

The
POLICIES
of the
FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

as amended on July 10, 2005

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FOREWARD

The policies that follow were adopted by the Freedom Party of Ontario on July 10, 2005 pursuant to Part XIII of the Constitution of the Freedom Party of Ontario (as amended on March 6, 2005). These policies are considered to be consistent with the Freedom Party of Ontario's founding principle (FPO Constitution, section 3). They do not and are not intended to represent an *exhaustive* or *ultimate* set of policy implications resulting from the party's founding principle: they do not describe a final destination. Rather, they set out ports of call along the way to a freer, more personally responsible Ontario society. As such, they allow Freedom Party's leadership to determine the *right direction* for the governance of Ontario, and to steer accordingly.

Nor are these policies exhaustive. Ethics, not law, is the foundation of political freedom. Laws designed to protect individual freedom are a necessary, but not sufficient, condition of individual freedom and personal responsibility. Changes in governance do tend to *influence* the dominant code of ethics, though law's influence is limited, especially where the law is not respected. And, because a change in ethics takes place only within the mind of an individual, change in the dominant ethical code of society inevitably is gradual. Freedom Party of Ontario, being a political party, must be satisfied with its role: to attempt the restoration of the necessary legal and political framework for an ethical, hence free, society. In fulfilling that role, Freedom Party must be cognizant of the fact that pro-freedom changes to the law are likely to be transient if they are made so quickly that ethics has no chance to catch up. The policies that follow have been chosen in light of the fact that just as the erosion of freedom has been gradual, so will the restoration of freedom take time, patience, ethical growth and, with respect to changes in governance, gradual steps.

Although these policies specify ports of call, they do not specify *which* ports of call should be approached first, *how quickly* they should be approached, or *what course* should be charted around obstacles to their approach. Such decisions must be made in light of current events, and with wisdom concerning what is politically feasible and what will allow Freedom Party of Ontario ultimately to meet its objectives (FPO Constitution, section 6). Those decisions are the stuff not of party policy, but of the party's election platforms.

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July 11, 2005

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Role of Government

1. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of a government the role of which is restricted to:
 - a) ensuring justice by making, executing, enforcing, interpreting, and applying just laws in a just manner (herein referred to as “Government Services”); and
 - b) administering Crown properties.

Government Revenues

2. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to the taxation of income.
3. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to the taxation of property.
4. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to the taxation of capital gains.
5. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to surtaxes.
6. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to tax rates that vary with respect to wealth or income.
7. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to tax incentives and tax disincentives.

Government Finance

8. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of debt-free government.

Government Expenditures

9. Freedom Party of Ontario opposes the rendering of Government Services by private sector companies.
10. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to the expenditure of government revenues except pursuant to law.
11. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of using Ontario government revenues only to service and retire the debts of the Crown in Right of Ontario, and to pay for Government Services that are rendered directly by the Ontario government.
12. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of requiring each municipal government to spend its revenues only upon the service and retirement of the debts of the municipality and the provision, by the municipality, of municipal Government Services within the same municipality.

Respect for the Constitutional Division of Powers

13. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of respecting and not violating the allocation of legislative powers set out in the Canadian constitution. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing sentence, Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed both to supporting and to the government introducing a bill that the constitution of Canada does not give the Ontario Legislature the authority to make law.
14. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of requiring the federal government to respect the constitutional allocation of legislative powers. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing sentence, Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to the use of federal taxing and spending measures that have, as their purpose or effect, a limitation of Ontario's discretion with respect to matters over which the constitution of Canada gives the provinces exclusive legislative jurisdiction.

Property Rights

15. Freedom Party of Ontario opposes the confiscation, by government, of a person's property except as a just penalty for the commission of an offence.
16. Freedom Party of Ontario opposes government prohibiting the personal consumption of legal products on private lands where the property holder permits the consumption.
17. Freedom Party of Ontario opposes government prohibiting legal conduct from occurring on private lands where the property holder permits the conduct.
18. Freedom Party of Ontario opposes government limiting the right of a land owner to exclude some or all other individuals from entering upon his land.

Trade, Contracts, and Torts

19. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of the just interpretation and enforcement, by government, of contracts.
20. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to government requiring parties to a contract to include certain terms in that contract except to resolve ambiguities or oversights that give rise to uncertainty in the interpretation and application of contracts.
21. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to laws that prevent employers, employees, and labour organizations from freely and voluntarily determining the terms of the contracts they make with one another.
22. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to government regulating the prices of goods or services provided by individuals and private sector companies.
23. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of government ensuring, to the extent possible, the full remediation of injustices. Without limiting the generality of the previous sentence, Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to laws that, in effect, relieve a wrongdoer of liability for remediation of the losses suffered by others as a result of the injustices he has caused.
24. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to government mandating the purchase of insurance.

The Environment

25. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of a balanced and intellectually honest approach to environmental governance that prevents or punishes demonstrable environmental harm that demonstrably violates an individual's life, liberty or property. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing sentence, Freedom Party of Ontario opposes environmental governance the purpose and effect of which is not to protect life, liberty and property.

Censorship

26. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to censorship.

Discrimination

27. Freedom Party of Ontario is opposed to discrimination by government on the basis of the genetic make-up or peaceful lifestyle choices of individual human beings.

Elections and Voting

28. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of allowing only Canadian citizens who are residents of Ontario to vote in Ontario elections and referendums.
29. Freedom Party of Ontario is in favour of requiring the confirmation of an individual's identity and eligibility to vote before providing the individual with a ballot in an election or referendum.

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