



Logic

By Joe Ingino b.a.
Editor/Publisher

"I live a dream in a nightmare world"

The Establishment vs The People

It appears that the municipal race for mayor of the City of Oshawa may come down to the establishment vs the people scenario.

As it stand there is only one candidate for the office of Mayor. The candidate is Dan Carter an incumbent councillor. If no one steps up. Carter would win by default. Is this what the city needs? If anyone shows up of credible integrity. The vote would be 'The Establishment' - meaning nothing will get done for another four years and you can bet your bottom dollar your property taxes will go up another 3 - 6% to pay off for the incompetence of true leadership. Versus whom ever pops up to bring in new and innovative ideas to the table.

Can Oshawa afford another four years of nothing... I have a question for Dan Carter... What have you done to make this city a better place. Did you do anything to lower taxes? Did you do anything for the airport? Did you do anything for the harbor? Did you do anything for the struggling business of the downtown? Did you do anything to attract new business and industry to Oshawa? Did you do anything to improve the infrastructure of Oshawa? Did you do anything to improve relationship between the public and city hall? Did you do anything to improve our roads and highways? But most importantly. Did you do anything? If so what?

The answer to the above questions are as obvious as the fact that under this administration has increased it's over all debt by 100 million to close to 300 million. They are as obvious as the fact that we keep loosing business every month in our core. It is as obvious as the fact that the harbor still sits empty even after the Federal government gave the land to the city to develop... and now are possibly facing a fine for doing nothing to the tune of 10 million dollars. And yes, their incompetence has you on the hook for the cash. And Dan wants to be Mayor.

Really. Are you deservant of a promotion for doing nothing? Do we need another pretty boy in office as a token of leadership? Or do we need someone with conviction. Proven track record in the City and Durham Region. Someone with a vision. Someone that knows the value of a hard earned dollar. Someone that is one of you (us). Do we not need change. Do we not need true leadership. Do we not need to protect our future through the investments of industry and trade that want to come to Oshawa but Oshawa elect fail to see or seek the opportunities that other municipalities are benefiting from?

Is it not time for change. **NO-TO-THE-ESTABLISHMENT. YES TO THE PEOPLE.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

As US President Donald Trump heads to Helsinki for a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Trump's critics continue to inveigh against what they consider an illicitly close relationship between the two, a perspective stemming from the "Russiagate" scandal drummed up by supporters of Hillary Clinton to explain her defeat in the 2016 presidential election. Russiagate or not, this summit may represent the two countries' last, best opportunity to halt or even reverse a decade of backsliding toward frigid Cold War relations. And Trump has a ready template at his disposal for pursuing warmer relations with a formidable, but hopefully former, foe.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan met with his Soviet counterpart, Mikhail Gorbachev, in Reykjavik. As the non-profit Reagan Vision for a Nuclear-Weapons-Free World describes the summit, "[a] proposal to eliminate all new strategic missiles grew into a discussion, for the first time in history, of the real possibility of eliminating nuclear weapons forever. ... Reagan even described to Gorbachev how both men might return to Reykjavik in ten years, aged and retired leaders, to personally witness the dismantling of the world's last remaining nuclear warhead."

While the full vision didn't pan out, a year later the US and the Soviets signed the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. Five years later came the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. "New START" arrived in 2010, shortly before relations between the two governments began to deteriorate in a big way.

At this point, the US is working on "modernizing" its existing nuclear arsenal, while Russia touts an advancing hypersonic missile program. We're moving back toward the days of American schoolchildren practicing "duck and cover" drills under constant threat of nuclear war.

The best possible outcome of the Trump-Putin summit would be a new treaty that I'll call "Fresh START." Under such a treaty, the two governments would commit to getting back on the track laid down by Reagan and Gorbachev, actively working to meet their existing obligations under Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT):

"Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament ..." Nuclear weapons are weapons of terror and of Mutual Assured Destruction. They're not militarily useful outside those two ways of thinking. It's time for the two countries with the largest stockpiles of such weapons to move together toward decommissioning and destroying those stockpiles. We may never again live in a world without nuclear weapons, but we can aspire to a world with as few of them as possible. If Trump and Putin can deliver a Fresh START toward that goal, their summit will have been a resounding success.

Thomas L. Knapp

The Editor

Well, now we know the decision - Brett Kavanaugh for the supreme court, which was no great surprise. The confirmation may take some time and will probably succeed by that 1 vote but what does it mean, especially in regard to Roe vs Wade?

The arguments for and against abortion are too complex, too numerous and too emotionally charged to attempt to discuss them in a single letter but the reality is that abortions are still going to occur - legal or illegal. The concern is that the process must still be conducted in a safe manner for the mother.

Regards,

Dennis Fitzgerald
Melbourne, Australia

President Thomas: It's not too late to rethink privatized beer and wine sales



Premier Ford's no surprise Throne Speech sets the stage for interesting times ahead, said OPSEU President Warren (Smokey) Thomas.

"We obviously don't agree with some of the Premier's priorities," said Thomas. "The privatized sale of beer and wine in convenience, grocery and big box stores is a not only a threat to public health and safety, it's also a surefire way to hollow out the assets of the LCBO. That approach doesn't help the little guy, nor will it benefit Ontario's treasury at a time when the Liberal deficit is poised to balloon."

"The Premier made a rash promise during the election," said Thomas. "But Ontarians are smart - they appreciate a reasoned approach. It's not too late to rethink privatized beer and wine sales."

OPSEU, which represents 155,000 workers in the Ontario Public Service, Colleges and across the Broader Public Service, including Liquor Board employees, has repeatedly raised red flags about privatized alcohol sales, warning that the privatized sale of alcohol means less money in Ontario's public coffers; funds that pay for precious public infrastructure like hospitals, highways, schools and public safety.

"It's fair to say we are pleased to hear what the Premier is not doing," said Thomas. "Perhaps he's had a moment for sober second thought when it comes to cannabis. With a recent rash of violence connected to organized crime in our province, we're pleased that he is not freewheeling the sale of cannabis, and that he and his caucus members are

maintaining a cautious approach."

"When it comes to real investments in frontline services, Premier Ford's government came up short in today's speech," said OPSEU First Vice-President Eduardo (Eddy) Almeida. "The people of Ontario depend on quality public services, so we need this government's commitment to protect them."

"If Premier Ford is worried about finding the money to pay for these services, we've got some ideas," said Almeida. "First, let's start with the outrageous salaries of top bosses across our colleges and the Broader Public Service. There's plenty to be saved on executive compensation and invested in frontline services for the people."

"We saw no great surprises today, but despite our sense of temporary relief, we are set to rally the troops when needed," Thomas said. "We obviously don't agree on everything, but we're cautiously optimistic that Premier Ford seems to be taking a steady-as-we-go approach. We're always open to discussion, and while we don't look to start wars, we won't back away from one either. Several former prem

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