

Libertarian to cut down bureaucracy

Interview by Peter Stathis

Excalibur: What is your background and qualifications for being elected MPP for Downsview on September 6?

Kenney: I have no qualifications. How do you qualify anyway? I'm not a politician. I just started at this. I guess honesty is my best qualification right now.

Excalibur: How do you respond to allegations that Peterson's call for an election is political opportunism?

Kenney: I think it's absolutely true. What more can you say?

Excalibur: Would you introduce any new legislation regarding Sunday shopping in Ontario or are you happy with the current arrangement?

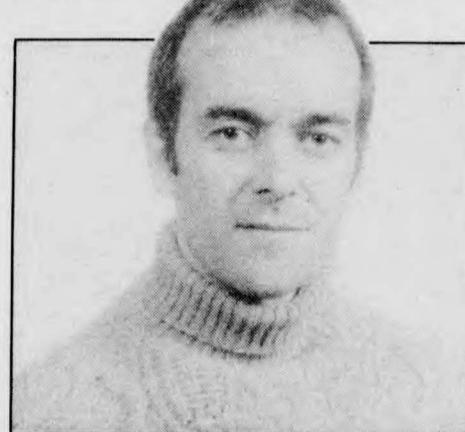
Kenney: I would get rid of the legislation and leave it up to the individual store owner to open if he wants to or not. The consumer would have a choice to shop on Sunday if he wants to or not.

Excalibur: What commitment can you make to stop the chronic underfunding in Ontario universities? Specifically, will the 40,000 students at York pay ever-increasing tuition fees or is your party truly willing to sponsor higher education?

Kenney: Temporarily, we would keep funding universities and schools, but only until this could be balanced out from business or donations or whatever other source could pay. Eventually, students would be paying for their education themselves. But you wouldn't do this right away because it would cause a lot of hardship.

Government money is being wasted right now—committees, large bureaucracy. Saving from all of these wasted government efforts, we would have more money left over for important things like education. We would work towards a free enterprise system where each student has a voucher and chooses the university they want. Eventually, in five or 10 years, students would be paying their own way, but only, if it could be worked out.

Excalibur: What is your party's stand regarding Quebec and the blatant unilingualism of some Ontario communities such as Sault St. Marie and Thunder Bay? Is bilingualism still a priority or is it outdated?



Libertarian David Kenney is tired of all the promises politicians make and break each election. He is running a small campaign out of his home.

Kenney: Bilingualism is fine as long as it's not official bilingualism where it's wasting money. I speak French too, but I find that you can have French service where it's needed without making it official bilingualism and wasting government money. Keep the money for something more important like university.

Excalibur: The no-fault auto insurance system has left accident victims unable to sue the driver at fault barring very serious injuries. Considering that this tactic will not reduce or even stabilize our insurance premiums, how is this system helpful for anyone, but the insurance?

Kenney: I don't think it's very helpful at all. The insurance companies will benefit the most. We would certainly try to get rid of it. Go back to what it was before, but certainly improve it. We would sit down with insurance companies and work out a way to allow people to exercise free choice. This would require insurance companies to be highly competitive to attract people.

Excalibur: Would you be willing to chase after companies who pollute the environment? To what point? What procedures would you set in place to actually accomplish this?

Kenney: Absolutely. The more they pollute, the more they would find it expensive. It would be an incentive for them because when it comes to money, companies love to save money. We would have some kind of user fee where you pay based on so many

tonnes per day. They would have to find a way to cut down their own garbage.

Excalibur: Are you prepared to build more recycling plants in Ontario to accept the surplus of recyclable goods and curb environmentally-consumptive industries such as pulp and paper? Are there any plans for a new waste-reduction programme or modification of any current recycling programmes?

Kenney: We would have to encourage business and free enterprise to grab that. I wouldn't use tax payers' money to do that. We would gradually have to give incentive to companies to start their own recycling plants.

Excalibur: Do you believe that Ontario Hydro's plan to build more nuclear generating plants is a good decision? Should Ontario be encouraging citizens and corporations to consume less energy rather than carry on full-tilt?

"honesty is my best qualification"

Kenney: It's definitely not a good decision. They're advertising and pushing for it just to make money. I don't think it's really necessary — too much of our power is probably being wasted. There are better ways to conserve energy. I'm not too sure whether the nuclear business will be around in the next 10 to 15 years unless it's a lot safer.

Excalibur: In light of the Oka land battle and racially-inspired police violence, what kind of leadership can you offer on native and minority group claims for a more representative justice?

Kenney: Again, this is where smaller government might certainly be helpful. I would work toward giving minorities more say in the way they run their lives and future.

Excalibur: What areas do you feel you still have to work on to attract undecided voters?

Kenney: Public speaking is not my strong point. I guess I would have to improve that. These days, people vote for those who are very eloquent — no matter what they say — it's how they say it.

Excalibur: What do you feel are the weaknesses of the other candidates?

Kenney: They do have a lot of voters brainwashed. Their weaknesses at the moment seem to be that they're increasing the deficit every time they get in there. They seem to be lying all the time, making promises they certainly can't keep. So hopefully, people will sooner or later catch up and say they've had enough.

Excalibur: After the failure of Meech, what do you feel Ontario as a province should be doing to promote national unity?

Kenney: Ontario should be less forceful about national unity. Instead of pushing bilingualism or trying to squeeze the country to stay together, we should have smaller governments and more control for each province. I'm sure this would create a feeling of less pressure from Ottawa.

Peruzza continued

Perruzza: The current MPP [Leone — Liberal] from what I have seen, actually from what I haven't seen, I would assume is a very quiet Liberal back-bencher who very rarely speaks out. We have done research on legislature appearances and he has spoken over the past three years for a total of six times for a little less than nine minutes. It's unbelievable. We have so many problems that have to be addressed from a provincial perspective. Here in Downsview, we have the Ministry of Transportation relocation move. We have DeHaviland, we have York University which is strapped for cash and being forced to redevelop. I can't believe it has to sell off its land to generate capital monies for

expansion. That's something the government should be providing instead of forcing the university to sell off its one non-renewable resource.

Excalibur: After the failure of Meech, what do you feel Ontario as a province should be doing to promote national unity?

Perruzza: It's time we started taking a leadership role. I'd hate to see this country torn apart by one political interest or another because of political game-playing. You have a number of premiers jockeying for political prestige and prominence, trying to root themselves in their own individual provinces. People should stop politicking and work toward holding the country together.

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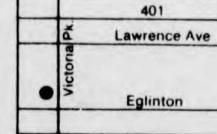
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