

# The **TORONTO PARTY**

## LEADING THE WAY

**TTP UP-date  
JUNE 2007**

This newsletter is the publication of The Toronto Party – Toronto's first non-partisan civic action party.

**Party Website**  
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### **STOP THE TAX**

The fight against Mayor Miller's taxes continues throughout June. We are encouraging all members and those who are opposed to tax increases to provide deputations before the city's Executive Committee on June 25, 2007. Details of this meeting can be found on the Events page of our party's website.

### **DID YOU KNOW**

The average Torontonian currently pays 45 cents of every dollar toward taxes.

### **TRANSPORTATION NEWS**

Recently, the city adopted a plan to narrow Lansdowne Ave., between College St. and Bloor St. West. This plan will result in increased traffic congestion, and therefore it is opposed by our transportation committee.

## **WHY DID MILLER LIE TO US?**

Mayor David Miller campaigned to keep annual tax increases to the rate of inflation. However his latest hike in property tax, his proposed "revenue tools" and a stealth garbage tax will result in tax increases that soar well past the rate of inflation.

Last month, members of The Toronto Party said: "Enough is enough!"

The Toronto Party attended all four public consultations on the Mayor's proposed tax increases and spoke convincingly against them. But the Mayor and most of his "Executive Committee" weren't there to hear us. That was unfortunate.

The views expressed by our members are in lock-step with other groups and residents. Many Torontonians think that the proposed new taxes are unfair and will be an incentive to do business and shop across the municipal border, in the 905. It is a message our free-spending Mayor refuses to hear.

But why does Mayor Miller insist on lying to us?

As the Toronto Star's Royson James points out in a recent column, City Hall's plan to charge for garbage pickup is a tax grab hiding in your trash. "The hidden tax is a far cry from the political spin the Mayor and his executive committee put on the plan," James writes. "On the contrary, the plan is designed to net Toronto an extra \$54 million over what's paid in taxes now."

Clearly Mayor Miller and City Hall cannot be trusted with the taxing powers the McGuinty Liberals have given them. The Toronto Party is asking the McGuinty government to put a brake on high taxes and wastful spending by allowing political parties on the municipal level and by giving Torontonians a real choice in the next city election.

### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Thanks to our exposure at recent public consultation meetings, membership in The Toronto Party now exceeds 100. For a grassroots organization this number is tremendous. It puts the Party in a strong position to continue its efforts to amend provincial legislation so that civic parties can be formally registered just like provincial and federal parties.

Civic parties are the norm throughout many western democracies. Under Quebec law, our Party's membership number would enable us to be a registered civic party there. We should have the same rights in Ontario.