

# Forum

## "Perception is reality"

Last weekend, Quebec Tories called for sweeping new measures to try to clean up the federal government's serious credibility problem.

Can Edmonton West Tory MP Murray Dorin be serious when he states the Tory MP's do not need the proposed "moral code" to help repair their credibility problem? The present system, according to Dorin, is not to blame.

Surely he must admit it has inadequacies, or are we to believe that all the problems plaguing the Tories right now is due to innuendos and mud-raking by the opposition? Are we also to overlook the fact that there already have been convictions within the government. "Perception is reality" is a maxim the Tories might do well to learn from Liberal survivor Keith Davey.

According to the Angus Reid poll published Wednesday, the Tories dropped a full eight points in January among decided voters. They now have a meagre 23% of the popular vote — that is a full 10% behind the NDP and almost 20% behind the front running Liberals who enjoy 42% of the popular vote. The Tories now rank no better than second in every region of the country — even in the "Tory faithful" western provinces.

In just two and a half years the Mulroney Conservatives have successfully alienated over half of the populace that supported them in the 1984 federal election.

The poll lays blame to the steady, rapid decline in popularity directly to their questionable credibility. One out of every two Canadians polled believe that the Bissonette-Oerlikon affair is an indication of wide-spread corruption in the highest levels of government.

When are Tories like Dorin going to wake up and admit they have a serious problem to address?

Do they just expect Canadians to overlook such things as RCMP investigations into Tory influence peddling, the upcoming trial of Tory MP Michel Gravel on corruption charges, questionable contract granting practices, not to mention the perpetual revolving door to the PM's Cabinet.

The list goes on.

The new Canadian pastime now seems to be anticipating what new Tory scandal will be dredged up next. People are past accepting the denials coming out of Ottawa. Mulroney needs to take strong and decisive action, or the Tory faithful can kiss the next election goodbye. Lack of integrity is one foible Canadians are not ready to overlook.

Juanita Spears

## The Gateway

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## Letters... Humor

Sorry... letters basket is empty this week.

by Sandra Pettersson

Oh dear it's D, the pudgy maiden aunt of the alphabet family. D was first used by the first man who, getting out of bed on the first morning, spontaneously invented speech and sleepily said "Duh... what do I do now?" Nonetheless significant are the words of the legendary J. P. Remarque: "A word without a D is like a hippo in Hyde Park. Strangely foreign". Although French, Remarque easily recognized the integral importance of a good plosive D in English and other Germanic tongues. And who are we lesser mortals to question the wisdom of a phrench philosophical phonetician?

**deflagable:** Something that's deflagable will burst instantly into flame like those spontaneously combusting evangelists you read about in the grocery check-out rags.

**dehomer:** A dehomer doesn't appreciate the finer things in life and will settle for drinking rubbing alcohol.

**despumate:** To skim. If the milk marketers got a hold of this we could have despumated milk on one side and lait despumate on the other.

**downgyre:** Downgyre is what nylons do around ankles.

**deosculate:** Curiously enough deosculate means the same as osculate (which means the same as buss, if you can

remember that far back.) English is so riddled with ironically synonymous antonyms that nobody even stops to think that an unthawed turkey should logically still be frozen.

**dinomania:** A dinomaniac is not a student in Calgary nor someone with a fetish for large dead reptiles but merely a dance enthusiast.

**deaccession:** Deaccession is the removal of an artwork from display but such things never happen on this campus.

**droze:** If you've ever wanted to know just which word to use in describing the melting and dripping of a burning candle this is it.

**dysania:** Dysania is the condition of having a terrible time waking up in the morning. If you're late for class just tell your prof you've got dysania and he won't bother you about it again.

**decalomania:** Decalomania was too long so it was contacted to decal. But to avoid confusion a person who collects decals should probably be referred to as a decalomaniamaniac.

**dzo:** A dzo is a yak cow cross.

**drub:** A drub is a synonym for cudgel, in case you needed one. (Needed a synonym that is. You probably wouldn't need a drub unless you were hunting dzo.)



Letters to the Editor should not be more than 250 words in length. They must include your signature, faculty, year of program, I.D. number, and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the view of The Gateway.