilliant NDP research department) about an MPP – me – being able to be elected in my own right but unable to acquire a credit card without the permission and signature of my husband.

In the House we were dealing with a number of important matters of family law - much of which improved women's status and rights - and it



Gillian Sandman

women's status and rights - and it was good to be able to contribute to the debate. As it was a minority government and the NDP were proud to be Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition we also had some real influence.

It was good to see Members from all parties genuinely working together to improve legislation - one of the advantages of minority parliaments.

-Gillian Sandman

"WOMEN IN POLITICS" "I'LL SHOW YOU A HOT FLASH"

By Marilyn Churley

It was daily Question Period in the Legislature; New Democratic leader Howard Hampton was querying Health Minister George Smitherman about service de-listings. Our Party was livid about some of the cuts and as usual, insults were being hurled across the floor. I was doing some pretty loud heckling of my own and things were getting noisy. Soon the Speaker was on his feet pleading for order. Just as things were beginning to settle down, a Liberal government backbencher decided to get in the game. He yelled, "Mr. Speaker, it's okay, her hot flash is over now."

What! I couldn't let that go. I rose on a point of order, informing the Speaker what the member had said and demanded an apology. The member stood up but made matters worse by an attempt at humour. He stated he was only trying to provide an explanation as to why I needed to vent and then blathered on about

male menopause to show, in his mind, he wasn't being sexist. (When have you ever heard a man being accused of being rowdy because of a hot flash?). All hell broke loose on both sides of the House. To their credit many Liberal members looked mortified, especially the women.

All I wanted was a sincere apology and I would have considered that the end off it. But after that fauxpology, I really was hot under the collar. I jumped out of my chair and charged at him. I hardly remember what I said, but afterwards a Liberal member trapped in the crossfire told me I was yelling, "You want to see flash, I'll show you flash." Both the Sargent-at-Arms and another member, Peter Kormos, came rushing into the fray to restrain me. Picture that!

For non-apology number two, the offending member sat beside me looking remorseful, put his hand gently on my arm and

said, "I am sorry Marilyn." Just as I was ready to accept his apology and move on, to my astonishment, in a patronizing tone he went on to say that he is a doctor and his mother a gynecologist, ergo he understands these things. Really!

And then finally came the "genuine apology" as he stood up and read a well-crafted formal statement of contrition clearly written for him by his stunned and furious Liberal colleagues.

This happened in 2004, but it certainly wasn't the first time I had to deal with such nonsense in the workplace. A few years before this incident, I was grilling then Premier Mike Harris on the cancelling of hot breakfast programs for school children in low-income areas. For many children in the Province that was the only nutritious meal they would get all day so of course I was outraged. A male member of the Conservative backbench piped up and angrily shouted, "Oh, you should be home feeding your own kids."

Because I was a woman, this colleague thought at that moment I should be in the kitchen making lunch for my kids instead of forcefully advocating for children who desperately needed a wholesome meal. Comments like these are intended to marginalize the voices of women, to suggest we don't belong making laws for our communities, and that we should not be taken seriously.

Remember the days when men in the U.S. engaged in "serious" discussions about whether they could risk a female president because, yikes! what if

she had her finger on the button while she was PMS-ing.

I was upset by these comments, but they didn't remotely define me. Being a woman means one experiences misogynistic and sexist behaviour; public life invites some of the worst of it. I have served as a Toronto City Councillor, Cabinet Minister, Deputy Leader of my party and Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, and in those roles received a plethora of graphic violent threats of a sexual nature and even death threats. But in the day-to-day I was still having to fight off foolish sexist comments meant to belittle and humiliate me. It just gets so tiresome.

Let's call it what it is. These kinds of petty comments are offensive reminders of the way our society views women; they function to maintain patriarchy and male superiority over women, and they need to be taken seriously. Sometimes we "play along" so as not to be seen as uptight prudes who can't take a joke. But we shouldn't. Men who make these kinds of comments may think they are just being funny, but they show what they really think of us, and we should raise our voices to make sure they know what we really think about them.

On the upside, there were a few gratifying moments in all of this, particularly on the issue of female biology. My staff and I made some cool t-shirts that were hot sellers; hot pink, with the defining words: I'M JUST HOT across the front. I participated in many media interviews, and though I braced



Marilyn Churley

myself for right-wing hosts to suggest that the impacts of menopause could influence middle-aged women's political performance, it didn't happen. In fact, one female host, live on CFRB, said something like, "Marilyn, if some guy said that to me, I'd turn into a pit bull and rip his throat out." Obviously, that's not the answer even though at times it is an attractive option.

My advice to female politicians is to hold steady and always call men out when this kind of thing happens. It's not just a joke. It's not appropriate. It is a teachable moment because it is never just about you; it's cultural and it negatively effects all women, and our ability to be heard and respected. And men who insult women using sexist language should think about how they would feel if it were directed at their daughter, partner, mother, grandmother.

Times change, but not quickly enough. It's hard to push back in these days of toxic social media where female politicians (and women

working in other public positions i.e., journalists) are routinely objectified and threatened with sexual violence. But we must push back when the opportunity presents itself.



I'm just Hot! T-shirt

“WOMEN IN POLITICS” - LYN McLEOD

By Lyn McLeod

I truly believe that, in over thirty years of being in political office, at both local and provincial levels, I never experienced anti-female bias in my local Riding, either as a candidate or as an elected representative. That may be because I first ran as a school trustee, where women, at that time, were a small minority but beginning to be valued.

By the time I ran as a candidate for Provincial office, I had a solid record of electability, and my Riding Association came together to run an incredible campaign, overcoming the pessimistic early polls. I have never doubted that local campaigns count! I had the satisfaction of defeating the long time Conservative incumbent who had the dubious distinction of having told Sheila Copps to “go back to the kitchen.”

There was certainly bias, both overt and subtle, against a woman at a leadership level, which

I experienced as a Minister, and as leader of a Party. There were ingrained attitudes about what a leader should look like and sound like and, more significantly, about what a woman could (and should) do. I hope, and believe, that as more women have successfully taken on leadership roles, those attitudes have changed, or at least, are beginning to change....but I will let those who have been in the field more recently than I speak to that. - Lyn McLeod



Lyn McLeod, MPP 1987-2003

OUR COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE RECEIVED HONORARY DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES

DAVE COOKE

Honorary Diploma - St Clair College
Honorary Degree - University of
Windsor

JUDY MARSALES

Honorary Diploma, Distinguished
Fellow - Mohawk College

REZA MORIDI

Honorary doctorate - Odlar Yurdu
University, Baku, Azerbaijan

PREMIER MICHAEL D. HARRIS

Honorary Doctorate of Letters from
Nipissing University

MARION BOYD

Honorary Doctor of Laws - Law
Society of Ontario
Doctorate of Laws - York University

GREG SORBARA

Honorary Degree – York University

Rick Bartolucci:

Honorary Doctor of Laws -
Laurentian University

Honorary Doctor of Sacred Letters –
Huntington University

REV. BILL FERRIER

Honorary Doctor of Divinity –
Huntington University

MARILYN CHURLEY

Honorary Doctor of Laws – Memorial
University

BOB CHIARELLI

Honorary Degree, Algonquin College,
Ottawa

FLOYD LAUGHREN

Honorary Doctorate of Law from
Laurentian University

Lifetime Achievement Award,
Clarkson University, Potsdam, New
York

United Way of Ottawa, Community
Builder Award 2003

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MITRO (MAC) MAKARCHUK

(November 1, 1929 – July 24, 2021)

New Democrat Member of Provincial Parliament
for the Riding of Brantford

Served in the 28th, 30th and 31st Parliaments (1967-71, 1975-81)

Mac Makarchuk was a Member of the Select Committee on Reports 4 and 5 on the Ontario Commission of the Legislature and the Striking Committee to appoint members to Standing Committees. He also served on 6 Standing Committees; Administration of Justice, Resources Development, Public Accounts, Natural Resources and Tourism, Agriculture and Food, Labour.

Biographical Sketch

City Councillor for Brantford –
1972-75, 1982-85

Journalist for the Brantford
Expositor

Seaman Royal Canadian Navy

Flight Lieutenant, Royal Canadian
Air Force, stationed in various places
across the world

Built boats and chartered them

Active in the anti-nuclear arms
movement

Supported various political and
environmental organizations and a
progressive news service

Tributes by Former Colleagues

“Mac or the Admiral as he was known
passed away peacefully on July 24th,

2021. I got to know him about 40
years ago when I was new to Canada
and Mac took me under his wing.
He was a one -of-a-kind, charismatic
individual with a boundless sense
of humour, a powerful influence on
everyone around him and those who
met him.

In addition to his many
different interests Mac had a long and
varied, adventure-filled, life as a Royal
Canadian Navy seaman and Royal
Canadian Air Force Flight Lieutenant.

He was a journalist, boat
builder, cruiser, and charterer. If you
are wondering where Mac got the
nickname of “The Admiral,” it was
because he operated a fleet of boats.
His first boat was based in Port Dover
which I got to know very well, as well
as the pub called the ‘Tilting Hilton’ in
Port Dover. Mac also operated boat
cruises out of Toronto and Windsor
until a few years ago.

In addition to all the other
jobs he had, he ran a coffee house
called the Louis Riel. Back then he
was supporting the newly graduated
doctors from the U of T before they
went west to scab on their peers who
were striking in Saskatchewan in the
early 1960’s against Tommy Douglas’s



Mitro (Mac) Makarchuk

Medicare Program. It was also (it was rumored) where Joni Mitchell performed, before she became well known.

Mac was active in the anti-nuclear arms movement supported various political and environmental organizations to which Mac was fully committed. Mac along with his wife Carolynne were world travellers through dozens of countries, sunned in the tropics, enjoyed good wine, fine dining, and above all good conversation especially if it was political. Mac will be especially missed by MYSELF and all his friends from the waterfront."

- Noel Duignan

"Mac beat me for the NDP in 1977, and I beat him in 1981." We used to joke that it was a draw."
- Phil Gillies (Brantford Expositor August 19, 2021)

Former Brantford Mayor and MPP, David Neumann said Mr. Makarchuk "was never afraid to speak

up on the Council or anywhere else." He remembers Mac championing the creation of a community centre in Eagle Place, which later became known as the Doug Snooks Community Centre, and promoting a review of the city's welfare system." - Brantford Expositor August 19, 2021

"Mac Makarchuk was a fascinating fellow with a remarkable range of interests and careers. He was an airman, a seaman, a journalist, a City Councillor, an MPP, a yachtsman, a world traveller, a bon vivant and, as someone once said of him, a born rabble rouser. I remember meeting him for the first time shortly after I was elected in 1975. I remember Mac as someone who almost always met you with a smile, as someone passionate in his politics, tenacious in debate and someone who enjoyed the finer things in life, like a good wine. Mac travelled far from his rural roots in northern Saskatchewan but never forgot the people who required the support of a caring government.

He was their tribune and as far as I could tell, he served them well. " - Sean Conway

"I did not serve with Mac in the Ontario Legislature, but like many, I knew and liked him well. He was a renowned people person, wonderful sense of humour and a delightful story teller. He made a great contribution to our public life." - Bob Rae

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MICHAEL CHARLES RAY

(August 27, 1936 - October 7, 2021)

Michael Ray was Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole House, served on the Select Committee on Energy and three Standing Committees; Regulations and Private Bills, Legislative Assembly, General Government.

Academic Background

- Honours B.A. Economics and Political Science, University of Western Ontario,
- Bachelor's Degree, Ontario College of Education
- Law degree, University of Windsor Law School
- Called to the Ontario Bar in 1973

Life As A Lawyer

- Director, clinical law, Faculty of Law, Legal Assistance Program, University of Windsor
- Instrumental in developing the curriculum for clinical law students

- Helped change the practice, allowing legal students more access to clinical experience in all court rooms

Political Life

- 1980 – 1987 Alderman, City of Windsor
- 1987 - 1990 Liberal Member of Provincial Parliament for Windsor-Walkerville

Life After Politics

Michael Ray returned to practicing law and acted as the lead regional counsel for the Support and Custody Legal Services Branch of the Ministry of the Attorney General.

Michael Ray was a member of various community, city, provincial and federal agencies, and served on many boards, commissions and committees, including:

- Windsor Regional Hospital (Former Chairman)
- Windsor-Essex Development Commission
- Windsor Police Services Board
- Windsor Port Authority
- YQG Airport Board

Tributes From Former Colleagues

"I got to know Mike Ray when he served on City Council here in Windsor. He was always prepared and expressed strong views. One in particular that I recall and wish we had today in Windsor Essex was his view on urban sprawl on land that was not serviced. He was like a dog with a bone on this issue, even though it riled up those in the County where this development was occurring. In the Legislature I enjoyed, as an opposition member, getting under his skin during debate. Mike would get very agitated and then I would sit down and we both laughed. Never personal.

After Mike's time in the Legislature he continued community service on a number of local Boards. His leadership as Chair of Windsor Regional Hospital Board was outstanding and he contributed to the planning for our new hospital. I always enjoyed Mike's straightforward approach and his great sense of humour. He will be very much missed in our community." - Dave Cooke

"The Liberal Caucus between 1987 and 1990 was very large so it was difficult for its members to distinguish themselves. Mike Ray was an exception. He was from Windsor and was not shy to represent his City. His attention to detail was reflected in everything from his dress to his preparation for debate in the House and in Committee. He was pragmatic and fair in his support of Legislation. I had many off the record discussions with him as he was prepared to listen to an opposing view and give good counter-argument. Unfortunately he was swept up in the devastating defeat of the Liberal Party in 1990 as he was definitely an MPP destined to become a future Cabinet Minister. Mike returned to Windsor to serve his Community in many more positive ways. I very much enjoyed my time with Mike and always considered him to be a man of substance with integrity. My condolences to his family and friends. - Norm Sterling

"The first time you met Mike Ray, you might have come away with the impression the gruff, plain spoken lawyer in his usual suit and tie was cut from establishment cloth. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mike's professional life was spent fighting for the underprivileged. In addition to his political service, he was Director of Legal Assistance of Windsor and Director of Legal Support and Custody Enforcement. He served on many local boards, including a decade on the Windsor Regional Hospital Board, which he chaired for two years. In short, his life was

one of public service, always with the support and good advice of his wife, Joyce.

Many young people involved in politics tried to imitate that

unique gruff voice. Some did it well, but none could match the passion and great humour of a man who was never afraid to speak his mind." - Bill Wrye



Michael Charles Ray

THE COVID CURTAIN!

By Paul R. Johnson

It was March 2020 when the "Covid Curtain" closed. Our familiar routines of life are about to drastically change. Respective governments have a dilemma as they struggle to maintain the health and safety of their citizens, and still keep business and the economy alive. As all of society watched and waited to see how we would collectively move forward in the coming days, weeks, and months, one group is particularly

and profoundly affected. Musicians and the broader music industries are stopped in their tracks. The Juno Awards are put on hold. Live performance venues are closed, and events are cancelled! Canada closes it's borders, and states of emergency are declared across the country! There is widespread fear of contracting the virus, and that shuts down festivals and concerts at all venues. Working musicians find themselves without work

and without income. As April arrives with the uncertainty of future performance opportunities i.e., income, working musicians become creative with respect to connecting with their audiences.

In Prince Edward County and the greater Quinte Area, everything is shut down. In 2020 there is no Quarter Moon, a popular "open mic" venue at the Baxter Building in Bloomfield. The Regent Theatre in Picton is closed, and all live events are cancelled. The Empire Theatre in Belleville is closed, and all live events are cancelled! All the local bars and pubs are shut down! It's a familiar refrain heard in all the small towns and cities across Ontario. Musicians are without work and without audiences. Most musicians have a second job unless they have reached a level of success that provides them with a living wage. In many cases the second job has been threatened by the "lockdown" as well. All musicians play "live" for the love of music and for the love of their audiences, fans and admirers and it is an intimate relationship regardless of the size of the venue. The energy of a live concert is thrilling for everyone involved! Well now the thrill is gone!!

The Covid Pandemic will never kill a musician's love for their craft, but it can severely affect and even kill their careers. Brian Barlow, a good friend and Artistic Director of the Prince Edward County Jazz Festival, laments the profound effect on younger musicians just starting their careers, "The young guy who

played bass trombone with my band for several years was also working for Kitchen Aid during the day. It was a very good job, but music was where his heart was. About three years ago he quit the job with Kitchen Aid to focus on music full time. Then the pandemic hit. I heard from him two days ago letting me know that he's abandoned the idea of being a musician. He's moved out west and is pursuing something different for a career. He is not the only story like this. When this is all over there will be many who had been full-time professional musicians who will have moved on to something else. "It's always been difficult to make a living as a musician but this past little while has been catastrophic for many." This is an excerpt from an email that I received from Brian on August 24, 2021.

I was fortunate on a personal level as I 'officially retired' from doing live sound reinforcement at the end of 2016. However, one never retires in this business and my business relationship with the Canada Revenue Agency concluded in 2020. Another bit of good luck on a personal financial level! My business, Through the Cedars Music Productions, was a partnership with my good friend Rob Kellough and we worked together for 20 years. One of our favourite jobs was providing live sound reinforcement for the Prince Edward County Jazz festival every August at the Regent Theatre, which we did for 18 years. Last year it was cancelled! This August at Huff's Estate Winery and the Waring House once again we provided sound equipment for some scaled down jazz events. Scaled down only in size as the performances were

were spectacular! I also had a “basement recording studio” which was enjoyed by musicians from as far away as Toronto and Ottawa. One frequent client and a good friend Al Kirby from Peterborough shared his thoughts on his community and how many of his friends were struggling as well. Understanding the importance of keeping within the necessary health protocols, Al made arrangements with me for a recording session in September 2020 in Marmora, with a band called the Backwoodsmen. We recorded and produced a CD for the band without incident! Certainly, as time went by musicians became more creative in order to play and earn some income.

Local performers had their careers paused and lost valuable opportunities. The Reasons, one of the Quinte regions most popular bands had to cancel a season’s worth of gigs. Peter Rea, the bands leader took to live streaming, as so many players did to stay connected to their fans. Emily Fennell based in Kingston and better known as “Miss Emily” lost an opportunity to do a cross Canada Blues Tour as it was cancelled. Especially disappointing as she was the big winner at the 2020 Maple Blues Awards, winning Female Vocalist of the Year, New Artist of the Year, and the Sapphire Canadian Blues Music Video Award. I mention her because she is a native (Prince Edward) county girl. Her life long hard work and dedication to her craft have certainly paid off, and the pandemic will only be a pause to her amazing career. She too, took to live streaming

on the Facebook platform and can be seen doing her Monday Nights with Miss Emily on, you guessed it Monday night. Instant Rivalry, Caleb, and Megan Hutton a brother and sister duo act from the county, just starting to get the recognition that they deserve also had to put their plans on hold. With their new album Whiskey and Lead released just before Christmas 2019 and their breakout hit “Hoe Down” getting radio play. Covid has stopped the live performance opportunities these new artists need to grow their music careers. Like Miss Emily, Caleb and Meg have worked long and hard to get ahead. They too found other ways to stay in touch with their fans.



Paul Johnson playing the guitar

Live at Back Forty Productions promoted not only themselves but many local artists, live streaming from their own studio. Mark Rashotte the owner of the Empire Theatre and a fine musician in his own right – a member of Belleville’s “all you need is love” – is doing his best to get the music out there. He avails himself and the theatre to local artists and their original material and live streams their performances on the Empire Theatre’s show Music City Mondays. Tip jars and PayPal become a new source of “lockdown” revenue for artists as they patiently wait to return to their respective live stage venues.

My perspective is only a small snapshot of a few of the musicians that I know in my region of Ontario. There is a very close relationship between the artists and the venues that support them and conversely between the venues and the artists that support them. Very symbiotic. It is all part of the economy that supports all of us! Music and musicians are essential to our human existence. Just imagine a world without the music that defines our lives, lives in our memories, and helps us through all our lifelong

emotions whether they be happy or sad. I understand, today at least, that the Covid virus and its progeny are here to stay. However they manifest themselves among humanity, and whatever havoc they may wreak, we will persevere, and music will always be there with us.

Let me conclude on a positive note, since my first phone contact with David (Warner) in June many music venues have opened, albeit with reduced audience capacity. Vaccinations, covid tests, masks and other safety protocols have made this possible. We are incrementally going in the right direction. If we all work together, we can turn around the economy, open the venues that we all miss so dearly and enjoy once again the live concerts that we’ve been missing since the Covid Curtain closed!

-Paul Johnson was, NDP M.P.P., Prince Edward—Lennox-South—Hastings, 1990-1995

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

By David Warner

Smiling faces from as far away as Campbell River, British Columbia and a small town in Italy, members zoomed in greeting one another. Judy Marsales, who chaired the meeting, adroitly invited each participant to provide a brief self introduction.

Committee reports were presented. These reports had already been sent out, so no need to reprint them here.

A new Board of Directors was elected:

Annamarie Castrilli, Marilyn Churley, Caroline Di Cocco, Steve

Gilchrist, Linda Jeffrey,

Dave Levac, Rosario Marchese, Judy Marsales, Margaret Marland, John Parker,

Joyce Savoline, David Warner
Past Chair: Doug Moffatt

A motion was brought forward, seconded, discussed, and agreed to unanimously. The new Board of Directors is to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Committee to which will be invited volunteers from our membership.

Everyone also agreed that it would be wonderful if our next gathering is in person!

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

"As we strive to acknowledge the horrors of the past, the suffering inflicted on Indigenous peoples, let us all stand side-by-side with grace and humility, and work together to build a better future for all." - Governor General Mary May Simon

The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, September 30, may have set us on a path to understanding, and healing, creating trust and harmony.

Your Board of Directors is eager to be a part of the process. A Truth and Reconciliation Committee of the Board has been established. That Committee will be seeking volunteers from the membership. Stay tuned for more details.

A couple of our members sent in some thoughtful suggestions. Do not hesitate to send in more ideas, thoughts, and

suggestions.

"Listening and learning is key. A round table with some interested former MPPs and NDP MPP Sol Mamakwa would be of interest. Other similar round tables could be held with First Nations leadership. Visits could be renewed as COVID eases." - Jennifer Mossop

"I like to suggest/propose the Former Parliamentarian Association should create a "legacy scholarship" for our Indigenous youths to encourage and support to attend post-secondary education; include (1) we promote

other suggestions include (1) we promote Indigenous culture, language, art, food, etc in QP and we do this in partnership with local museum, culinary schools, etc; (2) spending time as Former

Parliamentarians to visit various Indigenous and Metis communities to learn about their stories/struggles and bring back these stories to QP for action." - Soo Wong

KINGSTON AND THE ISLANDS

BY SOPHIE KIWALA



Kingston is the city where 'History and Innovation Thrive', where the inhabitants with seven generations in the Cataraqui Cemetery are referred to as the 'Old Stones'. We live in the 'Limestone City', the 'Prison Capital of Canada', the 'most sustainable city', 'Canada's first capital', 'the original seat of democracy in Canada', a 'smart and livable' city (or 'Salterton', thanks to the 'Salterton Trilogy' by Kingston native, Robertson Davies.)

Kingston is at once historical, vibrant – and at times dark, quaint, nostalgic and complex - all rolled into one.

Kingston nestles proudly on the eastern shores of Lake Ontario at the south end of the Canadian Shield, where the St. Lawrence and Cataraqui Rivers and the southern end of the Rideau Canal meet. The glorious vistas and lush vegetation along what seems like an endless sparkling shoreline contribute to an exquisite natural playground. This includes parks like Lemoine Point and the Cataraqui Conservation Area, and trails such as the K & P Trail along an abandoned railway line and the 327km long Rideau Trail that extends from Kingston to Ottawa.



Sophie Kiwala - great booster of Kingston

Kingston has a 10,000 year history of various Indigenous groups passing through and living in the area, including the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois – including Mohawk), Huron, and Anishinaabe (including Mississauga Peoples). Currently the land is recognized as the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee, and the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We celebrate our ancient history perhaps more than our current accomplishments, and we have come to walk gingerly in our reconciliation journey as the home and burial place of Sir John A. Macdonald.

Samuel de Champlain travelled to the Kingston region some 60 years before the French built a settlement in Fort Frontenac in 1673. The first capital city of the united province of Canada in 1841. Kingston is steeped in both history and academic life. We are home to

two universities: Queen’s University and the Royal Military College, dating back to 1841 and 1876 respectively. Also home to St. Lawrence College. Kingston houses roughly 52,000 students each school year. It is little surprise that Kingston claims the most PhD holders per capita of any city in Canada.

Kingstonians have been getting their daily news from the same local paper, now called the Kingston Whig Standard since 1834 – a remarkable 187 years!

Consisting at the time mostly of buildings made of wood, an explosion and fire leveled Kingston’s core in 1840. During the years of reconstruction (this time from readily available limestone), the city bore the brunt of the seemingly wretched humour of one notable British visitor: Charles Dickens visited in 1842 after a visit to the US in an unsuccessful attempt to settle copyright issues.

His comment that “half of the city appears to be burnt down, and the other half not to be built up” has lingered as part of local history.

Perhaps redeeming the city in his eyes, however, Dickens admitted to noticing a female ‘resident’ of Kingston Penitentiary with “a lovely face... (however) there was a lurking devil in her bright eyes, which looked out sharply from between her prison bars.”

With state-of-the-art health care facilities - supported by the Academy of Medicine at Queen’s, two teaching and research hospitals, and a state-of-the-art complex care hospital serves well some 600,000 people in the region and also fly-in Indigenous communities from northern Ontario. During the current pandemic, Kingston has also received critically ill patients from other provinces.

Being situated on the shores of lake Ontario supports Kingston’s active all-season water-oriented lifestyle. Kingston is considered as the sailing capital of North America and as such hosts the CORK sailing races every summer (we also hosted the 1976 sailing Olympics) and kite boarders mesmerize spectators all year long. As a testament to our resiliency and ‘game for anything’ approach to life, in 2015 the Kingston Yacht Club hosted the World Championship ice sailing competition with only a few days’ notice.

One of the most enchanting aspects of our riding is surely the sense of community and charm at

Wolfe and Howe Islands. Despite a regularly running ferry service (soon to get better with two new and larger electric ferries for the region), islanders are obliged to be independent and resilient. There is a friendly small-town feel to the islands, which likely comes from the challenges of a life punctuated by the ferry schedule and the havoc wreaked on personal property by too-often rising water levels.

Every trip to the islands is like old-home week. With a population of 1,400 in the winter and up to triple that in the summer, Wolfe Island has its own clinic, visiting paramedics, and seniors’ home. There are a number of farms and businesses, including a general store with an LCBO license, a bakery, a boat club and builder, a hotel, a pub and pizzeria waterside restaurant - and even a 61 acre hop farm! (The island can be spotted at a distance by the 86 wind turbines standing sentry.)

Howe Island is much smaller, with a population of 450 in the winter and roughly 800 in the summer. It is primarily a farming community but it also boasts a B&B and a yoga yurt retreat.

Kingston’s thriving cultural sector grows exponentially with each passing year. There are a growing number of performance festivals and numerous venues featuring visual arts - including one of the largest Rembrandt collections in Canada. Martello Alley, for example - a thriving artists’ collective for over 40 local artists - hosts the winter ‘Froid Art’ display: outdoor art encased in a

300-pound block of ice.

Musicians and theatrical troupes fill the halls of the Grand Theatre, the Domino Theatre, and the arrestingly beautiful, award-winning Isabel Bader Theatre for Performing Arts. In past years Fort Henry, well known as a centre of Canada's military history, has been the venue for annual performance events such as the 1812 Overture and Fort Fright. And this year it will host Pumpkinferno. The 6,800-capacity Leon's Centre opened with a concert by the Tragically Hip and has hosted many internationally recognized musicians and events since. It is where the Hip played their last concert prior to Gord Downie's passing.

What I love about Kingston is our growing cultural diversity. I love seeing couples and families strolling in the evening, perusing

menus on the sidewalk, and dining on patios - experiencing our thriving and varied food culture. For 220 years the bustling farmers market in city square has been a place for old and new friends to gather on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. That same square becomes an idyllic and picturesque skating rink in the wintertime. There are walking food and brewery tours, and live music and movie nights in the Market Square. You might also catch a glimpse of the Haunted Walk group huddling in the evening round a black-robed, lamp-holding guide.

As you can see, we are a lively and for the most part, a self-satisfied smaller but growing city. If you think we've grown 'too big for our britches' - we have.

- Sophie Kiwala, great booster of Kingston.



Kingston City Hall

<p>OAFP Chair Judy Marsales judy@judymarsales.com</p>	<p>Interns Cassandra Earle cassandra.earle@ryerson.ca</p> <p>David Cassels david.cassels@ryerson.ca</p>
<p>Education Foundation Annamarie Castrilli acastrilli@castrilli.com</p> <p>Truth & Reconciliation Doug Moffatt dougmoftatt35@gmail.com</p> <p>Puplications Chair David Warner david.warner@sympatico.ca</p>	<p>Education: Chair Rosario Marchese rosariofromshaw@gmail.com</p> <p>Personnel Linda Jeffrey Linda.jeffrey@rogers.ca</p>
<p>Membership and Communications Steve Gilchrist stevegilchrist@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Treasurer and Secretary John Parker johnparker@sympatico.ca</p>
<p>Members-at-Large Marilyn Churley mchurley@rogers.com</p> <p>Caroline Di Cocco carolinedicocco@gmail.com</p> <p>Dave Levac d.levac@rogers.com</p> <p>Joyce Savoline joycesavo@gmail.com</p>	<p>Communications Steve Gilchrist stevegilchrist@hotmail.com</p> <p>Events Committee Margaret Marland margaretmarland@gmail.com</p>
<p>Executive Assistant Mobina Bhimani oafp@ola.org</p>	<p>Past Chair Doug Moffat dougmoftatt35@gmail.com</p>
<p>OAFP T: 416-325-4647 E: oafp@ola.org www.ontafp.com Facebook.com/ontafp</p>	<p>Queen's Park Office Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians Suite 1612 Whitney Block 99 Wellesley Street West, Toronto. ON. M7A 1A2</p>