

Public input requested

By now, everyone knows that Prime Minister Mulroney has resigned, and Canada will have a new PM in June. A new chapter in Canadian history is about to begin.

For the governing party it means renewal. For me it means a decision. For you it's an opportunity to do something more than just complain about the way we are governed.

My new book talks how I went from being a newspaper columnist and tax protester to your member of parliament here in Halton-Peel. It talks about how we - not just the politicians, but all the people - how we must take back some of the power that politicians have taken from us over the years.

In recent days the question of whether I would be a candidate for the party leadership has been discussed. Some media reports and supporters have said that I've already announced I'll do it. This is not true.

What is true is this: I would like

Ottawa Report

to run, but need to talk first with a lot of people - first and foremost, my constituents - to determine if I have the support and resources necessary to enter the contest.

This is where you come in.

The first question I need answered is, what do my constituents think about all this? Do you want me to go for it, or simply concentrate on being your MP? What do you want or expect of the next Prime Minister? If you want me to run, is there anything you can contribute? Time? Money? Does your business or community group have something that our group can use or borrow?

Of course, I will always be your MP first. If I do enter the race, I will still perform my duties in Halton-Peel as a priority - including more Town Hall meetings.

So what do you think? Call me.

Write me. Or let my office know. It's no secret that if I am a candidate, the odds against my winning are large. But, maybe winning isn't everything.

Maybe by leading through example, and focusing the debate on what is important - jobs, the deficit, economic stability, less government, security in retirement, opportunities for youth and reform of politics - we can accomplish something more important than winning.

Perhaps we can send a message that will forever change how politicians, government and the people respond to each other. If I run, I will not make any promises - except to do my best.

While other candidates expect to need millions of dollars, our campaign will be an example of my approach to government - no frills. I will run a balanced budget campaign, and not spend or borrow a dollar I don't have.

The campaign will simply be fueled on the power of ideas and volunteers. It will be an innovative movement with a serious message



Garth Turner MP
Halton-Peel

of hope and confidence in Canada's future.

I have a decision to make.

As I said, this is an historic opportunity to change the way we are governed. It is a one-shot chance to send a message straight to the top. So, please take a moment and let me know what you think.

You can reach me at 1-800-268-8679.

Dorothy and I thank you for your thoughts, and look forward to hearing what you have to say.

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