

Why the Ontario Liberals won last week

First off, Dufferin-Caledon federal Liberals congratulate our provincial cousins for winning a majority government in Ontario having prevailed in very difficult circumstances.

To many of our Conservative friends, it is incomprehensible after the fact that this has happened and for just about all of them before the election it was inconceivable this would happen. In their conceit, they could not see that any right-thinking person could possibly disagree with them, thought the provincial Liberals would crash and burn while the unready NDP presented no threat. Therein laid their ill-fated decision to adopt a Tea Party inspired agenda on an Ontario electorate that has traditionally been, in the majority, progressive.

The fact of the matter was that the Hudak Conservatives (you could hardly call them ?progressive? Conservatives) received just 31 per cent of the vote which meant that the 69 per cent majority of the electorate, being progressive voters, could not conceive the Hudak agenda being implemented in our province. All that was left for the progressive majority to sort out then was who should represent them. Thirty-eight out of 69 progressive voters chose Liberal; a 55 per cent majority of the progressive majority. A multi-party system makes for more complicated elections, but in Ontario, democracy works ? we have a party in government who represent a majority of the majority.

Closer to home in Dufferin-Caledon, Conservative Sylvia Jones was re-elected and we wish her well and hope she serves a positive role in opposition. Jones out-performed her party, garnering a 40 per cent share of the popular vote. Liberal Bobbie Daid ran a strong second, earning 30 per cent of the total, or 50 per cent of the majority progressive vote. So she did well, but not enough to place her as a progressive in office. We congratulate Bobbie Daid too for running a strong campaign and all the other candidates of all political stripes in Ontario who put their time, energy and hearts into running for office.

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