

We've had another week in which the Tories security agenda has dominated the news cycle, while far more important information on how dreadful their economic record has been is mostly ignored. Ralph Goodale's latest summary (attached) needs to be injected into our conversations at the community level. In spite of this poor record, Preston Manning believes that the Tories can win on a combination of security and the economy -- that link is below.

On the security issue itself, a CBC news item may have shed some light on what sort of powers could be exercised, as a Quebec man was charged for not disclosing his phone's password at the border. The link to that item is also below.

As noted last week, at least some conservatives are expressing discomfort about the coup d'etat the Reform Party committed on the Progressive Conservatives, a process that has been virtually completed according to the conservative-leaning columnist Andrew Coyne. News from the Manning Networking Conference (AKA 'Woodstock for Conservatives') illustrated what looks to be pure Tea Party values.

The Nanos weekly 'Power Poll' shows the Liberals and Conservatives in a dead heat, but the seniors vote now appears to be shifting toward the Liberals: <http://www.nanosresearch.com/library/polls/Nanos%20Political%20Index%202015-02-27E.pdf> The youth vote is strongly on side with the Liberals...if we could just get 'em to vote!

Our messages to the public:

Liberals focused on jobs and economic growth for middle class

Liberals believe that this country needs a new economic plan, and the evidence is mounting daily. Our biggest trading partner is booming, but [Canadian exports have fallen](#) through the floor by nearly 3 percent. Yesterday, [CIBC released](#) its report confirming that our job market is not nearly as strong as the unemployment rate suggests.

Mr. Harper wants to talk about anything but the economy. His priority is a \$2 billion tax break for the wealthiest Canadians, and he is much more interested in stoking fear than providing solutions.

This week, Justin Trudeau toured British Columbia and spoke with Canadians about their priorities. Mr. Trudeau's priority is clear: we must strengthen the heart of our economy, middle class Canadians, who have not had a decent raise in 30 years. Canadian families deserve a real and fair chance at success.

Items of interest from the news and the party:

-Preston Manning believes the Tories can win on security and their management of the economy:

<http://www.hilltimes.com/news/2015/03/07/if-2015-election-ballot-question-on-economy-security-tories-have-good-chance-of-winning/41331>

-An early application of new anti-terrorism powers?

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/quebec-resident-alain-philippon-to-fight-charge-for-not-giving-up-phone-password-at-airport-1.2982236>

-Highlights' from the Manning Networking Conference as seen by the left-leaning PressProgress:

<http://www.pressprogress.ca/en/post/video-highlights-years-biggest-conservative-gathering>

-Have Canadian conservatism become 'vapid'? Andrew Coyne believes so:

<http://www.canada.com/news/national/Andrew+Coyne+Manning+Conference+displays+vapid+Canadian/10868860/story.html>

-Justin Trudeau promises the return of the long form census:

http://www.biv.com/article/2015/3/trudeau-promises-long-form-census-surrey-lower-mai/?utm_source=BIV+Newsletters

-Statistics can cloud the issue...Canada is creating jobs, but the quality of those jobs is falling:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/job-quality-in-canada-sinks-to-all-time-low-cibc-index-shows/article23303996/>

-Turned off...dropped out...that's our young voters:

<http://www.ipolitics.ca/2015/02/25/turned-off-and-dropping-out-the-youth-vote-problem/>

Looking ahead:

A reminder....Wednesday's BC Seniors Commission Executive Meeting will be a pot-luck luncheon.-.a fund-raiser to support our Commission's new web site now under construction. All executive members and EDA reps are invited - bring along an appetizer and \$10 - we'll get underway at noon with the executive meeting to follow. Mark the time and place: Wednesday, March 11 - noon - 1033 Marinaside Crescent in Vancouver, just 3 1/2 blocks from the Yaletown - Roundhouse Canada Line station. Here are the directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/7VDYa>

Keep up to date on the activities of the major ABC groups:

-[C.R.U.S.H.](#)

-[Council of Canadians](#)

-[Canadians Deserve Better](#)

-[Operation Maple](#)

-[Lead Now](#)

-[Anything But Conservative in 2015](#)

Feel free to share these weekly updates with your riding executive and others who are following the issues. If you have outreach ideas or photos of events, pass them along!