

Editorial

Grit(ty) behaviour

Pierre Trudeau is likely looking down on his good friend Jean Chretien today and thinking, "I taught him well." Even at his most arrogant best, Trudeau would be hard-pressed to outdo the blatant disrespect the current crop of Liberals have for the electorate.

In all likelihood, Chretien will call a general election by the end of this weekend, sending voters to the polls Nov. 27. It doesn't matter that an election will unnecessarily cost us \$200 million and isn't warranted for at least another year. The Grits are riding high in the polls and a third term would put Chretien in the history books—something he can boast about to his imaginary homeless friends.

Then, in the wake of Auditor General Denis Desautel's scathing report on wasteful government spending, Finance Minister Paul Martin announces a pre-election goodie package full of tax cuts from a huge multi-billion surplus of *our* money to deflect attention away from Desautel's report.

That report detailed, among other things, how the feds handed out hundreds of millions of dollars in job grants without checking how the money was being spent, how privatizing Canadian airports cost taxpayers \$474 million in lost rent income and how the defence department spent \$225 million on a training system for planes they later grounded.

As a topper, Chretien plops Newfoundland wonder-boy Brian Tobin into a cabinet post, ignoring the fact he hasn't been elected federally. But, that's okay, because he's sure to bring in some Atlantic votes.

Yes, Pierre would be proud of Chretien's bullying act. Come to think of it, so would Tony Soprano.



Letters to the editor...

Teacher was trying to revise the dictionary

Dear editor,

I would like to respond to Gladly Carter's letter to the editor (Renaissance movement sounds scary to teacher) Sept. 20.

I have been in the service industry for over 30 years and have visited many schools in Ontario. I actually did see what goes on in Halton, Wellington, Lincoln and other school boards. When I was

repairing equipment in their offices and staff rooms the teachers were somewhat oblivious to the fact there was an outsider among them. Judging from what I've seen and heard, Gladly, you can't con me.

On the note of your meeting where Ms. Ecker was invited to speak, you asked Mr. Campbell whether the teachers carried "baseball bats or weapons or act like barbarians". My dictionary defines barbarism as "want of civilization; rudeness of manners". If I asked you to speak at my company meeting and we all walked out when you got to the dais, what would you call it?

Then you go and blow it again by saying, "this undemocratic, dictatorial government" is at fault. You want Mr. Campbell to "get in touch with the meaning of democracy". Again, my dictionary defines democracy as "Government by the people" which, last time I checked, was voted in by the majority of Ontarians. If you want change, you will have an

opportunity in the next election. That's how it works in this country.

As for your suggestion that Mr. Campbell "... contact a high school English teacher. I am sure they could teach you a thing or two", I'm glad my children did not have an English teacher who tried to revise the dictionary to fit their political agenda.

R. J. Summers, Georgetown

Centre says, 'Thanks'

Dear editor,

Life Chiropractic Centre wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to our patients and the community who helped to make our Patient Appreciation Day such a great success.

With your support and generosity, we were able to raise donations in excess of \$200 to benefit Halton Women's Place. Special thanks to all the local businesses for their support.

Dr. Gabor Madarasz and staff
Georgetown Chiropractic Centre

Parking argument 'poppycock'

Dear editor,

I am replying to Mr. Rankin's Oct. 11 letter (Mountainview residents need street parking).

I guess it's okay with you to suggest people use Winston Churchill Boulevard, but what about the people who live in Norval? Are their concerns for traffic congestion not valid either?

Your argument that visitors won't have anywhere to park is poppycock. If they happen to be there during the rush hour of 4-6 p.m. maybe the traffic is a bother, but I have driven by on Mountainview at that time and your driveways are empty! Are your visitors not allowed to park in your driveways?

Most commuters are only asking for two hours of safe driving, not all day.

I'm also reminded of a letter a few months ago stating that people were deliberately parking on the road to help make it "safe".

The rest of us are not allowed to park for more than three hours on our streets. Why should Mountainview residents be treated differently?

I am very sorry that Georgetown is growing so quickly that things are changing, but that's life. Let's try to be considerate to all our community members.

Debra Hayes, Georgetown

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Send us your letters

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All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters requesting names be withheld will only be published pending a valid reason at the editor's discretion. Letters should be not exceed 300 words and may be edited for content or length.

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