



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Greens will be held on Saturday, October 20th 2001 at the Red Deer Lodge, commencing at 9am. This location was chosen because it is relatively central, and accessible by public transportation (bus). Please contact Madeleine Oldershaw if you need more information, or are interested in car-pooling (403-282-4788, molders@cal-cna.ab.ca).

Alberta Municipal Elections

Part of the Green party's mandate is to promote green thinking candidates. While the municipal elections in October do not allow partisan politics, local issues can have a great impact on the environment. In Edmonton the Alberta Environmental Network has developed a survey that they are sending out to candidates to gauge their views on Green issues. The Sierra Club in Calgary will be sending out a similar survey. The results will be released prior to the election.

Please consider how your municipal vote will affect issues like climate change, recycling, pesticide use and urban sprawl.

Green Running for Edmonton City Council

Myles Kitagawa is running for the position of Ward 4 alderman in Edmonton. He believes that municipal government represents the best opportunity to significantly improve Edmontonian's quality of life and the city's environmental performance. There will be many important issues before City Council in the coming years. In addition to the primary set of councillor's duties, Myles wants to spend the next three years putting Edmonton on the path towards clean energy; effective and efficient transportation systems; urban planning that respects community integrity and reduces the need for roadway expansion; and attracting the next generation of industrial development to the city.

Myles' experience includes both projects and policy development with the City of Edmonton such as the eight-year long Toxic Round Up program, the city's Environmental Strategic Plan, and the city's climate change task force. He also currently serves on two provincial delegated administrative organizations and several policy development teams.

He is a recent recipient of a bronze Premier's Award of Excellence, Myles' service has also been recognized by the Emerald Awards Foundation, the Town of Lacombe, and the Volunteer Action Centre.

Myles resides in the Old Strathcona area of Edmonton and currently serves on the Old Strathcona Area Community Council and on the Queen Alexandra Community League Executive.

Calgary Southwest By-election News

Preston Manning is still stepping down after Christmas. That means that there will be a by-election in the riding of Calgary Southwest sometime in 2002.

Interim federal party leader Chris Bradshaw is making plans to come out to this part of the country in late October or early November to help us gather support. He is planning to do a tour of several cities including Edmonton, Calgary and Regina. He is interested in stopping in more places to bring forward the Green cause and would appreciate it if anyone who can billet him and help him make speaking arrangements could contact him at chris@ties.ottawa.on.ca. Chris's daughter lives in Calgary so he already has billeting here.

Anyone interested in helping with the by-election please contact George Read at (403) 230-9474 or via email to wightlight@aol.com.

Calgary Green Events

Beer and Politics will continue to happen at the Kensington Pub in Calgary every second Wednesday night. Anyone who would like to come out for a beer and talk politics is welcome.

The next few nights will be Sept 26th, Oct 3rd and Oct 17th we will be meeting at 7:30 in the evening.

Contact George Read at (403) 230-9474 or wightlight@aol.com for more information.

Check www.activist.ca for updates on this and other alternative Calgary activities.

Green Party Urges Healing, Not Vengeance

Chris Bradshaw, interim leader of the Green Party of Canada and Raphael Thierrin, International Secretary, released the following statement after the September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon:

“The Green Party of Canada expresses compassion and extends condolences to all those affected by the recent terrorist attacks. The Green Party condemns the violent attacks, and urges that responses must not escalate the violence and the victimization of the innocent.

‘We uphold the peaceful resolution of issues,’ stated Interim party leader Chris Bradshaw, ‘especially since the escalation of violence does not resolve much when done with punitive and vengeful intent.’

The Green Party of Canada urges the government of Canada to continue to mediate and intervene in conflicts, through its participation in the work of several United Nations agencies. Canada should avoid participation in acts that will be perceived as punitive only, and use its role as a middle power to steer its southern neighbour towards political solutions that will address the underlying causes of terrorist acts. Canada should support a process to bring perpetrators of such acts to justice.

Former Leader Asks for Peace, Not Revenge

Elizabeth (Betty) Paschen, former leader of the Alberta Greens, wrote a letter to Prime Minister Chretien, in response to the terrorist attacks on the United States:

“Thank you for your words of condolence at this frightful time to our American neighbours on our behalf.

I am a senior born in Alberta of pioneer parents and veterans of World War I. My father spent four years in France for the Canadian army having come to south Saskatchewan to help an older brother from Bristol in a farming venture. My mother worked with his sister in London and came over to marry my father in 1920. I would like to make a suggestion to you.

Please consider well the carnage that vengeful response to the terrorism of September 11th, 2001 can perpetuate. I believe that the whole world prays for safety and a resolution of the anger that prompted such pointed destruction far more fervently than it calls for revenge in kind. The latter can only escalate violence, and leave the hate to fester. With freedom comes responsibility or it is hollow. Review Lloyd Axworthy’s comments, they were most wise.”

ALBERTA GREENS INFORMATION

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MEMBERSHIP - ALBERTA GREENS

Membership in the Alberta Greens is free! Simply send your name, address and other contact information to our mailing or email address above. Members have the right to vote at Alberta Greens meetings and will receive this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP - GREEN PARTY OF CANADA

Memberships in the Green Party of Canada are available for \$10 to individuals, or \$15 to families from:

Michael Garfinkle
Secretary, Green Party of Canada in Alberta
PO Box 52023
Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 1C9, Canada
Email: abel@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca
Web: green.ca

DONATIONS

If you cannot give us your time, we could certainly use your money! 75% of your first \$150 in donations to the Alberta Greens are returned to you on your next Alberta tax return. You can also receive this tax break on donations to joint projects between the Alberta Greens and other environmental and social action groups. Contact us for details.

MEETINGS

For information on meeting dates, times and locations, call Madeleine Oldershaw in Calgary, or David Parker in Edmonton.

COMMENTS

We welcome submissions for the Alberta Greens Newsletter. Please send them to the editor, Box 133, Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H6, Canada, by email to crowed@cadvision.com or by fax to +1-403-289-6658.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let us know your new postal or email address before it changes. Include your name, both your old and new addresses as well as the effective date of the change.

NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to Madeleine Oldershaw, Alan McCreary, Erica Crowe and Julia Crowe for their valuable assistance with the distribution of the newsletter.

University Greens in Alberta

This year is the first for a new Campus Green club at the University of Alberta (in Edmonton), and the second for the Campus Green club at the University of Calgary. The facilitator of the Edmonton club is Sean Boomer. He can be contacted via email at diocletian2001@yahoo.ca. For information about the Calgary club, please contact its facilitator, Cody Torgerson, at ucgreens@ucalgary.ca or consult their website at www.ucalgary.ca/ucgreens. Both clubs are looking for volunteers, particularly students at the universities. Please contact Madeleine Oldershaw (molders@calcna.ab.ca) for information on setting up a Campus Green club at another university or college in Alberta.

Solomon Valley Under Siege

The Alberta Wilderness Association (www.AlbertaWilderness.ca) reports that the Solomon Valley, adjacent to Jasper National Park, is about to be logged by Weldwood Forest Products. Logging this valley on the border of Jasper National Park will result in the destruction of a fragile foothills ecosystem, and will seriously harm the local sustainable and diverse economy of the region.

This stunning region, on the front ranges of the Rockies has a long history of use by First Nations, guides and recreational users. It includes critical moose and elk habitat as well as the watersheds of bull trout and the rare pygmy whitefish. The forests contain some of the oldest spruce and fir in the region. There is little industrial development in this zone making it a rare opportunity for protection. Unfortunately only a small portion is protected as the Rock Lake - Solomon Creek Wildland Provincial Park. With less than 2% of the Foothills protected, this region offers an opportunity for a protected area that supports a local sustainable economy.

Logging this area will cause loss of income to the tourism operators in a region that desperately needs diversification and stabilization of the economy. Local tourism operators have approached Weldwood's "Forest Resource Advisory Group" for two years, attempting to get the area protected for recreation and tourism. So far, Weldwood has not changed its plans.

Letters and phone calls are critical now. Development has been delayed and only preliminary approval has been given. After four years of work by local and provincial groups, the window of opportunity is about to close, as roads will soon be cut into this pristine valley.

The Alberta Wilderness Association urges you to write or call Premier Ralph Klein and let him know that you expect the land base of Alberta to be managed with the needs of all Albertans in mind. A sustainable economy needs protected areas and a diverse business base. Tell the Premier that you do not accept the exclusion of the needs of hard working Albertans from its land base to benefit big international businesses such as Weldwood. Please send a copy of your letter to the Alberta Wilderness Association (email to a.w.a@home.com) and to Weldwood of Canada Limited.

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Check out www.AlbertaWilderness.ca for more information on this and other environmental issues.

Six new Dams in NWT?

According to the Edmonton Journal, the government of the Northwest Territories is planning to develop six new dams to produce electricity. Rivers to be dammed are the Mackenzie, Bear, Lockhart, Talston, Snare, Lac la Martre and Slave. The government estimates that it could generate \$600-million annually if all projects are built.

Concerns about the project are not just about the environmental impact, but also whether it will result in more employment for the Dene nation, or just more headaches.

Municipal Pesticide Restrictions Okay

On June 28th 2001 the Supreme Court of Canada upheld the power of municipal governments to restrict the use of pesticides within their communities. The Town of Hudson, Quebec, has tightly restricted the use of pesticides since 1991. Pesticide applicators challenged this by-law and lost in two Quebec courts, before this, hopefully final, loss.

Supporting the by-law in court were the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, World Wildlife Fund and Nature-Action Quebec. Legal support was provided by the Sierra Legal Defence Fund.

Ontario By-Elections

Peter Elgie was the Green Party of Ontario candidate in a Beaches-East York by-election held on September 20th 2001. Peter is an elementary school teacher and is from the third politically active generation of his family. Both his father and grandfather made their mark in Ontario politics as advocates for social causes under the Tories. His father, Dr. Robert Elgie, represented East York as an M.P.P. and cabinet minister from 1977 - 1985, and put forward progressive labour and human rights legislation. His grandfather, Goldwin Elgie, was an alderman and M.P.P. for the Beaches in the 1930's

and 1940's, and championed for the unemployed during the depression. His brother, Stewart Elgie, founded the non-profit, environmental law firm, Sierra Legal Defense Fund.

During his campaign, Elgie stated that on a local level, residents of Beaches-East York must seriously address the environmental problems they face in their community. A report accessible at www.pollutionwatch.org shows that Toronto's Beaches community is one of the most highly polluted in the country. "Residents of Beaches-East York can't swim safely in the lake. When they go outside they are subject to record numbers of smog advisories. Their drinking water and food supply contain known carcinogens," said Elgie. "When will we stop this madness?"

Results in Beaches-East York

| Candidate | Votes | % |
|---------------------|--------|------|
| Michael Prue, NDP | 14,025 | 49.7 |
| Bob Hunter, Liberal | 10,289 | 36.4 |
| Mac Penney, PC | 2,821 | 10.0 |
| Peter Elgie, Green | 703 | 2.5 |
| Ray Scott, FCP | 205 | 0.7 |

The Green Party of Ontario also ran a candidate in the June 28th 2001 by-election in Vaughan-King-Aurora.

Results in Vaughan-King-Aurora

| Candidate | Votes | % |
|-------------------------|--------|------|
| Greg Sorbara, Liberal | 21,954 | 61.2 |
| Joyce Frustaglio, PC | 12,183 | 34.0 |
| Ernst von Bezold, Green | 753 | 2.1 |
| Mike Seaward, NDP | 710 | 2.0 |
| Rina Morra, FCP | 268 | 0.7 |

Ontario Green Policies

A Green Party of Ontario pamphlet states that, if elected, it would:

- introduce legislation to discourage ecologically destructive technologies

- introduce selective environmental taxes to reward sound ecological practices
- introduce "triple bottom line accounting" so that social and environmental realities would be reported alongside traditional fiscal indicators like the Gross Domestic Profit

Name Change in the US

The Association of State Green Parties in the United States, after a unanimous vote, formally changed its name to the Green Party of the United States (USGP) in July 2001. The party will apply for status as a National Committee with the Federal Election Commission.

Fighting Totalitarianism in Genoa

*by Starhawk
July 26th 2001*

I was there when the carabinieri raided the IndyMedia Center and the Diaz school, in Genoa, at the end of the protest against the G8 meeting. We heard the shouts and screams, couldn't get out the door, ran upstairs and hid, fearing for our lives. Eventually the cops found us, but we were the lucky ones. A Member of Parliament was in our building; lawyers and media arrived. There was some obscure Italian legal reason why the police could be deterred. They withdrew. But nothing could save our friends across the street, at the school where people were sleeping and where another section of the Independent Media were located. The police entered: the media and the politicians were kept out. And they beat people. They beat people who had been sleeping, who held up their hands in a gesture of innocence and cried out, "Pacifisti! Pacifisti!" They beat the men and the women. They broke bones, smashed teeth, shattered skulls.

They left blood on the walls, on the windows, a pool of it in every spot where people had been sleeping. When they had finished their work, they brought in

the ambulances. All night long we watched from across the street as the stretchers were carried out, as people were taken to the jail ward of the hospital, or simply to jail. And in the jail, many of them were tortured again, in rooms with pictures of Mussolini on the wall.

This really happened. Not back in the 1930's, but on the night of July 21st and the morning of July 22nd 2001. Not in some third world country, but in Italy: prosperous, civilized, sunny Italy. The Genoa Social Forum needs support. They've sent out the following call-please answer it.

"On Monday the opposition has demanded in Parliament the resignation of the Ministry of Interior and on Tuesday demonstrations in thirty Italian cities are held, with more than 250,000 people participating.

We ask your help for denouncing these threats to democracy and justice. You could act in one or more of the following ways:

1. Write a short statement (or a brief article) in support of the right to protest against the G8, in solidarity with the Genoa Social Forum and the peaceful demonstrators. Please state clearly your affiliation. The texts will be published by the Left daily *Il Manifesto*, and by other media around the world.
2. Send formal messages of support on behalf of associations, NGOs, media organisations, Universities, etc.
3. Write or sign an international appeal for democracy, justice, respect of human and civil rights.

Please send articles and messages to:

redazione@ilmanifesto.it

and to the

Genoa Social Forum
via San Luca 15/9 - 16124 Genova
tel. +39-10 2461749
fax +39-10 2461413
e.mail info@genoa-g8.org

US Green Party News

- Ralph Nader is still travelling around the US supporting the Green Party, and indicating that he might run again. He is emphasizing the need to develop a grassroots party and run lots of local candidates (e.g. city councils).
- The Green Party of Ohio hopes to have official ballot status by May 2002.
- Annapolis, Maryland had its first Green candidate for city council this year (Issac Opalinsky - www.isaac2001.org).
- The Green Independent Party of Maine is expected to run Jonathan Carter as candidate for Governor of the State in 2002.
- In Norman, Oklahoma, Greens protested right-to-work (anti-union) legislation after a resolution supporting it was passed by the Chamber of Commerce.
- The election of George Bush is having a positive effect on fund-raising for environmental groups and Green Parties, as his anti-environmental statements raise awareness and concern over green issues.

International Green News

- The Green Ribbon election alliance has been formed in Hungary, said Tamas Nagy, one of its founders at a Budapest news conference in July. Other supporters include Gyorgy Droppa, co-chair of the Green Democratic Party of Hungary and independent Member of Parliament Mihaly Kupa, a former Minister of Finance.
- Greens in Germany are celebrating the signing of a treaty to phase out nuclear energy which was signed on June 11th 2001.
- The German agriculture minister is a Green (Renate Kunast). She expects one in five German farms to be organic by 2010. German Greens are also

opposed to use of genetically engineered crops.

- French Greens protested the state visit of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to Paris, because of his violent and anti-democratic regime.
- The French Green Party candidate for president is a former Maoist Euro-deputy, Alain Lipietz. The election is to be held in May 2002. Lipietz is the leading theoretician of the French Greens.
- On June 17th 2001, New Zealand Green Party co-leader Jeanette Fitzsimons called on the Government to use money from higher power prices to upgrade energy efficiency of elderly people's homes. She pointed out that it only cost about NZ\$ 1,500 to insulate a ceiling, insulate and damp-proof under the floor, wrap the water heater cylinder, install a hot water-saving shower head, do some draught proofing and install energy-efficient lights.
- The New Zealand leader also spoke out against new rules that would allow even larger trucks on the country's roads. She noted that the safer and more energy efficient rail option is endangered by threatened line closures.
- Environmental activists hope to strengthen the Green Party of South Africa by re-launching in the Western Cape area.
- Irish Greens are protesting a bill that would allow incineration to be imposed on cities, even if opposed by their own councils.
- In Brighton, England, Keith Taylor campaigned and simultaneously protested against excessive traffic by using an electric tricycle as his official campaign vehicle.

GREEN URLS

The Alberta Greens website can be reached via:

green.ca/ab

The Green Party of Canada is at:

green.ca

- In London, Bianca Jagger joined Greens to criticize US President Bush for rejecting the 1997 Kyoto treaty on global warming.

What is "A Green Economy"?

According to the Green Party of Ontario, a Green Economy is characterized by:

- redefining 'progress' to avoid counting the liquidation of nature as income.
- holding corporations accountable for their products from "cradle to grave".
- shifting taxes partially and gradually away from incomes and profits and onto fossil fuels and other non-renewable resources.

New Green Website

Tompkins County Greens in New York State has an advanced website of interest to all Greens:

www.tcgreens.org

It contains green news and opinion updated daily. You can subscribe to receive a weekly summary by e-mail, by signing up at:

www.tcgreens.org/auth/add-self.php

The site supports a number of advanced features, such as discussion groups, syndication, and access by telephone (You can listen to headlines and hear stories from our site without a computer, just by dialing an 800 number.) You can even add headlines from their site to yours without any computer programming. Find out how at:

www.tcgreens.org/synd

The system is based on open source software, and software developed specifically for this site is also freely available. Although the site managers are focusing on building a community and adding features between now and the 2001 elections, they are also interested in helping other Greens develop advanced sites.