

POLITICAL ACTION NOW

A Newsletter for Unit Presidents, Political Action and Communication Committee Chairs September 23, 2008

November 5th Lobby Day

Registration information has been sent to all unit presidents. Forms must be returned on or before October 15th. The Lobby Day begins at noon and concludes at 6:30 p.m. Unit presidents and PAC chairs (or designates) are the participants.

Workplace violence is the topic of the day. We will focus on the problems teachers face, such as bullying and psychological harassment. Local examples will be helpful in the discussions.

The Government Relations department is currently arranging meetings with MPPs. You are urged to contact your local MPP(s) and encourage them to accept our invitation to meet on Wednesday, November 5th. Let's work together to make our first Lobby Day a success.

| Ontario Riding | Lib. | Cons. | NDP | Lead |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| Parry Sound-Muskoka | 40.0% | 40.1% | 11.9% | 0.1% |
| Glengarry-Prescott-Russell | 41.2% | 41.6% | 12.7% | 0.4% |
| St. Catharines | 37.0% | 37.5% | 20.5% | 0.4% |
| Hamilton East-Stoney Creek | 35.2% | 25.3% | 36.0% | 0.9% |
| Brant | 36.9% | 36.0% | 21.3% | 1.0% |
| Thunder Bay-Superior North | 36.0% | 22.0% | 35.1% | 1.0% |
| Oakville | 43.4% | 42.1% | 9.7% | 1.2% |
| Thunder Bay-Rainy River | 35.1% | 27.2% | 33.4% | 1.7% |
| Huron-Bruce | 39.8% | 38.05% | 16.3% | 1.8% |
| London-Fanshawe | 32.6% | 29.0% | 34.5% | 1.9% |
| Ottawa-Orléans | 39.1% | 41.1% | 15.1% | 2.0% |
| Simcoe North | 38.4% | 40.4% | 14.1% | 2.1% |
| London West | 37.7% | 35.5% | 21.4% | 2.2% |
| Barrie | 39.2% | 41.9% | 12.2% | 2.7% |
| Kitchener-Conestoga | 38.5% | 41.2% | 14.95% | 2.7% |
| Halton | 41.4% | 44.2% | 8.8% | 2.7% |
| Peterborough | 32.4% | 35.9% | 25.7% | 3.5% |
| Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing | 38.2% | 23.3% | 34.5% | 3.7% |
| Burlington | 39.1% | 43.1% | 12.4% | 4.0% |
| Mississauga South | 44.2% | 40.1% | 10.8% | 4.1% |
| Parkdale-High Park | 35.9% | 17.1% | 40.4% | 4.5% |
| Ancaster-Dundas-Flamb.-Westdale | 34.5% | 39.1% | 21.3% | 4.6% |
| Nickel Belt | 43.3% | 12.6% | 38.7% | 4.6% |
| Sault Ste. Marie | 34.2% | 24.0% | 38.9% | 4.7% |
| Welland | 35.5% | 29.2% | 30.7% | 4.9% |

source: www.thehilltimes.ca

Federal Election

OECTA does not participate actively in the Federal election, but, like many Canadians, we are watching the campaign with keen interest. It is generally acknowledged that there are 57 targeted ridings across Canada, and 25 in Ontario alone (see the table below). Visit www.electionprediction.org to follow these close ridings. A good source of federal political information is www.thehilltimes.ca. Blogs are becoming a great way to monitor ongoing discussions. The following represent a sampling and many of them contain links to a range of other blogs:

1. www.warrenkinsella.com
2. www.stephentaylor.ca
3. www.cameronholmstrom.blogspot.com
4. www.homegrownsocialist.blogspot.com
5. www.calgarygrit.blogspot.com
6. www.jasoncherniak.blogspot.com
7. www.newdemocratsonline.ca
8. www.dipperchick.blogspot.com
9. www.canadaconservative.blogspot.com
10. www.returnofthetory.wordpress.com
11. www.imrightasrainblogspot.com

Fairness for Ontario

Premier McGuinty has launched his "Fairness for Ontario" campaign, seeking to obtain commitments from all Federal Party Leaders to treat Ontario fairly in terms of federal programs and transfer payments. More information can be found at www.fairness.ca