

Last week was a truly horrible, awful one for the Conservatives and their best friends at Sun Media. PM Harper was caught in a big fib about the US asking for additional support from Canada in the struggle against the Islamic State, his Parliamentary Secretary made a complete fool of himself and our parliament with very odd, non-answers to legitimate questions from Mr. Mulcair. A vicious rant against Justin Trudeau and his parents by Ezra Levant on Sun TV brought thundering condemnation from across the country, a significant push for the CRTC to investigate and ultimately a less-than-abject apology from the station (but not Levant). Finally, any thoughts Mr. Harper had about going for a May election were pretty much dashed when it was announced that the Mike Duffy trial will begin next April. Many are musing now that we could be going to the polls in March.

Speaking of the polls (the ones where people actually vote), another great result with yet another Liberal provincial government elected last week, this time in New Brunswick!

### **Our messages to the public:**

#### Liberals Building a Strong Team and Plan

This past week, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau continued to reach out to Canadians in Ontario. Mr. Trudeau is visiting Whitby-Oshawa with our Liberal by-election candidate, [Celina Caesar-Chavannes](#). They attended a Q&A with students at Durham College, a roundtable discussion with the Whitby Chamber of Commerce, the Kirkham Foundation's fundraiser, and a meet and greet with local Liberal supporters.

Mr. Trudeau is offering a bold vision for Canada. His priority is clear: we must bolster the strength and prosperity of middle class Canadians, who have not had a decent raise in 30 years. Canadian families deserve a real and fair chance at success.

Liberals believe that government must not only create the right conditions for economic growth, but also ensure that growth is sustainable and will finally help struggling middle class families. Mr. Trudeau has spoken extensively on the need for increased trade, as well as investment in infrastructure and post-secondary education.

Canadians have made it clear that they want a better government, not just a different government. They want a government that is focused on them, their future, their communities, and their families. They want a vision that brings Canadians together, not one that pits them against their fellow citizens.

## **Items of interest from the news and the party:**

-PM Harper was clearly the Rodney Dangerfield of the United Nations, where few turned up to hear his speech. And that wasn't the worst part of his week:

<http://www.ipolitics.ca/2014/09/28/stephen-harper-and-the-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-week/>

-Paul Calandra, the latest Parliamentary Secretary to PM Harper, became a household name across Canada for his odd, non-answers to Opposition Leader Tom Mulcair during Question Period, with many observers attributing his actions to the Prime Minister's disrespect for Parliament: [http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/editorials/the-root-causes-of-paul-calandra/article20813289/?click=sf\\_globefb#dashboard/follows/](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/editorials/the-root-causes-of-paul-calandra/article20813289/?click=sf_globefb#dashboard/follows/)

-Who asked who? The truth emerges on communication between the US and Canada on our country's contribution to the fight against the Islamic State: <http://globalnews.ca/news/1583315/exclusive-u-s-says-canada-offered-to-help-in-iraq-not-the-other-way-around/>

As always, there are many more items featured on our Seniors Commission Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bclibs/> If you don't have access to our page (it's by invitation only), send me an e-mail and we'll get you 'in'!