

Event with Hon. Wynne

On Saturday, February 6, 2010 the KWPLA held an event at the newly opened Bauer Kitchen. The event featured the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, MPP from Don Valley West. Ms. Wynne is a renowned community leader, who has recently been named as Ontario's new Minister of Transportation, and was instrumental in bringing full day learning to 4 and 5 year olds.

The evening began at 4:30pm with a reception. Many local transportation leaders attended the event, which featured lively discussions regarding various local transportation issues. The Bauer Kitchen provided an excellent atmosphere and food for the event. Following the reception, a group of guests and Ms. Wynne had a private dinner.

The evening proved to be one that was both engaging and thought-provoking for all present, and also served as a great networking opportunity for KWPLA members and local leaders alike. The event continued on a strong tradition of our bringing high-level



The Honourable Kathleen Wynne poses with KWPLA President Jeff Henry

provincial Liberal leaders to the region. Be sure to stay tuned for future announcements about high-level events, as the Kitchener-Waterloo Provincial Liberal Association will be holding many more of these wonderful events in the coming year.

We invite you to keep in touch, and watch for invitations to join us for these engaging evenings. These events are open to all members, and as always, ABC members will receive reduced admission rates.

Meet the New Board

We would like to take this chance to introduce everyone to some new faces on our Board of Directors. Every January, the KPLA holds its Annual General Meeting where officers and directors are elected.

Jeff Henry is returning as our President for 2010. Jeff is a staff member at the University of Waterloo, and is Vice President of the Canadian Mental Health Association Grand River Branch.

Our Vice President is Jerry Walker, who is also returning to the role he held in 2009. Jerry is General Manager of Fastenal in Kitchener. Peter Hughes is our returning Treasurer, and long time Board of Directors member. Aaron Stauch (2009 Secretary) has taken on the role of Membership

Secretary. Aaron is a Masters student at the University of Waterloo.

Our Directors for 2010 are Sam Andrey (UW Student), Matt Arnold (who also serves as our policy chair), Bob Ernest (who is also OLP Southwest Regional VP), Jane Mitchell (Region of Waterloo Councillor), and Brad Bradford (UW Grad Student).

The Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of every month (except in March). Our next meeting is March 10 and will be held at Philthy McNasty's. Come see what we are about; director positions are still open.

Witmer - Hudak Watch: HST Double Talk

On July 1, 2010 Ontario's new Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) will come into effect. Tim Hudak (PC) and Andrea Horwath (NDP) have characterized it as a "tax grab" and claim that it will cost Ontarians both money and jobs. However, many of these claims are simply political posturing. In fact, the HST will lower the cost of doing business in the province and will create jobs, things Ms. Witmer and Mr. Hudak used to favour, and now oppose, just to score political points. They also neglect to mention the 17% reduction in the first income tax

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March 10, 2010: Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

March 31, 2010: End of Membership Renewal Period

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bracket and credits for low-income Ontarians, and ensures 93% of Ontario families receive a permanent tax cut.

In a news release on Ms. Witmer's website she says, "the Ontario PC Caucus will use every procedural tool and tactic at its disposal to delay the passage of the HST". On December 9, 2009 she voted against Bill 218 (HST). Showing that she is in fact against tax cuts and jobs.

Economist and tax expert Jack Mintz (Palmer Chair of Public Policy at the University of Calgary) released a report in November that shows that the HST in combination with Ontario's proposed corporate income tax cuts will: create 591,000 net new jobs; increase capital investment by \$47 billion; and increase annual incomes by up to 8.8 per cent (\$29.4 billion). Mr. Mintz further

outlines an increase in Ontario's international competitiveness and significant improvement for small businesses due to the HST.

Consider the recent open letter to opposition leaders Tim Hudak (PC) and Andrea Horwath (NDP) from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. The October letter notes that the Chamber has been a "strong proponent" of HST for a number of years, as they recognize the significant good that the change will bring. The Chamber states that the opposition's narrow interpretations have been "categorically not true," and ignore the fact that the HST in Ontario will only be part of a comprehensive tax reform package.

President's Message

This year is an important one, as we are only 18 months away from the next provincial election. At your local association, we are working hard to engage you, our members, to make sure that all of us are heard and involved in the work ahead. This year we will be recruiting a strong candidate that can challenge our sitting Conservative MPP and turn this riding red for the first time in two decades.



In the past six years, the Liberal party has delivered on lower class sizes and higher test scores, reduced wait times and more doctors, and a more sustainable environment and a future in green energy. We have delivered on the largest tax reform in 40 years, which will bring nearly 600,000 new jobs to Ontario over the next ten years and has already permanently reduced income taxes for 93% of Ontario families.

This year, the party will be developing a new platform, with new policy and new bold ideas. We will be looking for the strongest local ideas that we can push to join the platform, and we will be looking to you, our members, to help us do that.

It continues to be a pleasure to serve all of you as your President, and I am grateful that you have, or will be taking the time to renew your membership. We will keep in touch as we move forward this year together as Liberals.

Yours Liberally, Jeff Henry

HST Talking Points

1. Since January 1, 2010, your Ontario income taxes are lower. That means more money in your pocket every paycheck. In fact 93% of Ontario families are receiving a permanent cut in income taxes, as the rate on the first \$37,100 of income has come down from 6.05% to 5.05%.

2. The tax reform package is costing the provincial treasury money. Some prices will go up, but taxes are permanently going down. And the \$4-billion transition assistance from the Federal Government to Ontario is going straight into your pocket over the first year of implementation to offset cost increases until savings by businesses are more fully passed on to consumers.

3. The tax reform package, including the HST, is about jobs. Nearly 600,000 new jobs will be created because of this package over the next 10 years, which is why now is exactly the right time to do this.

For more information regarding the HST visit these websites:

- kwliberal.ca/news/hst-news/
- www.ontario.ca/taxchange

For \$20/month
Get up to
\$295 in benefits

Become an ABC Member

Support a party whose values you identify with

Get great value for your dollar

ABC members are given priority access, invitation, and pricing to special Liberal events

Remember that donations made through an ABC membership are tax deductible, at rates of up to 75%

Sign up today for a \$20 monthly donation, and get a tax deduction of \$180 and up to \$115 in VIP event discounts!

To sign up for an ABC membership, or for any questions you might have, please contact Aaron Stauch at membershipsecretary@kwliberal.ca

Help Us Prepare for 2011

Sign up new members and ABC donors

The member that signs up the most members will get ABC status at a KWPLA event of their choosing

The member that signs up the most ABC donors will get priority seating at the event of their choosing

Prizes will be awarded on a quarterly basis

For more info contact Aaron Stauch at membershipsecretary@kwliberal.ca