

THE TORONTO PARTY

WHAT'S NEXT, "MAYOR" STINTZ

City Council under the de facto leadership of Councillor Stintz killed the Sheppard Subway line to Scarborough and has seemingly ended Toronto's dreams of subway expansion in the near future.

However, the future of subway of expansion in Toronto is not necessarily dead and remarks from the new head of the TTC, Andy Byford, to promote the downtown relief line are heartening.

The Toronto Party listed the downtown relief line as its top subway funding priority in the 2010 municipal election and continues to support its construction.

The downtown relief line makes a lot of practical sense. There is a high volume of subway traffic in the downtown core and the Queen St. station, which would form the centerpiece of this line, already exists.

Will "Mayor" Stintz support this needed subway line or will she simply continue to support more LRTs and streetcars which will criss-cross the city?

This question and many more now sit firmly at her doorstep.

The democratic coup which Ms. Stintz brashly started firmly places Mayor Ford in the minority of City Council.

[Continued p. 2](#)

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In this issue:

The Toronto Party seeks answers from "Mayor" Stintz and suggests that more changes will come to City Council in 2014.

The Toronto Party examines the rules for becoming a provincial party.

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The Rules for Creating a Provincial Party

The Toronto Party has been studying how to become a provincial party.

The creation of a provincial party is governed under Ontario's Election Finances Act. More specifically, s. 10(3) obligates the Chief Electoral Officer to maintain a register of political

[Continued p. 2](#)

Notwithstanding that he was elected by a few hundred thousand residents with a citywide mandate, while Ms. Stintz was only with a few thousand votes in one Ward only, the position of Mayor has no greater authority than the one vote of any single councillor. We have an imperfect American model of city governance because the Mayor, unlike the U.S. President, does not possess a veto power over any vote of council.

And so, will Ms. Stintz now advocate a return to the \$60 motor vehicle registration tax? Will she impose new taxes and user fees on the residents of Toronto? Will she propose selling assets to balance the budget? Will she push for labour reform? Will she support

democratic reform that sees the reduction of City Council from 44 to 22 councillors and a Board of Control that is elected on a citywide basis?

What is her vision for the Waterfront? Where does she stand on the potential building of a Casino in Toronto?

The media should start asking her these questions because we all know that Mayor Ford's mandate is dead.

The media also should start asking Ms. Stintz these kinds of questions because the anger of Torontonians with respect to the recent subway v. LRT vote has begun to boil. In all corners of the City, residents are irate. The views of the majority of Torontonians was once again ignored by our elected officials.

The 2010 municipal election saw some change and we expect that more will come in 2014.

The new Scarborough First Party is already chanting "Lee and Cho have got to go!"

Ward 9 Councillor Maria Augimeri will be under siege by Gus Cusimano again. He lost by less than 100 votes in 2010.

In Ward 4, Gloria Lindsay Luby will likely face John Campbell again. He lost by less than 300 votes in 2010.

Ms. Stintz's council seat will also be a target for change. And so will John Parker's seat.

A change in these six votes will be enough to shift council.

So, what's next, Madam Mayor? The 2014 election has begun!

The Rules for Creating a Provincial Party Con't

parties and shall register therein any political party that is qualified to be registered.

Before being qualified as a valid party, however, the Act generally requires the reservation of the party's name. The party can then qualify as a political party by complying with one of two options set out in the Act.

The first option permits a party to wait until a writ has been issued for either a general election or for two or more concurrent by-elections. Once this has happened the party is only required to endorse candidates in at least two electoral districts. Using this option also avoids the need to reserve the party's name. But other sections of the Act apply.

The second option requires the party to collect at least 1,000 signatures of eligible voters who are willing to endorse the party. With over 100 electoral districts in Ontario, this requirement can be met with the endorsements of approximately 10 people per district. Since we would be concentrating on Toronto, we would be looking at an average of approximately 50 people per electoral district in Toronto.

Either option is not too onerous and two people have already told us they are willing to run!