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“Separate or Surrender”

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Sounds Like a Western Canadian? *Our cover this month, reflects the recent study published in the journal Canadian Public Policy which found that “The average person in northwestern Ontario is increasingly asking themselves, ‘Why be part of the Ontario political structure when the government of the day is not just ignoring the legitimate needs and aspirations, but actually punishing communities and destroying jobs when a more enlightened policy would ensure these jobs and communities are sustainable?’” (Canadian Press article, August 9, 2006 by Michelle McAfee: Study finds political merit to creation of ‘MANTARIO’)*

Upcoming Meeting

Place:

***Best Western Port O’Call Inn,
McKnight Boulevard
Calgary, Alberta***

Date:

Friday, September 1, 2006

Time:

7:00 p.m.

Possibilities for a Western Canadian Nation

- A nation of Western Canada could have a Triple E Senate so all regions shared legislative power fairly and in a balanced way.
- A nation of Western Canada could have energy self-sufficiency, with oil, natural gas, coal and other minerals in abundance.
- Western Canada could be self-sufficient in food, with fishery, agriculture and fresh water in abundance.

- A nation of Western Canada could have one common official language of English.
- A nation of Western Canada could create its own markets for lumber, coal, oil and gas, and agriculture to prevent dependence upon American protectionism.
- A nation of Western Canada could have referendum, initiative and recall.
- A nation of Western Canada could have a strong military of trained personnel, capable of defence, like Switzerland.
- A nation of Western Canada could have a balanced budget and lower taxation.
- A nation of Western Canada could have a medical system that actually worked.
- A nation of Western Canada could have a better relationship with the United States, or any other nation whose interests were in harmony with the West.
- A nation of Western Canada could lower or even eliminate taxes.
- A nation of Western Canada could control its own immigration policies.
- A nation of Western Canada could have control over its appointments to the highest judicial offices.
- A nation of Western Canada could direct funds and create policies to protect its environment.
- A nation of Western Canada could establish the right of individuals to possess firearms.
- A nation of Western Canada could stop the corruption which infects Ottawa and bribes Quebec.
- A nation of Western Canada could have a judicious arrangement of its own tariffs, a Western Canadian dollar more valuable than Canada's and it could provide better services at less cost than Ottawa.

- A nation of Western Canada could establish its own head of state.
- A nation of Western Canada could control its own foreign affairs, and chose to stay out of foreign wars, like Switzerland, while remaining capable of self-defence.

But only with Independence is all this possible!

The Cost of Confederation

Canada's Faults Evident

Commentary on the recent Premier's Conference held in Eastern Canada demonstrates once more that rather than being a unified nation, built on common ground, Canada is an amalgam of conflicting interests. The West is primarily a resource-based economy, while Central Canada has traditionally had a more diversely based economy.

These meetings have even garnered a new name, perhaps to disguise the fact that they usually signal more dissent than agreement, but supposedly to 'revitalize the Canadian federation and build a new era of constructive and co-operative federalism.' They are now the "Council of the Federation." And no new name can mask the fact that they really can't agree on anything much, if they are to honestly represent their individual provinces.

The following excerpt from an article by April Lindgren of the CanWest New Service, and entitled "Cat fight over equalization spills into open," dated August 11, 2006, is a perfect demonstration of just how diverse these irreconcilable aspects of Canada are:

"Charest and his colleagues from poorer provinces have argued any additional federal

money should flow to lower-income jurisdictions through the federal equalization fund, established to ensure all citizens have access to comparable public services at comparable rates of taxation.

“Ontario, which unlike Quebec does not qualify for equalization aid, offered during negotiations to ease up on its opposition to any increase in the equalization fund if the other provinces supported its demand for more per capita funding for post-secondary education. McGuinty says Ontario currently receives \$86 per capita less than other provinces in federal health and education transfers so he also wanted that inequity addressed as part of any deal.

“The Ontario premier told reporters later in the day that his compromise proposal was supported by British Columbia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador. Some of his other counterparts, however, clearly didn’t think much of his peacemaking endeavors.

“Prince Edward Island Premier Pat Binns said that at least five provinces advocated higher equalization funding. The view that Ontario is not getting a fair deal from confederation has sort of sidetracked or stalled some of the advancement I think we might have otherwise made in terms of enhancing equalization, he said.

“Manitoba’s Gary Doer was also less than enthusiastic about the McGuinty solution: *One province’s proposed olive branch might be another province’s hemlock*, he said during the press conference.

“Alberta Premier Ralph Klein, whose province does not qualify for equalization assistance, said he could never accept a new for-

mula that includes natural resource revenues in calculations of a province’s wealth. He cited a number of reasons, including the volatility of oil and gas revenues. What goes up must come down, he said. We saw it in the ‘80s when the price of oil was at an all time high and it came tumbling down. It was a depression so I ask my colleagues to remember that.

“The inclusion of natural resource revenues is also opposed by Premier Lorne Calvert because it would boost Saskatchewan’s fiscal capacity thereby disqualifying it from equalization aid.” [end of excerpt]

Freedom’s Voice

“Many politicians... are in the habit of laying it down as a self-evident proposition that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool...who resolved not to go into the water till he had learned to swim.”

--*Thomas Babington Macaulay (1800-1859)*

“The voice of the majority is no proof of justice.”

--*Johann von Schiller*

“At first dreams seem impossible, then improbable, then inevitable.”

--*Christopher Reeve*

“Whenever you make a mistake or get knocked down by life, don’t look back at it too long. Mistakes are life’s way of teaching you. Your capacity for occasional blunders is inseparable from your capacity to reach your goals. No one wins them all, and your failures, when they happen, are just part of your growth. Shake off your blunders. How will you know your

limits without an occasional failure? Never quit. Your turn will come.”

--*Og Mandino, writer, 1923-1996, From A Better Way to Live*

“Love your country, but never trust its government.”

--*Robert A. Heinlein, (1907-1988) American writer*

WCC & WBP News

Leaders Report

Sometimes it helps to remember that there are major achievements going on all the time. At the very end of the year 2005, we established and succeeded in obtaining registration for the Western Block Party. This means we now have a federally registered political party, capable of receiving donations, and which party is the only separatist party for all of Western Canada.

This has been a major achievement. We also ran 4 candidates in the last federal election on January 23rd 2006. Although we did not succeed in receiving very many votes, our candidates have met the requirements of the Federal Elections Act. Never before in history have we succeeded in having a federally registered political party in Western Canada, that stands for the proposition that Western Canada should be a free and independent nation.

Throughout out 2005 and now in the first half of 2006, the Western Canada Concept has maintained its membership, and grown in a few areas. For this reason we intend to have a meeting in Calgary on the evening of September 1, 2006. This meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Best Western Port o' Call Inn, McKnight Blvd.

As well, we have tentatively set the WBP convention for November 10th.

A Separatist Speaks

By Doug Christie

Life Notice

Occasionally we read death notices. I read one recently which appeared to be mine at first. Apparently in view of the condolence cards to Keltie, others thought so too. It was not. It was for Dugald Christie, a crusading lawyer from Vancouver who sadly died in a bicycle accident going to Ottawa. My friends should know I would never petition Ottawa, as he was doing.

Thanks for your kind words and condolences. It's like going to your own funeral. Determined as I am to keep working for a homeland of Western Canada, I am definitely alive!

A Commentary on Current Events

The government of Stephen Harper has clearly demonstrated the futility of all reform of federal politics by a Western Canadian because of the compromises necessary to govern this country of disparate interests.

He, shortly after taking office, appointed David Emerson, long-time Liberal and ex-cabinet minister, to his own cabinet to sell out to the Americans on softwood lumber, which he has done. He managed to create an escape clause for his promise to abolish the gun registry with his minority government.

He lacks any ability to significantly remove restraints on free speech, which daily tighten the noose on opposition to federal poli-

cies like multiculturalism. He has not made any move to prevent the deportation of Michael Seifert to communist-oriented Italy, which the Liberal Irwin Cotler had ordered on December 30th, 2005, in one of his last official acts as Minister of Justice. He has been visiting all the world leaders in the G-8 and appears at home as a Bilderberger, which he is. He uniformly supports Israel in its massive attacks on Palestine and Lebanon. His statement in July about the release of 3 soldiers held prisoner seems oblivious of hundreds of Palestinians held without trials by any impartial judiciary in Israel.

The path of Western Canada seems irrevocably committed to such mindless obedience to neo-conservatives in the U.S.A. and the lobby in Canada. We are aware of what voting Liberal has done to us over the years, so voting Conservative appears inevitable. But to what end? The West is being flooded in a sea of immigration from China and the Third World, but no Conservative does anything. So separation, though lonely at present, is really the only position of integrity.

What Has Changed in Canada?

The Supreme Court is still 9 judges, with three from Quebec by law, three from Ontario by tradition, and three from the rest of Canada, all appointed by the Prime Minister. The House of Commons is still two-thirds from Quebec and Ontario with no reform of the Senate.

The Prime Minister appoints all heads of commissions and has not changed the deportation of old men like Seifert. The security certificates are still available for detention without public trial. The "Human Rights Commissions" still censor the foreign websites with Canadian content and truth is no defence. The gun regis-

try remains and will remain with the gun laws ambiguous and confusing.

The Canadian armed forces are largely deployed in a useless war in Afghanistan which has resisted the British, the Russians and the Americans in the past. In doing so we have created more hostility among Muslims. Open door immigration continues unabated with Conservatives seeking more, not less. The idea seems to have escaped them that North American First Nations like the Mayans and Incas, were victims of an open door immigration policy.

The Prime Minister spends much of his spare time in Quebec, catering in French to their preferences in hopes of a majority government soon, which won't come, while being able to excuse inaction by reference to his minority government status. We have government without responsibility.

The equalization formula, which has been mysteriously "enriched" has done to Alberta what the National Energy Policy could not, get them to accept surrender of their oil revenues, because nobody knows what is going on.

The way the people of the West are treated is with quiet indifference ranging to outright contempt because the Conservatives are sure that the West can never vote any other way, just as the Liberals were certain that the numbers of Quebec and Ontario would ensure their success in elections.

Some Thoughts on Foreign Policy

Captain Kevin Schuman, a Canadian soldier in Afghanistan said, "A lot of people think we're fighting someone else's war over here." (Times-Colonist, July 19, 2006, p. A9) He quickly says we are not. But we are. Nothing we do can in the long run, can change the

minds of the Afghan people and certainly not by force.

Similarly, if Israelis think they can win peace and security by their undoubted military might and modern war technology, they too are sadly mistaken. They are fighting a guerilla war by conventional means, and this can never work. It didn't work in Vietnam, won't work in Afghanistan, in Lebanon, or in Palestine/Israel.

The cause of peace, if it is truly desired cannot be achieved by war and aggression, particularly against larger numbers. We cannot occupy Afghanistan forever. This means in the end, defeat is inevitable if force alone is used.

Canada, as it was with Britain in the past and now more so with the United States, is becoming a "me too" obedient servant of a large and inscrutable power.

In the first World War, Western Canada especially, lost a large proportion of its young productive men and never recovered. Likewise in the Second. Now, as we move to the war on terror which is being increasingly waged against our own freedom, we are again followers of foreign interests. We need to have a foreign policy of friendship to all who do not attack us, and of protecting the security of our own borders. We today substitute a failure to protect our territory, or to solve our own problems of our own First Nations peoples, the poor, the destruction of our environment, the vast influx of unassimilating immigrants and many others with useless foreign adventures of dubious benefit and obvious unnecessary cost. Afghanistan is one such venture.

The United States toppled Saddam Hussein, created a wasteland of anarchy and called it peace. The result will be a long term

running sore. Security, either in the region, or in America is not enhanced by exhaustion in useless foreign ventures. Someone who loves America, as I do, needs to reason with our friends: what about Fortress America? Preservation of our homeland is a goal with which no foreigner could argue. Would this be possible if we withdrew from the support of foreign ventures in Iraq, Afghanistan, or Africa for that matter? Obviously our friends in the United States would be better advised to do this.

Many great empires of the past have collapsed in exhaustion by extending themselves too far. But foreign policy in Canada today is not being dictated by the interests of Canadians, and even less by Western Canadians.

One poignant moment displayed in the newspaper recently (Times-Colonist, July 19, 2006, p. A3) which drives this message home and brings it from the abstract to the concrete was a brief moment in Stephen Harper's whirlwind, G-8 summit tour when his wife Loreen wept at the grave of her great uncle, Private James Edward Teskey of Okotoks, Alberta, who died June 11, 1917, in the Battle of Arras. She knelt at a graveside in France.

How completely obvious that the death of a 19-year-old man from Okotoks in 1917, in the "War to end all wars" was utterly useless and totally destructive to Western Canada. His life, family and children, all of which never occurred, have created a vacuum soon to be filled by persons who have no knowledge of the significance of the battle of Arras and what it supposedly achieved. They have no idea what the First World War meant, only that it left empty land for them, and lots of it.

Unless we achieve Independence for our land and create our own foreign policy to avoid

foreign wars, our young people will be dying around the world, “fighting other people’s wars” as long as we can be identified as a people or a territory which may not be for long.

Stephen Harper may be a decent man; his wife certainly appears to have deep emotions as she wept at her great-uncle's grave, but we need statesmen with a long view of history, not politicians with an eye to the next photo opportunity or election, or as in this case, hanging on to a group of contradictory interests that have never been reconciled in the entire history of Canada. Western Canada, after provincial referenda, would have no such problem.

Referendum, initiative and recall would produce an informed electorate to make a new people and a new nation, not just an imitation of the old corrupt Canada. This is the revitalizing vision, the hope of the future, to enable the west to escape the repetitive cycle of the useless, destructive past and foreign futile wars. We have been good followers in war; we need to be leaders in peace.

Why Support the WCC/WBP

Many people wonder why we keep on fighting. Stephen Harper is the Western Canadian Prime Minister we have been waiting for, since John Diefenbaker. They reason that we are really undermining the chances of success of a Westerner in Ottawa and they cannot support such a result. They see having a western Captain changes the team and the problem is therefore solved.

In fact, any objection to Canada in the face of a Western Prime Minister is considered downright disloyal as well as counter-productive!

Let me answer these critics. They are not seeing the whole picture, and should answer the following question: How has the present government changed the Senate, the Supreme Court, the gun registry, official bilingualism and its insidious effects, the Wheat Board's monopoly, the appointment of all judges and heads of quasi-judicial boards, the extraction of equalization, the high income taxes, the GST, the power of Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa? The answer to this, with the exception of a negligible change to the GST, is no.

The changes that Stephen Harper, with the best will in the world, in the present system of Canada, can make are really all cosmetic. Mr. Harper must cater to Ontario and Quebec. He cannot change anything fundamental, because he hasn't the power. He must ignore the West's grievances because to stay in power he doesn't need us, he needs Ontario and Quebec.

The negative reasons for separation remain. The power in Ottawa never changes. The Supreme Court still makes the ultimate law. The corruption of the long-entrenched bureaucracy is systemic and permanent. The problem is not solved by changing the team captain.

The positive reasons for separation likewise remain: The natural resources, common language, smaller government, closer to the people governed, referendum, initiative and recall, the possibility of a prosperous, debt-free nation of educated and creative people. I am convinced we in the WCC and WBP, as small as we are, represent the only real hope for good government, prosperity and peace for the land and people of Western Canada. There is no better cause to support.

*Yours for independence,
Douglas Christie*

Join the Western Canadian Independence Movement

Western Canada Concept
Box 101, 255 Menzies Street, Victoria, B.C. Western Canada V8V 2G6
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Western Block Party
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By fax: 250-479-3294

Please remember to make out separate cheques to the organization of your choice!

___ I wish to join/renew my membership in the Western Canada Concept, and enclose my membership fee of \$15.00, per person, per year. This includes a free subscription to the Western Separatist. The Western Canada Concept Party of B.C. is provincially registered and entitled to give tax receipts for donations, and is only open to residents of BC. The Western Canada Concept for all of Western Canada is a research and communications movement dedicated to the creation of a new nation of Western Canada. Its primary aim is education and inspiration.

___ I just wish to subscribe to the Western Separatist, and enclose \$15.00 per year, made out to WSP Ltd.

___ I wish to join the Western Block Party (a federal political party dedicated to promoting Western Canadian Independence) and enclose my membership fee of \$10.00, per person, per year. Donations to the Western Block Party are now tax deductible.

Western Block party bumper stickers now available for \$1.00 each. I enclose \$___ for ___ bumper stickers.

___ I enclose a donation of \$_____ to help promote the idea of Western Independence. You can support either (or both) the WCC or WBP. Please specify.

___ Please send information about the Western Canadian movement for Independence to the following people (please print clearly):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Western Canada Concept -- the Movement for Western Independence!
Advocating Western Canadian Independence since 1974