



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Shame on City Councillors

Toronto Party seeks resignation of both Holyday and Milczyn

Toronto – July 12: A recent Forum Research poll indicates that 50% of respondents believe that Councillors Peter Milczyn and Doug Holyday should resign as City Councillors as a result of their respective decisions to run in the Etobicoke-Lakeshore provincial by-election.

The Toronto Party agrees and is thus calling on both Milczyn and Holyday to do the right thing, to stop hedging their bets and to resign.

The Toronto Party is also asking that, as a matter of fairness to all working Ontarians who would not have the same opportunity to take time off work or a leave of absence in order to run in a provincial election or by-election, Liberal leader Kathleen Wynne and Progressive Conservative Party leader Tim Hudak require that their respective candidates resign their City Council seats.

“We are extremely disappointed by the double-standard that politicians continue to exhibit in Toronto and throughout our country,” said Stephen Thiele, President of the Toronto Party. “We are especially disappointed with Councillor Holyday who once moved a motion before City Council demanding that any City Councillor who sought another public office during their term as councillor resign their council seat.”

Under Ontario law, there is no statutory obligation on a municipal politician to resign his or her seat if they decide to run for another public office during their municipal term of office. However in 2004 Holyday hounded then Councillor Olivia Chow to resign her seat when she decided to run in the federal election for the New Democratic Party.

At the same time, Ontario law does not protect the ordinary worker who might decide to seek public office.

“We are tired of the hypocrisy of our politicians,” added Mr. Thiele. “When will politicians stop putting their own interests ahead of their constituents? Both Holyday and Milczyn understood in 2010 that they were running for a 4 year term. If they now want to do something else, then they should step aside and let someone else occupy their council seats until the end of the term.”

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