

Report on the Political Action Committee Meeting – September 15, 2006

The Political Action Committee met on Friday, September 15. Arnold Hull – President and Ron Poste – 1st Vice-President and Executive Liaison to the committee were in attendance at the meeting. The following is information for you to share with your District/Units Members:

1. **Municipal Elections.** Two documents, **Suggestions to District/Unit Political Action Committees for Member Participation in Municipal Elections** and **Ten Good Reasons to Vote in the November Municipal Election** were reviewed and approved by the committee. These will be sent to District/Unit Presidents and Political Action Chairs for use.
2. **Market Value Assessment.** The committee continues to monitor Market Value Assessment and the two year moratorium on assessments.
3. **Mortgage Fraud.** Mortgage fraud is an issue that seems to be reported on more frequently in recent months. As a result of a motion at Spring Senate, the committee has examined the issue of Mortgage Fraud. A Mortgage Fraud paper, along with a Fact Sheet will be presented as a part of the Political Action report to the Fall Senate. Recently the Ontario government has indicated that legislation will be coming forward in the fall to address the concerns around this topic. The committee continues to monitor this.
4. **Child Care.** A Draft paper on Child Care was presented at the meeting. This issue will continue to be researched and developed and presented to the Spring, 2007 Senate.
5. **Pension Income Splitting.** Pension Income Splitting continues to be closely monitored by the committee. RTO/ERO, along with fifteen other organizations has been involved in planning a conference on Pension Income Splitting which will take place on October 3, 2006 in Ottawa on Parliament Hill. Gary Zinck from the PAC committee, along with Ron Poste, 1st Vice-President, RTO/ERO will be in attendance, along with other volunteers from the Ottawa area. Gary has represented RTO/ERO in the planning sessions for this conference. A report will be provided following the conference.
6. **Fair Vote Canada (FVC)/Electoral Reform.** An article will be in the next District Updater regarding the Citizens Assembly and what Ontarians can expect in the next few months regarding this issue.
7. **Political Action Committee 2007 Priorities.** The following priorities have been established by the committee:
 - Child Care;
 - Property Assessment;
 - Mortgage Fraud;
 - Electoral Reform;
 - Elder Abuse;
 - Provincial Election;
 - Energy/Environment; and
 - Pension Income Splitting.

8. **Political Action Report to the Fall Senate.** Seven days after the official mailing of the Senate packages to the Senators and Observers, you will be emailed a copy of this report.

The next meeting of the Political Action Committee will be held on December 1, 2006. I trust it will be a busy time for you with the Municipal elections being held on November 13. I will contact you early in November to begin preparation of my liaison reports for that meeting with a follow-up after the election.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me regarding issues of concern. Let me know what is going on in your district.

Respectfully submitted
Marg Couture
Political Action Committee
September 17, 2006