



The *InFormer*



Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario

SUMMER 2021



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THE FOG IS LIFTING, I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW

As we escape the grip of the deadly COVID-19 and its variants we now face realities which were more clearly exposed because of the pandemic.

The long-standing gap between the rich and poor has become a huge chasm. Poverty is a way of life for a significant portion of our population, with little hope of escape.

Our care of those in long term care facilities is a national disgrace. Most of the several thousand deaths of staff and

residents, were preventable. There is no quick fix. A fresh look at how we provide a caring and safe environment for those who need assisted care is essential.

Sadly, racism has been an aspect of life in Canada for more than 200 years. The pandemic seems to have triggered more public displays and violence directed against non-whites. Those of Asian descent blamed for the virus. So too, hatred, based on religious beliefs. There is no shortage of examples of violence and threats of violence



A SOLIDARITY OF SPIRIT, REMEMBERING THE 215 UNMARKED GRAVES AT A RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, KAMLOOPS, B. C. AND MANY OTHERS.

against Muslims, right across Canada. Bigotry and ignorance have replaced acceptance and understanding.

Our country has been grappling with the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls for a decade. We also learned more about the treatment of Indigenous children in residential schools. During the pandemic, another horror was revealed; the discovery of unmarked graves of Indigenous children on the sites of former residential schools, something well known by Indigenous people but ignored by non-Indigenous. This is a clarion call to confront what appears to be cultural genocide initiated by the Canadian government and implemented by a number of churches. Someone - person or organization - should be held accountable.

It was a muted Canada Day

celebration this year, for good reason. The pause to reflect may propel us to find a better path forward. Most Canadians are kind, thoughtful people who embrace differences of race, colour, religion and sexual orientation. We need to reach out to that minority who have yet to experience the joy of living in a wider, more accepting world.

As we try to right the wrongs in our relationship with Indigenous people, our new Governor General, Her Excellency Mary Simon, may help in our search for the best path in our quest for a lasting mutual friendship.

We can develop and sustain a society which celebrates differences; one that truly embraces freedom of religion. We can learn to respect one another. When fog lifts, sunshine brightens our life.

“EVERYTHING HAS BEAUTY, BUT
NOT EVERYONE SEES IT.”
-CONFUCIUS

WHEN THE FOG LIFTS

"The very last thing I did before the spring 2020 lock down began was to play a game of pick-up hockey. I joined a bunch of guys from a western Mississauga consulting engineering firm, where at least some of them are close to my age. On that mid-March day in 2020, a few of the fellows rolled into the dressing room talking about the 2020 Prospectors and Developers Convention, a big annual mining gathering, at which apparently a few people had tested positive for COVID-19. Wondering if I ought to get dressed again, and leave the arena, I asked if any of them had actually met anyone who had been at the convention. Only on the phone, I was told. Okay, I thought, I am probably safe to be in the goal, and not be breathing the air on the players bench. Later that day, the country locked down. That was the end of hockey for me in 2020.

One year later, I'd like to enjoy the social experience of chatting in the dressing room, putting on my equipment, taking my pre-game skate, and teasing the shooters in the warm up whose slap shots couldn't hit the side of a barn if they stood on it! I miss the challenge of remembering where everybody is on the ice, and guessing what a shooter is going to do before he has decided himself. I want to feel the puck in my trapper, as I squeeze the puck after stopping somebody's best shot through traffic in front of the net. I am looking forward to the small talk in the dressing room after the game.

There are only going to be two kinds of people after the pandemic, which will last at least much or all of this

calendar year of 2021: those who are alive, and those who did not make it. If being in the first category this coming Christmas means continuing to be sensible and careful for the balance of the year, so be it." - Bob Delaney

"Since the publication of my workbook "RADIANT HEALTH" I have been invited to speak on this subject by two cruise lines. Once Covid is controlled I hope to restore my freedom to travel and speak on these giant, ocean going ships again. I really miss the camaraderie of other performers, the fresh air on my face and delicious, nutrient rich foods.

On March 20, 2020, a year ago, I returned to a different Canada --with many of our freedoms lost." - Tony Ruprecht

"I saw the Broadway show Hamilton just days before the lockdown - narrowly dodged a bullet there - but missed out on a whole season of Shaw and Stratford performances. Ditto Toronto Symphony. I also had to abandon plans to visit family in Yellowknife. I want to get all of that back on track. On the other hand, I am grateful for all the meetings I didn't have to go to because they were cancelled too. So on the whole, I figure I came out even." - John Parker

"I want HUGS....lots of HUGS. Hugs from my Church members, hugs from my grandchildren, hugs from acquaintances I meet in the Grocery Store... because I get to go into a grocery store now, hugs from little children, hugs from dogs, hugs from cats (if they deign to hug), and if I am really desperate hugs from strangers." - Karen Haslam

"Travel, travel and more travel! I'll never take the ability to hop on a plane or train for granted again! When we're able to up and go again – I'm going to be a blur! No longer will I be considering visiting a new destination – I'm just going!" - Phil Gillies

"In-person visit with family. Meet with friends." - Lou Rinaldi

"I'll walk Bloor and Yonge brush against strangers, sniff eateries, ogle books, sample museum vestibules and jay-walk freely." - Dr. Charles Godfrey

"I would go along with an outdoor patio gathering." - Jean-Marc Lalonde

"Hi, I have lost my freedom in the pandemic. When the fog lifts, I shall get on the train from being locked-in so long in my retirement home in Toronto and go to Montreal where my amazing daughter lives and works. I haven't been with her for so long. We would have a big hug and walk and talk in the nearby lovely parks. She is so like her Mum who past away a decade ago." - Tim Reid

"I can't wait to get back together

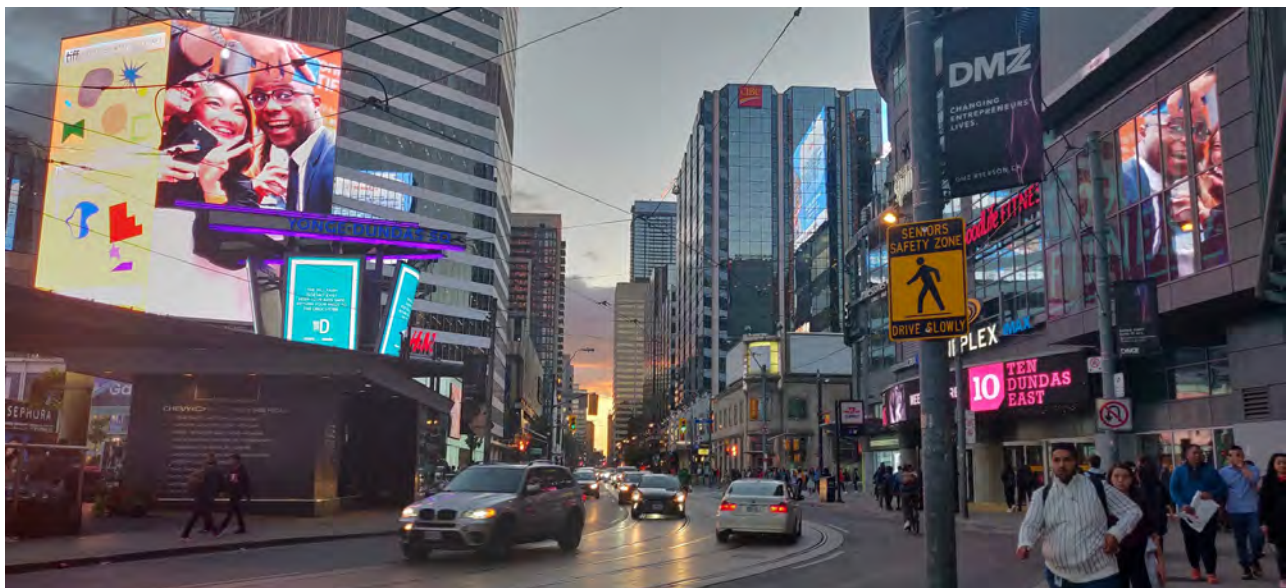
with my band or choir to sing. Music is one of the most healing experiences so it would be wonderful for everyone suffering from Covid fatigue." - Judy Marsales

"Go for a coffee to shoot the bull." - George Taylor

"Socializing and dining with family and friends." - Elizabeth Witmer

"As most of us know we need to connect in person with family and friends. Our grandkids and kids are 3 time zones away so it has been an adjustment. Our grandson has his birthday in September so we aim to go then. After that we will visit with my former college roommate in Vegas." - Sterling Campbell

"I have a fairly large family; 6 children, their partners and 15 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren. The only members I've seen in person this past year are 5 of the 6. Son #1 lives in Abbotsford, B.C., so my initial priority will be to visit all those that I have not personally seen this past year, especially the 3 great grandchildren born during the pandemic." - Ken Keyes



FALL 2019, YONGE AND DUNDAS SQUARE, THE TYPE OF EVENING WE HOPE TO BE GETTING BACK TO SHORTLY. PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID CASSELS

IN TIMES OF TROUBLE – PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE RESCUE

We are taking a look at three major events in Ontario and the role public servants played in meeting the challenges; the Mississauga train derailment (1979), SARS [Severe acute respiratory syndrome] (2003) and COVID-19 [coronavirus disease of 2019] (2019).

Outside of times of crisis, the

services we have come to expect, from flipping a light switch to an emergency visit to a hospital, are delivered 24/7 by a dedicated, talented public service. Those services are delivered so well, so smoothly, that we tend not to take note. It is when a crisis arises that public servants are praised and thanked.

WHY BECOME A PUBLIC SERVANT?

Lessons from an almost horrific disaster

By Hugh Segal

At a time when governments at all levels are facing immense organizational, policy and economic challenges, and, media scrutiny is often relentless, younger Canadians reflecting on their futures may well have a question: "why would I ever want to be a public servant?"

There was an event back in 1979 that may well answer that question for those who care about how best to serve their fellow citizens, while living a challenging and satisfying professional life.

And that event, which began on a November evening in 1979, in a

way that might have brought death and serious injury to thousands of Ontarians, in fact did not do that. And the reason that event took no lives was because a range of public servants, of one form or another, from different levels of government, different agencies, different municipalities figured out very quickly how to work together to prevent the worst result and generate, instead, the best possible result.

When a CP freight train derailed on November 10, 1979 producing a huge propane explosion and fire, large enough to turn the entire western sky over Mississauga, Etobicoke and western parts



PHOTO CREDIT: MISSISSAUGA.COM

of Toronto bright red, the world was about to change for thousands of Ontarians.

At 11:53 pm, the CP train with tank cars containing different toxic and corrosive chemicals went off the track between Dundas and Burnhathorpe, at the Mavis road. First responders from the Mississauga Fire Department responded within minutes.

They quickly determined that there was a risk more serious than fire and explosions. A freight car filled with chlorine was itself buried under the many cars that had ruptured and derailed.

Chlorine is deadly. A breakout of chlorine with the wrong direction of prevailing winds would mean death to thousands.

Evacuations were ordered and evacuation centers were established in malls and auditoriums. Folks left their homes quickly with no clothes beyond those on their back, no pets and no prescription drugs.

The indefatigable Mayor of Mississauga, Hazel McCallion, visited an evacuation center at Square One, took one look at the overall scene and said, "...it was a very serious situation.." "...we have to get organized.."

Within 12 hours, plans to move hundreds of hospital patients out of range were being implemented, police cruisers travelled through neighbourhoods using loudspeaker to tell people to leave, and were followed by door to door police canvassing ensuring people left the danger zones.

This was before cellphones and Facebook, Twitter or WhatsApp. Mass communication relied on radio, television and newspapers.

A coordinating and joint-planning group quickly assembled under the leadership of the Ontario Solicitor General, the Hon. Roy McMurtry.

He chaired a Control Group, backed up by a think tank of scientists and subject specialists embracing the environment, health, social services, atmospheric conditions, policing, crowd control and a host of other disciplines, including seniors care, new immigrants, animal control and a host of others.

A myriad of public servants from the federal, provincial and municipal departments, the first responders, fire marshal offices, police departments, all worked together to preserve public

safety and save lives. And all this within a context of overlapping jurisdictions, federal, provincial and municipal, and different existing laws that might well create grounds for dispute about who was in charge. The largest evacuation in North American history to date, was under way.

The results:

Not one person died as a result of the derailment. Two hundred and forty thousand people were safely evacuated. There were a few non life-threatening injuries. No animal pets died. No property crimes were committed. The dangerous derailed tank car was addressed.

For any reader interested in the myriad of agencies involved, here is but a modest sampling:

- Ontario Ministry of the Environment
- Ontario Ministry of Energy
- Ontario Ministry of Labour
- Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communications
- Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General

At the Federal level, involved were Atmospheric Environmental Services, the Atomic Energy Control Board, the Canadian Transportation Commission, the RCMP, the Department of Environment. This does not include the plethora of agencies from Peel Region, Mississauga, neighbouring Etobicoke and Halton including the Board of Education, a myriad of local hospitals and seniors facilities, fire and police departments, animal control and local volunteer groups, including churches, mosques, synagogues and temples.

Even the Courts and the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets were involved as were the local militia regiments.

Cynics about government and politics would see this as a recipe for chaos and disaster.

It was, instead, a coalition of professional public servants, and their elected Ministers and Mayors for whom failure was not an option.

Everyday a roundtable of senior officials met for a morning meeting under the chairmanship of Minister McMurry. Issues were crunched, the day's and week's plans were updated and McMurry went out afterwards to brief the Province and the city through the media.

Transparency and frankness were essential to avoiding panic. I am told that the morning meetings did have different perspectives and viewpoints expressed- which were talked out and resolved before McMurry went out to meet the media. One need not be unduly idealistic to imagine how many phone calls went between different public servants at different levels in different governments to make those morning meetings effective.

Everything from federal Targa Trucks with atmospheric air sniffers looking for danger to fire fighters visiting homes, with the house keys given to them by inhabitants now in evacuation centers, to feed the family pets became part of the day to day rhythm of civility, compassion, mutual support and public safety.

So when reading the often expressed criticism of civil servants or the cynicism about what they do for what they are paid, it just might be worthwhile to reflect on the thousands of civil servants who engaged just a few decades ago, to break through a range of statutory barriers, conflicting authorities and mandates, to simply and effectively save lives. Being there when things go wrong, is

what in part, government and public service about.

As a calling and career choice, there are few jobs like it. On the good days running programs, responding to public needs, anticipating future requirements all matter. When things turn frenetic and dangerous, being there matters even more.

"Public Service" describes a part of society on which we depend.

It also describes a set of values and purposes, framed by the simple Canadian

Constitutional premise of "Peace, Order and Good Government".

For our society to work, for people to have opportunity and security, for day to day life to be dependable and optimistic, public service is essential. Mississauga forty two years ago is one example. There are many others.

Hugh Segal is a former Associate Secretary of the Cabinet in Ontario for Federal-Provincial Affairs, and a former Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of Canada.

IN CONVERSATION WITH STEVE MAHONEY

By: David Warner

Margaret Marland, City Councillor, and I were in the Mayor's office answering the phones at City Hall. As I was Acting Mayor I had certain responsibilities at City Hall beyond those of my Councillor role, although those additional responsibilities were admittedly limited in scope.

The area initially subject to evacuation extended west only to the Credit River and East to Cawthra Road. After about three days the order was expanded to include the entire City.

My family lived in Erin Mills; beyond the limits of the initial evacuation order and therefore not affected by it at first. That changed after day three. Then Katie and my boys went to my brother's home in Toronto for the balance of the week while I stayed in Mississauga without them.

I spent most of that time at City

Hall and on occasional excursions to check in on the people who had been put up in the emergency shelters. Erindale High was the first shelter that I visited, and it was full. People were on the floor in the gym. Many were quite disturbed. I particularly recall having to assist in evacuating the seniors' home near the Mississauga hospital. I recall having to help carry people out of the building to a bus so that they could be moved safely to alternate accommodations. It was quite stressful but we got it done.

Then I was told by the City Manager that they needed me to go and see the damage that had been done at the site of the Recreation and Parks building on Mavis Road. As I was walking through the water in the parking lot there, wearing heavy pants and boots, I felt myself begin to sink into the ground. I sank up to my shoulders before I was dragged out. I then



STEVE MAHONEY PHOTOGRAPHED IN 2014 DURING HIS MISSISSAUGA MAYORAL CAMPAIGN. PHOTO CREDIT: THE TORONTO STAR

had to strip down and be hosed off. Not my most glorious time.

The building was gone and the site had become a swamp.

One area of great concern centered on the countless pets that had to be left at home during the emergency evacuation, and the worries of their owners who were later confronted with the news that they would be away for an entire week. We co-ordinated a major deal with Etobicoke Animal Services and the municipalities of Mississauga and Brampton to have people go door to door to look after the pets. My wife Katie came to City Hall and arranged to get people to give over their addresses and the keys to their homes so that we could organize a massive animal rescue effort. This was a huge deal - and in many cases quite a problem, as many of the animals were hungry and upset. The countless responders who helped out with this mission did a terrific job.

One thing I remember distinctly was driving around the city later in the week and taking in how weird it was not to see anyone at all. It was quite the time in

our city.

Given the extraordinary nature of the evacuation, the entire operation went surprisingly smoothly.

Steve Mahoney was a Mississauga City Councillor and Peel Region Councillor at the time of the train derailment. He served in that capacity from 1978 to 1987.

Political Career:

1978 – 1987 Mississauga City Councillor and Peel Region Councillor

1987 – 1995 MPP, Mississauga West Liberal

1997 – 2004 MP Mississauga West Liberal (Cabinet Minister)

Margaret Marland was also a Mississauga City Councillor at the time of the train derailment.

Political Career:

1974 – 1978 Peel District School Board Trustee

1978 – 1985 Mississauga City Councillor

1985 – 2003 MPP, Mississauga South, Progressive Conservative

IN CONVERSATION WITH TONY CLEMENT - SARS

MP, Parry Sound-Muskoka (2006-2019)

MPP, Brampton West-Mississauga (1995-2003)

Tony Clement was Minister of Health in 2003 when SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) hit Ontario. "My responsibility," explained Tony Clement, "was to coordinate the response. I worked closely with Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Colin D'Cunha, Dr. Sheila Basrur, Head of Toronto Public Health, and Dr. Don Lowe, a prominent epidemiologist from Mt. Sinai Hospital. While the health crisis was centered in Toronto, there were (SARS) cases in York and Peel regions and beyond."

The federal government did not play a role in combating the highly contagious respiratory disease. As Tony Clement explained, "There was no Public Health Agency of Canada at the time. The federal government made it clear initially that they did not want to be involved. We did end up with federal/provincial meetings to discuss responses to the health crisis. As a result of SARS a federal PHAC was created."

The regular public briefings, televised and on radio, which we have come to expect during the COVID-19 pandemic were initiated by Minister Clement in 2003. Since Toronto was

the epicentre of the crisis, the Toronto Medical Officer of Health was part of the public briefings process.

As Ontario battled the outbreak, the World Health Organization announced a travel ban on Toronto, a ban which would see Pearson Airport closed to foreign flights. Minister Clement took a quick trip to Geneva in an effort to convince the Secretary General Gro Brundtland to reverse the travel ban. "I was able to demonstrate that the outbreak was under control, that we were coming out of the crisis. I returned to Queen's Park, and into the Chamber in the middle of the Speech from the Throne. The Lieutenant Governor, Hon. James Bartleman, stopped reading the speech and instantly there was a standing ovation by all the Members. An occasion I will never forget!"

"The public servants with whom I worked during SARS were exceptional. My own Deputy Minister, the Medical Officers of Health and the various other health care personnel provided unfettered advice and acted decisively on the policy decisions."

COVID-19

By: David Warner

A mysterious virus-related pneumonia, believed to have originated in Wuhan Province, China swept our way early in 2019. In March of that year the World Health Organization declared that we were in a global pandemic. This highly infectious disease would dominate our lives through 2020 and continues to impact our lives in 2021.

Who would have guessed that a couple of doctors would become television personalities? The two who quickly became household names were Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada and Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Their daily briefings provided vital information about what to do and what not to do in the battle against Covid. On July 31, 2020, Dr. Fauci said that he was "cautiously optimistic" that a vaccine would be effective and achieved in 1 or 2 years. A year later a majority of Canadians are fully vaccinated with at least one of the 4 vaccines which were developed for use in Canada. A tribute to the pharmaceutical industry, government leadership, our health care system, and the tens of thousands of volunteers.

"Thank you front line workers". This phrase appeared on homemade lawn signs, and was expressed by people banging pots and pans at designated times. Intensive Care Units were pushed to capacity and hospital Emergency Departments overcrowded as the virus spread. Doctors, nurses, hospital staff were under severe pressure to do

everything they could and stay healthy. Over time it became clear that front line workers included far more than those working in a hospital. Everyone who had no choice but to meet the public was a front-line worker. The taxi driver taking someone to the hospital who thought they might have the virus, was at risk. So too, were those who worked in grocery stores.

"Follow the science" is what we heard from our political leaders. Along with that phrase, a plea that we, as a society, work together to fight this horrible disease. Indeed, over the months which followed a coordinated, collaborative approach emerged. Public Health units, medical personnel, hospitals, city and town councils, the provincial government, as well as civilian volunteers worked tirelessly to curb the spread of the virus, then later the vaccinations. Even the Canadian Army pitched in helping seniors in Long Term Care facilities.

Once we had enough vaccines, the race was on to vaccinate as many people as quickly as possible. The following is but one example from across our province.

The data from Toronto Public Health "tells the story of how a bunch of organizations and agencies not always known for working collaboratively or quickly came together to build a delivery network across multiple sites that can get about 63,000 doses into arms in a day – the equivalent of nearly vaccinating the entire town of Caledon each and every day." (Matt Elliot, Toronto Star Jun 30, 2021)



DR. THERESA TAM, CANADA'S CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER. PHOTO CREDIT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

The article written by Matt Elliot concludes with, "It's a feat of public sector coordination, driven by thousands of people willing to put in a ridiculous amount of hard work. Put some respect on it."

COVID-19 and its variants have to date (July 7, 2021) claimed more than 4 million deaths globally, with more than 26,000 of those being in Canada. The impact goes deeper, affecting national

and international economies, and how we connect with family and others.

As we emerge from the worst health crisis in a century, we can be grateful for the combination of our professional, talented public service and our enduring sense of community.

THE LOVE OF MUSIC

By: Judy Marsales

What does music mean to you?
How does it impact your day, your evening, or even your thought pattern?

Music has always been a personal passion of mine. I have been asked many times about my history with music where people assume that I was fortunate enough to enjoy lessons and study music from a young age. Unfortunately, my family could never afford music lessons or to purchase an instrument. When I was young, I borrowed a book from the library and made myself a paper keyboard to practice the fingering. I also used to sneak into the basement of the YMCA because they had a piano, and I could hear the sounds from my paper keyboard. With my first job, I started piano lessons. Again, life got in the way, and it did not last very long. As time went by, I studied music at Mohawk as a mature student, I joined choirs, studied voice, got involved with musical theatre, and started an interactive music night with a band (guitar, bass, keyboard, and drums) where the audience was given three options – a) pick out a song that the person signs with the band; b) pick out a song that we sing to the audience; c) pick out a song that everyone sings like an old fashioned singalong. I have been running the “interactive music nights” for over 25 years at many different pubs and also for fund raising projects. A couple of years ago with the encouragement of my voice teacher, I started working on my Grade 8 Vocal Level from the Conservatory of Music.

My passion for music also included my curiosity about the talent, capability, and interesting natural abilities that some people are fortunate to have shown. Talents I have seen or heard are perfect pitch, incredible ability to play very

challenging pieces of music without aid of written music or, the capability to play multiple instruments. I was also very fortunate a few years ago to be introduced to a new program at McMaster University which was studying the “Mind and Music”. I realized from some discussions and observations that music can have a very powerful affect on people. As I am sure many of you have experienced, music can make you feel happy, sad, or reflective as you think about memories that a song or tune may bring back. Music can also be very beneficial to mental and emotional health. I have no medical or educational background to offer any professional information other than personal observation and reading. I will share one interesting experience that I was fortunate to witness one evening. There was a person who was dancing and then made a speedy move to sit down before the music stopped. His partner shared with me that her husband had to sit down before the music stopped or he would fall to the floor. Another amazing example of how music can impact the brain and body. I was also fortunate to participate as an audience member in a program at McMaster organized by the “Mind and Music Psychology Department” where the audience wears a cap, and they measure the audience’s response to the live music. My curiosity about how all this worked, encouraged me to support this wonderful program at McMaster.

Have you ever wondered why you cannot remember what you did an hour ago but then an old song comes on, and you can remember every word? Truly, there is an amazing connection between the mind and music.

When I encourage people to sing,

I often get a negative response such as "I can't keep a tune, or I can't sing". My favourite response is simply that everyone can sing and it is not about theoretical music, it is about enjoyment. Unfortunately, there are too many music critics who often stifle a person's potential to sing. We should all sing to babies and comfortably without judgement sing with our family. I was told that there is some interesting science which shows that singing to babies builds a bond with them.

Music is a universal experience, enjoyed in so many different ways. I highly recommend that whichever way you enjoy music, keep going.... make your

own "noise" and do not let any critical comments reduce your enjoyment or continued exploration whether with an instrument or your voice. Your heart will be healthier as will your brain.

As history has shown, music has helped people get through the darkest of times. Today, with everything closed down because of COVID, use the time to sing or to play an instrument, or just listen to your favourite music. It matters not the genre, style, or age of the music. What matters is that you enjoy what you enjoy!! And please support all our talented musicians who have had a difficult time during this pandemic period.

IN CONVERSATION WITH HON. TONY CLEMENT

MP, PARRY SOUND-MUSKOKA (2006-2019)

MPP, BRAMPTON SOUTH (1995-1999)

MPP, BRAMPTON WEST-MISSISSAUGA (1999-2003)

By: David Warner

"The political arena should be a free market place of ideas."

- Tony Clement

Tony Clement was bitten by the political bug at an early age. As a 14 year old he campaigned for the local Conservative candidate in the 1975 provincial election. "I was an idealist. I wanted to change my community, change the world. As I became more (politically) involved I felt that I had the skills to be a good politician. I enjoyed meeting people and I loved campaigning. As well, I was comfortable making decisions."

The effect of being bitten didn't

subside for half a century. Tony Clement, reflecting on his 2019 decision to retire, said "It was the right time to leave, both for my mental health and for my family."

Today's Political Atmosphere

Media reporting is rife with stories of politicians being disrespectful of each other, insults being hurled like snowballs in a playground. I asked Tony Clement for his view on the current political atmosphere and what might be done to



TONY CLEMENT

change things.

"We are living in an era of disruptive politics. We need to rebuild the public's faith in our political system. It is helpful to remember that the public votes for change but not for chaos. The political culture needs to change so that we can rebuild the public's faith in our democracy. Structural changes would help. For example, loosening up the control exercised by the Leaders' offices. Those elected need to embrace the concept that the political arena should be a free market place of ideas, but not full of ad hominem attacks."

Qualities Of Leadership

Everyone who is elected municipally, provincially or federally finds that the job involves some form of leadership. I sought Tony Clement's list of qualities. "Be a good listener and a good decision maker. It helps to have a long term strategic plan. If you are fortunate

enough to be in Cabinet, always come to those Cabinet meetings well prepared. Do not assume that you can read the Party Leader's mind. Offering your candid, honest opinion is usually the best way to go."

Memories Of Queen's Park

"There are two which stand out. Every April first, I and my chief of staff would play an April Fools joke on the Deputy Minister. A constituent had given me a velvet oil portrait of myself. We placed the painting on a chair in my office. When the Deputy Minister arrived we told her that this painting was so beautiful that we thought it should be replicated and hung in every MTO (Ministry of Transportation Ontario) office in the province. She was sweating bullets and at a loss for words except to remind us that it would have to be hung below the Queen's portrait. Finally we told her we were joking, to her visible relief!"

Memories Of The House of Commons

"It was 2009. The auto industry in Canada was on the verge of collapse. Our government (Hon. Stephen Harper) had decided to provide significant loan guarantees to the auto makers, GM and Chrysler. We were in Toronto to make the big announcement. It was also Stephen Harper's 50th birthday. As we were cutting the birthday cake, Stephen turned to me and said "Tony if you had told me last year I'd be spending my 50th birthday pouring \$12 billion into the auto industry, I would have said you were crazy!"

"One of my favourite band is RUSH. In 2009 they were in Ottawa to receive the General Governor's Arts Award. They were in the House Gallery for Question Period. Charlie Angus (New Democrat MP) asked a question, which had been asked previously, about an outrageous limousine fare I had been charged in Washington (D.C). In a rare case of knowing exactly what to say I replied with the RUSH lyric: "Well Mr Speaker, And the men who hold high places/Must be the ones who start/To mould a new reality/ Closer to the heart!" Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson applauded and I have no doubt that Charlie Angus, being a fellow musician, got a kick out of the reply."

Life Is Full Of Surprises

Tony Clement and Sandra Pupatello, former political opponents, are co-chairing a new organization called Reshoring Canada. It is a non-partisan

advocacy organization designed to promote a modern, secure, and less risky supply chain.

Sandra Pupatello remarked, "It's a new initiative that Tony Clement and I are co-chairing to study and try to offer solutions to our industry supply chain issues. We both laugh when we tell people we never dreamed we'd work together on something like this when he was the Health Minister in Ontario and I was his health critic!"

Life After Politics

"I am enjoying both physical and mental wellness. I am a start-up entrepreneur so I have been using those skills as a corporate advisor and board director to several new companies. I also am involved in media: I host a television interview show, a business news and views show called "Boom and Bust", on The News Forum, a fledgling news network. I also co-host a weekly podcast, "And Another Thing Podcast", and a rock 'n' roll radio show on Hunters Bay Radio in Muskoka."

Editor's Note: check out www.tonyclement.ca for more details about Tony's very active life after politics.

Those Who Have Influenced My Political Life

"While I have never had a 'guardian angel' mentor there are some politicians who have had a strong influence on my career. Most notable are Bill Davis and Brian Mulroney."

PAUL JOHNSON

POLITICIAN AND MUSICAL TALENT

By: Cassandra Earle

Paul Johnson has a long history in politics. He worked in Athol Township, was elected in 1988, worked for the Ministry of Community and Social Services (Government of Ontario), and was a municipal Councillor in Prince Edward County! "Always have had an interest in improving anyone's lot in life, with respect to their circumstances," Johnson said in a recent interview with The Informer.

"I saw tremendous inequity in our society, and I didn't see it moving in a direction that was going to improve that. And I know that governments really, truly, do have the power to change all that.... So I thought, you know, I should maybe get involved and see if I can help... some politician make some good decisions going forward," he said.

The part of Johnson's career that most people don't see, though, is his hidden talent-- music. During his time as councillor for Prince Edward County, from 2000 until 2003, he had also started a business as a recording engineer sound technician. "I had built a sound booth in the basement of my house and I was starting to acquire some of the necessary gear to create a business in that field."

Johnson said that his passion for music began back when he joined his first band in high school. "I played in a couple of bands in high school and one band in particular which was called Pegasus. And we were kinda like, I guess what I would call, a rock band for this location in Prince Edward County."

In the years following, up into his 20's, Johnson played with the band in bars and other venues. He said eventually he got tired of that environment and with spending all his time playing those venues. "I hadn't really given up on music. I just didn't want to be in the band and do what I was doing for a year and spending my Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights in smoky bars with people that were drinking lots of beer."

But the band stayed close and at one point decided to start playing again, until the drummer in his band tragically died in a motorcycle accident. "That was traumatic for me. And I didn't play music again, in any serious way, until at least until 1987-88, when I hadn't had any instruments to play and then I got a guitar for Christmas."

After Johnson had picked up a guitar again, he ran for election in 1987 as an NDP candidate in the provincial election. He is adamant about the fact that it wasn't planned: "I really didn't want to be the candidate, back in 1987...but I had been afforded an opportunity, by virtue of the fact I was a member of keen interest to attend the Labour College of Canada," he said. He wasn't successful the first time, but in the following election he gave it another shot and won.

Johnson speaks of his time at Queen's Park fondly, with memories and commentary that line every story; some that even incorporate music, such as the time when Speaker David Warner invited Johnson for dinner. "And the only thing



PAUL R. JOHNSON

he asked was that I bring my guitar," Johnson said. "Joining me at the Speaker's Apartment was the Deputy Speaker, Gilles Morin, with his harmonica. We sang, played our instruments, and had a great time." Johnson said, laughing.

Another memory that sticks with Johnson was a time when the technicians at Queen's Park turned a committee room into a recording studio. "I must admit I wasn't as proficient at playing the guitar then as I am now but I did play the guitar and the Pages recorded it and sang the song-Together Forever," he said. "And those wonderful kids gave me a copy of the words to my song, in a little Queen's Park folder. And all the Pages signed it. I thought, 'well, that's just wonderful'"

There were also moments of disappointment in his career, however. "I was really, really upset and disappointed that our attempt to give rights to gays and lesbians [was denied]," he said. "I found that really awful. I actually just saw it as such a blatant human rights issue, and yet, we were afforded a free vote and even some of my caucus members didn't support it. I was quite, quite disappointed," Johnson said. "I want to go

forward, [and sometimes] it just doesn't happen easily. It's like three steps forward and two steps back." Later, after Johnson began his exit from politics in 1997, he started to inquire about what it would cost to produce the songs he had written over the years during his time living in College Park. "I'm a pretty savvy guy and I know the industry changed markedly and, you know, the technology advanced in leaps and bounds. But I thought after my inquiry, finding out that it was very expensive to get good studio time and to record songs...I thought well I'll build my own and then I have all the time in the world," Johnson said.

That is just what he did. "I had pretty good business starting in 2000 up until this point, I guess. For 18-19 years I had a pretty good business." So did he ever record those songs he had written? The answer is, well, no. At least not yet. "I haven't recorded any [of] myself," he said. All of the work in this business has been for others and up until recently, he didn't return to that idea, either. When asked if we can expect any songs from him soon, his answer was:

"Hopefully soon, as all the time in the world that I once had, is much shorter now!"

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS: LARRY O'CONNOR CONNECTS WITH HIS CULTURE

by Sue Tiffin
The Times, Minden, Ontario

After becoming introduced to Indigenous beadwork, the first piece that Larry O'Connor beaded himself was a poppy, which he gave to his next door neighbour, a Legion member. "They say you should always give away your first piece," said O'Connor. "[Since then] I've made one for everybody in my family."

And so began a deep interest in creating art and regalia through beading that has led to O'Connor being part of several beading groups on Facebook, learning more about his own culture and history and being able to share with others through social media and even in classes on stitching and technique he has taught.

"I haven't been beading for that long," said O'Connor, who started in October 2019. "But with COVID, it filled a niche. The downside is we don't get to go see people in person but it gave me time to focus on a craft that is part of my culture that I probably wouldn't have had spent the time with otherwise."

O'Connor, whose mom was Métis and whose dad is Métis-Odawa, first went to a class about beadwork that the Toronto Métis Council had put together. Some of the beadwork itself, he said, goes back a thousand years, and was originally created with shells which connected the work to shared DNA between humans and Mother Earth.

"I did the one class, and then I was at another Métis gathering, and did another flower, and I thought, well, I can do this," he said. "The next thing I did was my vest. Once you've learned to stitch, it's just a matter of finding a pattern or coming up with an idea. It's been rewarding."

For O'Connor, he said the interest for him was in the culture.

"Within our culture, there's a language, there's the connection to the land, but a very tactile way of being involved with our culture is actually doing the beadwork and the crafting that our relations did one hundred, two hundred years ago," he said. "I think, something drew me to the element of creating something with my hands that I could share in different ways. It gives me something that I can show and talk about as well."

While O'Connor was growing up in Oshawa, his family did not talk about being Indigenous. His great-grandmother went to residential school – a problematic school system funded by the Canadian government and run by churches that removed Indigenous children from their families with the purpose of assimilating them into settler culture that resulted in abuse and death of many children as well as trauma for survivors. She subsequently raised her family as French-Canadians.

“My dad had no exposure to his grandmother and his mother died when he was 12, so there was no way for him to really know that he was Indigenous,” said O’Connor. “It wasn’t until the early 90s, around 2000, probably when he retired, that he started to investigate his culture. He found that his grandfather was Métis. It wasn’t until we looked even further and he found that his grandmother was born on Sheshegwaning First Nation on Manitoulin Island.”

O’Connor’s mom’s side also denied their Indigenuity [a concept combining Indigenous and ingenuity].

“In my retirement, I really embraced my Indigenous heritage and tried to reclaim who I am and who my family is, my family, they’re getting educated just as I am, we share that as we grow,” said O’Connor. “In many ways, it’s our little piece of being on the receiving end of Truth and Reconciliation. If it wasn’t the fact that our great-grandmother went through the residential school system, and the colonial system that we grew up in, we probably would have known more about our past. Because they grew up in Northern Ontario, the shame of being Indigenous it was like a heavy wet Hudson Bay blanket covering them, that, don’t talk about being Indigenous, don’t tell anyone, because the Indian agents will find you and you’ll be off to residential schools, too.”

For O’Connor it has been important to speak out against falsehoods and myths that get perpetuated through racism, which he can do through education on his radio show and now in sharing history and meaning through beadwork.

“For me to have a chance to go out and share my culture and dispel myths, I think that’s really important,” he said. “I

think the history I learned in school and even when you’re traveling across the country and you look at some of these historic plaques, a lot of them are full of myths and errors. I mean, the settlers, the colonialists, they came over here and said there were savages here. We had people, culture, and we were here for ten thousand years before they arrived. We were here. We weren’t discovered. They just happened to run into us when they came to our homelands.”

To this end, some of O’Connor’s work has honoured missing and murdered Indigenous women, and, since this interview, the 215 children found buried in a mass grave at the site of a former residential school in Kamloops.

His favourite work so far has been a beaded octopus, or “devil fish” bag, which he said is named for its eight “dangling tabs.”



LARRY O’CONNOR PHOTOGRAPHED ALONGSIDE HIS PARENTS. PHOTO CREDIT: MIDDENTIMES

"This style of bag has been found among the Métis, Cree and Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island," he wrote on social media. "The Tlingit people have artfully been making these bags since the mid-1800s. Traditionally, these were made by wives for their husbands and used to carry flint, tobacco, smoking pipes, tinder, medicines and other small items. More contemporarily, these bags are used by men and women in dances as regalia."

"It was a project I felt I needed to do, it's part of Indigenous culture that is shared with First Nation and Métis," O'Connor told the Times. "It's got elements of both sides of that piece of my heritage. I haven't put the medicines in the legs yet but I am going to have to do that. Before I take it out I will. Creating the octopus bag is one thing but it now becomes a talking piece as well, where I can talk about the culture, the history behind things, and introduce them to the medicines, that normally you don't have that opportunity to do."

While semi-retired, O'Connor puts much care into his work on Canoe FM as an Indigenous radio host, and helped to organize COVID-19 vaccination clinics for Indigenous people in Haliburton. Now his downtime, when he has it, is spent at the table at his Hunter Creek home working on projects.

"It's a great way to sit down and have conversation," he said. "People do that with quilting, and playing cards. Sometimes it involves crafts, sometimes it's just a social activity. When you do it virtually with other people, you have that opportunity to learn about other cultures right across Turtle Island."

Additionally, he can share his work – on vests, on drums – with friends and family – from his mom and dad down,

to his 74 relatives, he said.

"If I bead for the rest of my life, I should be able to get something to everyone," he said, laughing. "There's a lot of beading to be done."

O'Connor is making time for it.

"We never were exposed to any cultural activities being Indigenous here in Canada – I think, now, we're ... Canada's changing," he said. "Louis Riel was a cousin of mine. He said, in 100 years, the Indigenous will rise up, and it will be the artists that will lead the way. Well, I don't know that I'm leading the way, but I'm certainly sharing what I'm learning ... I think it's important that we share the stories."

"My story could very well have ended with the genocide of my culture if somebody didn't speak up and start talking about it," he said. "This is my way to say that this is who I am, this is part of my Indigenous culture, and I'm proud of it."

AN EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT OF THE EVENTS OF JANUARY 13, 1991 IN VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

By: Richard Johnston, January 12, 2021



RICHARD JOHNSTON SEATED ON THE RIGHT

When Vida and I met, I was an NDP/MPP and she was a Lithuanian/Canadian journalist. The end of the eighties were exciting times in the Baltics, as independence movements against the USSR occupation were becoming more vocal. In 1989 Vida and I travelled to Lithuania to visit family there for the first time since her parents had fled at the end of the WWII. We also met some members of the Sajudis freedom movement. The smattering of documents I brought with me for them focused on human rights and labour laws as they tried to prepare themselves for an election the following year that they hoped would free them from Soviet oppression.

In 1990, I brought together a group of parliamentarians of different stripes, including Bob Rae and Bill Blaikie (NDP), Pauline Browes (PC) and Jesse Flis (Lib) to act as election monitors from the West. Many other observers from Europe and the United States were supposed to be there too. But in the end we were the only ones who got into the country before the Soviets closed the borders. So we were virtually the only foreigners to witness the amazing government election victory of Sajudis and their first very tentative steps to becoming an independent democracy.

Not long after, the NDP, just as incredibly, won the election in the Province of Ontario. I had retired

(which might explain their success) but Bob Rae at my request appointed me to coordinate Ontario's support to the New Baltic Governments and other breakaway Eastern European governments as they tried to understand how democracies work. So in January 1991, I returned to Lithuania with a small team of Ontario public servants to work with the government on developing a plan for reforming and rebuilding their institutions. Things were pretty tense. Gorbachev was under a lot of pressure to get back control of the Baltic States.

On January 11, things really started to get scary in Lithuania, which had the smallest Russian community of the three Baltic states. Russification policies were more successful in Latvia and especially in Estonia. There was a lot of Soviet armoured vehicle activity and a lot more belligerence from the Lithuanian Communists inside the Parliament.

On January 13, 1991 Soviet forces in the capital city of Vilnius, took over the Communications Tower and the Radio and TV Committee Broadcasting Centre to control communication, killing 14 civilians.

My team and I were meeting with President Landsbergis and other senior officials in the Parliament buildings when a mob of Russian sympathizers infiltrated by Soviet agents marched on the building. No real Lithuanian military force existed at that time, just a group of inexperienced young men with antiquated weapons who had volunteered to protect the place. It felt like this was all part of a coordinated coup. Pretty scary, especially when the mob broke into the building. They were quickly pushed back out. It was almost like they were surprised to have entered so easily. However, they were outside in large numbers - thousands, and messages kept being received that armoured vehicles were gathering with intent to overturn the government.

Then, over the course of the next number of hours, something miraculous happened. Lithuanians started to arrive in the square, gradually inserting themselves

between the hostile pro-Russians and the building. Within a few hours the square was full of about 50,000 people singing patriotic songs with the Russian sympathizers now a much smaller and peripheral minority. Evening fell, I remember there were no lights on in the building. We had little idea about what was going on around us in Vilnius, so it felt like only a matter of time before there would be some kind of horrible attack resulting in many casualties. By then I was on an upper floor of the building looking out at the square, worried about the safety of my team and feeling like I had been strangely inserted into this big historical moment all because I had fallen in love with this Lithuanian/Canadian. Suddenly a priest entered the room with a small group of people. They had a microphone and speaker horn with them. They flung open this large window and the priest stood up on a chair or table (can't remember exactly) and he started to speak to the crowd below, which quickly became silent. He basically reassured them that everything was going to be alright and urged them to go home. It was amazing. Within minutes the square was entirely empty. It made the hairs rise on the back of my neck.

Next morning I arranged to have our team driven to Riga in Latvia where we stayed overnight as Soviet tanks rolled up and down the streets outside our hotel. The next morning all but one of us, a Canadian Lithuanian who had insisted upon staying in Vilnius, took the last plane out of Riga.

So all of this has come rushing back into my otherwise deficient memory bank, as I watched the attack on the American Capitol this past week. I felt again the fear that those elected American officials and staff must have felt. And, although I tend to despair about the state of that union and the future of its democratic institutions that still have trouble providing universal suffrage, I note that Lithuania continues to survive freely as a member of the EU, albeit in the face of a new Russian despot. But democracies young and old are so very vulnerable. It would have

have taken so little for Russia to have re-asserted its control in Lithuania. And only a few moments separated the US Congress's exit from the building during presentation of the electoral college votes and the entry of the vandals into the Senate Chambers.

I have long felt that we don't do enough to nurture our democracy in our schools and in our day-to-day lives.



HON. BOB RAE SERVING AS AN ELECTION OBSERVER

GETTING TO KNOW TORONTO TRINITY-SPADINA

By: Rosario Marchese

The area where I grew up and later represented in the Legislature consists of the Toronto Islands and the part of the City of Toronto bounded on the south by Toronto Harbour, and on the west, north and east by a line drawn from the harbour north on Spencer Avenue, east along the Gardiner Expressway, north on Dufferin, east on Queen Street West, southeast along the Canadian Pacific Railway line, north along Dovercourt Road, east along Dundas Street West, north along Ossington Avenue, east along the Canadian Pacific Railway situated north of Dupont Street, south along Avenue Road and Queen's Park Crescent West, east along College Street and south along Yonge Street to the Harbour.

I grew up on Shaw Street South of Bloor. Very little existed North of Bloor. Or so I believed.

No one knows lane ways better than those who live downtown. In fact, most places outside Toronto don't have lane ways. It's uniquely a downtown thing. It's where we played baseball, regularly. With low fences in our backyards and back-to-back homes you could see your neighbours as far as your eyes could see. On Shaw Street, on Delaware and Montrose and then on Bishop Tutu in a Co-op on Harbourfront, you got to know your neighbours and the neighborhood.



BATHURST SUBWAY STATION, RIGHT AT THE HEART OF TRINITY-SPADINA

There was no privacy, and I didn't need or want privacy. It was dynamic and I could not fathom any other type of existence.

As a child, I went to St. Raymond Catholic school just North of Christie Pits and as an adolescent, walked to my secondary school, Harbord Collegiate. The mix of students was representative of so many communities and it was wonderful.

After graduating from Harbord, I continued my journey to St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto which coincidentally, was just a few feet away from Queen's Park. The University stretched from University Avenue to Spadina and North from College to Bloor Street and it was surrounded by bustling centres which included the

Royal Ontario Museum just a short way from Queen's Park and the boutiques of Yorkville just North of Bloor. The Connaught Laboratory, which played a significant role in the development and distribution of medicines and vaccines, was nestled just North of College Street, East of Spadina.

After three years of teaching, I got elected as a School Trustee with the Toronto Board. I got to know so much about neighborhoods and the different communities. Places like the Kensington Market. Vibrant and exciting. Toronto Island, a place for all immigrants. The Ontario Art Gallery, and Chinatown next to each other. How beautiful is that?

Dooney's Cafe, located near Spadina and Bloor, incidentally, owned by my brother, was right in the heart of the Annex. This was a meeting place for so many writers in the hood; the place where I got my espresso regularly and where I met so many constituents.

Let's not forget the Toronto International Film Festival in the heart of the entertainment district on King Street, surrounded by walls of condominiums from the east, west, north and south, just a few blocks west of City Hall and just north of the former Metro Hall building. So much activity generated by TIFF every year, attracting thousands of people on the busy street of King. Within shouting distance, you will find the Roy Thompson Hall, the CN Tower, Rogers Centre, Union Station, and the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Unlike many northern ridings, which are larger than many countries, Trinity-Spadina is a dense, walkable, urban riding. Canvassing in Trinity Spadina couldn't be simpler. I cannot imagine how my colleagues manage to stay in touch with their constituents. I do not envy them. Perhaps they feel the same towards urban MPPs. Who knows? As for me, I loved the bustle, the hum, the

energy, and the diversity.

I referenced some of the sites and places of my old riding. But let's not forget the people and the organizations within it. It is a riding with a strong, mobilized civil society, made up of Resident Associations, Tenant Organizations, Parent Councils, Condominium Associations and equity seeking groups. It includes Ethno-Racial Organizations, Advocacy Groups and NGOs who focus on building healthy neighborhoods and community well being. A civic community that helps to bring civility, humanity, diversity, fairness, and equity to our city.

A working-class kid never dreams of getting into politics. I left University with a degree in English and French and a minor in philosophy. Politics was simply another world for me and my family. But it found me and not the other way around. In fact, my mother used to say, soon after my 1990 election as an MPP, "Why can't you just get a normal job like your brothers. They are happier and make much more money than you". But circumstances and serendipity strike in the oddest of places and I ended up as a politician; first as a full-time School Trustee with the Toronto Public School Board for 8 years and then as an MPP representing the amazing people of Trinity- Spadina from 1990 to 2014.

Politics opened up a world that a working-class kid would never imagine. I hope I brought some humanity, humility, humour, and honesty to Queen's Park.

By the way, I never dreamed I could live anywhere else but Trinity Spadina. Until I did. After my marriage to Evelyn Murialdo, I moved North of Bloor to Lawrence and Bathurst where I enjoy the quiet of a peaceful street, in a detached home, with a big backyard.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. BUD WILDMAN

On Saturday, June 12, Algoma University bestowed an honorary degree on C. J. (Bud) Wildman. This distinctive honour was in recognition of Bud Wildman's decades long support of this post-secondary institution from its early days as a College to when it became a University. It was also a recognition of Bud's political leadership, his commitment to improving relationships with Ontario's First Nations, and his support for Northern Ontario communities.



DR. BUD WILDMAN

In 2000 Bud was invited to be the Chair of Algoma University College, a position he held for 3 consecutive terms. During his time as Chair, Algoma University increased its enrolment substantially, maintained balanced budgets, diversified its revenue sources and enhanced its academic reputation.

When Algoma University gained its independence in 2008, with three-party support in the Ontario legislature, it was in large measure due to Bud Wildman's leadership.

In 2018 and 2019, Bud Wildman served as Special Adviser to the Board of Directors of Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig (SKG), the Indigenous institute in partnership with Algoma University, and supported the development of SKG through senior administrative work. Provincially, he has played an active role in the Indigenous Institutes Consortium, assisting in the move towards granting the nine Indigenous

Institutes degree and diploma-granting authority.

In accepting this special recognition, Bud congratulated the members of the 2021 Algoma U. Graduating class. He noted the challenges they and their professors (and everyone else) have had to overcome in the global pandemic. He commented that the education they have received at Algoma U. will enable them to take advantage of new opportunities in the future. Bud called on each of them to play their part in meeting the "two existential challenges facing the world community" - climate change and the growing economic and social inequality gap.

Bud noted that the experiences and knowledge the graduates have gained at Algoma U., with its special mission for cross-cultural learning, in cooperation with SKG on the site of the former Shingwauk Residential School, present them with a special opportunity. He challenged each of them to play a role in reconciliation between

Anishinaabe and settler communities in Canada.

Bud concluded by expressing his thanks to Algoma University for awarding him the honorary degree. "It's an honour I would never have expected," he said.

Editor's Note: "Shingwauk"(in English... Pine Tree) is the name of the great 19th century Ojibwe Chief who, among other accomplishments, trekked to York (Toronto) from the Sault to ask for cross-cultural education for his people. Unfortunately for his people, this led to the development of the Indian residential school system in Canada.

Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig means Shingwauk Teaching Lodge (or Wigwam). That institute is dedicated to reviving Shingwauk's vision of true cross-cultural learning that will benefit both the settler and Anishinaabe communities.

Colleagues added to the list of those with honorary degrees and diplomas

Richard Johnston	Trent University Niagara College
Randy Hope	St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology
Sandra Pupatello	University of Windsor

CITY OF HAMILTON ARTS AWARDS 2021 ARTS CHAMPION - JUDY MARSALES

Judy Marsales has been a consistent supporter of the arts and culture sector, both as a business owner and active volunteer. In addition to supporting numerous organizations and fundraisers, Judy has served as a board member for the Brott Music Festival, Hamilton All Star Jazz Band, Hamilton Music Collective (An Instrument for Every Child) and the Hamilton Music Advisory Team.



JUDY MARSALES

Note: link to watch interview/
presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQNvOEiZwOk&t=392s>

“YOURS TO DISCOVER” - THE STORY OF ONTARIO’S LICENCE PLATE

The following story is courtesy of J. Patrick Boyer, from one of his blogs. Should you wish to check out his other writings: www.patrickboyer.ca/blogs

In the early 1970s, Ontario’s tourism officials were increasingly anxious about losing business to neighbouring New York State which was running its highly successful “I Love New York” campaign. Ontario needed a response. The Camp agency’s research department discovered that when people were shown the Province’s travel literature, their eyes popped. The brochures about places and experiences Ontario offered were stunning but to travelling vacationers, virtually unknown. So Dalton Camp, Norman Atkins, John McIntyre and others at the agency decided on creating a theme to instill an exciting sense of pride, of discovery, and adventure.

They filmed Ontario’s wide variety of unique scenes and linked that imagery to the attractive travel literature, creating a double whammy: engaging television and mass distribution of brochures. Some three million copies of rotogravure inserts were distributed to households across the Province. The theme, “very much in character with the Province,” said

McIntyre, “had a soft-spoken quality.” It was: ONTARIO: Yours to Discover.

The slogan was an invitation. The onus was on individuals and families to make the discovery, which they were free to do. Its simplicity appealed not only to Ontarians and Canadians but Americans, too, as results from Camp agency focus groups in the United States attested. They considered ONTARIO: Yours to Discover “very polite, reflecting Canadian character.” Also, “discovery” spoke to the sense of a different culture and foreign country which is why Americans would come to Canada. “Yours to Discover” held out that promise. The campaign was so positive that the Davis government added the slogan to the Province’s licence plates.

Editor: Ontario is definitely “A Place To Grow”. Yet, with the abundance of wondrous beauty, charming towns and villages, stunning waterfalls, peaceful verdant forests, lakes and vibrant cities Ontario will always beckon me to discover.

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