

Georgetown Chamber's guest speaker

# Warning: Creeping socialism is ruining Canada, Tory says

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

An apathetic Canadian electorate is allowing our parliamentary democracy to lapse into a "liberal-socialist-guided leadership", a Conservative MP and small business expert told members of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday night at its annual general meeting.

Minister of small business and industry in the short-lived Joe Clark administration two years ago, Vancouver-Capilano MP Ron Huntington explained to chamber members at the North Halton Golf and Country Club that Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's continued pursuit of "corporate state" has literally changed the meaning of democracy in Canada.



Georgetown Chamber of Commerce members at last Wednesday night's annual general meeting dinner at the North Halton Golf and Country Club were advised that government collectivism is threatening the free trade system in Canada. The stiff warning came from Conservative MP (Vancouver-Capilano) Ron Huntington, once the minister for small business and industry in the short-lived Joe Clark government two years ago. Mr. Huntington (left) talked to several members following his speech, including (clockwise from left) Mr. and Mrs. Walt Dixon, Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed.

"We now have a guided form of democracy like they have in the trade unions," Mr. Huntington said. With the "Rand Formula" which trade unionism once ardently followed, leaders used to have the permission of the rank and file members while negotiating agreements, he explained.

"This is no longer the case in Canada. The attitude now seems to be 'we were elected to lead and lead we will.'"

Federal government purchases of private businesses through its crown corporations, as in Petro Canada's acquisition of Husky Oil, threaten the free trade market, Mr. Huntington said, causing an exhausting and counterproductive struggle between political collectivism and individualism.

"This is a very, very serious — and in terms of freedom — a deadly struggle," he warned. "The struggle is between those forces who want to collectivize the state and those who want individualism to survive."

"Too many people pay little regard to the philosophy of change which lies behind (the Liberal government). To me, the Liberals under the big 'L' and big red maple leaf are no longer liberals but socialists. They no longer defend the individualism which was once the cornerstone of the foundation of democracy."

Mr. Huntington called on Canadians to stop taking their freedom and individualism for granted and expressed concern that if the "incumbent Liberal-NDP regime" (an unofficial coalition he perceives)

remains in power, circumstances which he feels have challenged Canada's free trade system will remain unaddressed. The electorate, he said, must look beyond each

election and start talking about long-term goals for the country, including securing a future for free enterprise.

"The government and the NDP say that the expanded role of government in our

everyday lives is good for us," Mr. Huntington said. "But they are attacking the business community and those who make it work. The evidence of their attack is in the (current)

free market system."

"It's inevitable that liberalism leads to radicalism, radicalism leads to socialism and socialism always leads to dictatorship."

Mr. Huntington also attacked the Ontario Conservative Government's \$650 million (or 25 per cent) purchase of Sunco Oil shares and questioned the value to Canadians of having a large percentage of Canadian newspapers owned by huge publishing organizations.

"A free society is only as strong as its private sector is outside government," he explained, adding that young Canadians may have lost the opportunity to have a "meaning and rightful place in life" because of a hindered free market. In fact, he said, they may have lost faith in the free market system and capitalism entirely.

Commenting briefly on the charter of rights proposal on which much of the nation's current constitutional dilemma stems, Mr. Huntington indicated that he doesn't like the idea.

"Once you start spelling out rights, you start denying all the other unwritten and fundamental rights," he said.

# Crank calls but no worries as hunters bag 171 deer

The four-day deer hunt which had 900 shotgun and muzzle-loader carrying hunters combing the rural area last week lived up to the ministry of natural resources' expectations.

MNR district biologist Nancy Till reported yesterday (Tuesday) that 171 slain deer passed through four check stations during the ministry-sanctioned hunt aimed at reducing the deer population in a 300-square mile area including parts of Halton, Flamborough, Puslinch and South Dumfries.

Roaming deer herds had been blamed for depleting area crops and orchards. Hunt quotas were filled during the hunt last Monday through Thursday in all areas except Halton.

Ms. Till said there were only two trespassing complaints by property owners but no charges were laid. The hunters, licensed specially for the hunt by a ministry lottery, co-operated with MNR requests to bring their catches to ministry checkpoints. Ms. Till added, "Officials were thus able to further estimate the size and quality of the deer population. Much to the dismay of local

farmers, MNR checkers found the bagged deer well fed. The largest deer killed was a 225-pound buck brought into a checkpoint north of Hamilton.

While most farmers and some other property owners welcomed the hunters last week, "No Hunting" and "No Trespassing" signs had been posted around many privately-owned lands. A group called Action Volunteers for Animals distributed about 1,000 signs to ward off unwanted hunters, arguing even as the hunt got underway that it is unnecessary.

A leading opponent of the hunt was Milton regional Councillor Bill Johnson, who personally distributed many of the signs. Mrs. Johnson, who shares her husband's concern over the sanctioned hunts, told The Herald that a number of phonecalls during the four-day hunt gave them an idea of the scope of the controversy.

While endorsing the MNR's claim that no charges were laid against hunters, Mrs. Johnson said many property owners phoned to complain that hunters were using their property despite "No Trespassing" signs. They asked what

should be done, but in all cases were reluctant to call police. Other callers to the Johnson home were pranksters, Mrs. Johnson said, some of them "quite nasty". While one sarcastically asked if their number was a source for "venison

recipes", another called the couple names. A third pro-hunter caller asked Milton Mayor Gord Krantz to tell Mr. Johnson he had just shot a deer behind the Johnsons' property, which Mrs. Johnson said is also posted with signs.

## About the Hills

### Blue Triangle bazaar

The Y's Blue Triangle Club will hold its Bazaar Nov. 17 from noon to 3:30 p.m. Afternoon tea will be served and will cost \$1 per adult and 50 cents per child. The bazaar will also include baked goods, crafts and a white elephant table. Plan to visit the bazaar at 89 Mountainview Road South. For further information, phone 877-6163.

### St. Stephen's quilt winner

Winner of a draw for a quilt made by the ladies of St. John's Anglican Church in Stewarttown was Maxine Miller of Ingleswood, Ontario. The draw was part of the church's annual Christmas bazaar held Saturday afternoon.

## Penrice is pleased with Chamber efforts

Georgetown Chamber of Commerce president Doug Penrice is pleased with the chamber's involvement in a number of programs this year, he told members at the organization's annual general meeting last Wednesday.

The chamber, he said, is awaiting next spring's business directory now being prepared by the local Jaycees. It is also preparing to have new "Welcome to Georgetown" signs erected at the community's east and west entrances, featuring

symbols of the service clubs which function here.

Referring to recent developments in the region's business development department, Mr. Penrice said he was pleased to see the formation of a regional business advisory committee, of which Mayor Pete Pomeroy and local insurance salesman Rick West are members.

Other business concerns of the chamber includes the business improvement area study presented before a

public meeting last week and the adjustments to the town's official plan proposal. Coun. Pam Sheldon, who heads the town's official plan task force, will be the special guest at the chamber's next meeting. Chamber meetings are held at the North Halton Golf and Country Club the first and third Thursdays of each month.

Chamber members are also planning the Business of the Year Award dinner, scheduled tentatively for late January or early February.



The fact that Halton's deer hunt was well under way by the time her group made its presentation before regional council last Wednesday didn't deter Action Volunteers for Animals president Merlin Andrew from stating her case firmly before the meeting got underway. Vehemently opposed to any kind of cruelty to animals, hunting and trapping, her group, which she claims has 700 members across the province, plans to lobby hard next year to prevent the deer hunt from continuing. The AVA was not among the anti-hunting lobbyist which opposed the four day shotgun hunt in Halton earlier this year.

(Herald photo)

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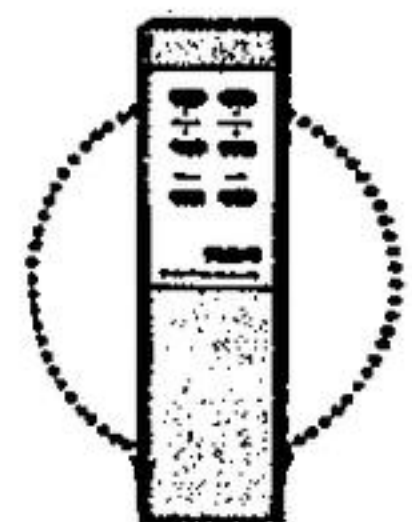


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