



### WELCOME to FEBRUARY 2024!

The Board of Directors would like to address our membership regarding two resignations:

On Wednesday, January 31, 2024 the Party's Interim Leader, **Katherine Kowalchuk resigned for personal reasons** several months before her intended departure date of June 2024. The Board of Directors would like to express their sincere gratitude to Katherine for being the interim **voice of the Party** and her service and commitment during her time with TIP:

'**Katherine**, your contributions have been invaluable - Thank you.'

The Board of Directors would like to extend their appreciation and well wishes to former **Strategy Director, Mike Worthington**. On February 1, 2024 Mike Worthington resigned his position with TIP and **we wish Michael well and support him in his future endeavours**.

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### MEET THE CREW!

**Ron Robertson** - President/Policy Director

**Charlene Schramm** - Treasurer

**Lisa Bourke-Schulte** - Secretary/Communications

**Bill Daugherty** - CA Director

**Bert Noel** - Policy Director

**Dawn Elzinga** - Director at Large

**Rahman Derrick** - Director at Large

**Frank Kast** - Director at Large

**Mike Bennison** - Director at Large

**Neil Morrow** - Director at Large

**Volunteers** are the heartbeat of any organization, providing their time, skills and passion to make a difference. The Independence Party would like to extend their appreciation and say a **HUGE THANK YOU!** If you have a particular skill set and would like to volunteer as a Constituency Member, or become a Director for The Independence Party Board of Directors or sit on a Committee - please send your information with a Letter of Intent to: [coms@ab-independence.com](mailto:coms@ab-independence.com)

If you are on a CA Board of Directors and would like to attend a Provincial Board meeting, please send your request to: [ron.robertson@ab-independence.com](mailto:ron.robertson@ab-independence.com)

**WEBSITE UPDATE:** Please have patience regarding the TIP website. It is currently going through a tough transition and we will be bringing you a much better product SOON!

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## TAX RECEIPTS for 2023 - Reminder

Official Tax Receipts for all donations made in 2023 for The Independence Party - will be issued through the 'online' financial system of [Elections Alberta](https://elections.alberta.ca).

## THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY AGM

April 20, 2024

### In Carstairs, Alberta

In order to participate in this year's AGM, the following criteria will need to be met:

- **Canadian Citizen**
- **Alberta Resident (minimum 6 months)**
- **At least 14 years of age**
- **21 Days as a member in good standing**



## SAVE THE DATE!

Please Join Us at TIP's AGM

on April 20th

In Carstairs, Alberta

**Carstairs Community Hall**

1100 Lackner Way

Please mark your Calendars for

Saturday April 20th

Watch for more information on TIP's Website

Newsletter

and Social Media Pages



## President's Message:

### Your opportunity at this year's AGM

This year's AGM is going to present our members with a great opportunity. Last year after I became a Board member, a policy committee was formed by the Board with the purpose of revising our Party Platform and Bylaws as there were many deficiencies noted in the current documents. Our current Bylaws give this authority to the **Board but the input of our members** must be included.

There were an extensive number of amendments made to the Bylaws by the policy committee. Bylaws were added with the intention to protect the interests of members as well as protecting the Party from any potential hostile takeover. Many other procedural Bylaws were also added that will help streamline the daily operations of the Party.

The policy committee has finished a **draft General Revision of the Bylaws and Party Platform. Both documents will soon be sent out to all members for their perusal and input prior to the AGM.**

Regarding the amending of our Bylaws, the current Bylaws refer us to Robert's Rules of Order **UNLESS** they are in conflict with **the current** Party Bylaws. **Rest**

assured by the Board of Directors the correct procedure to move forward with a General Revision of the Bylaws:

*“Changes of bylaws that are so extensive and general that they are scattered throughout the bylaws should be effected through the substitution of an entirely new set of bylaws, called a revision. Notice of such a revision is notice that a new document will be submitted that will be open to amendment as fully as if the society were adopting bylaws for the first time. In other words, in the case of a revision, the assembly is not confined to consideration of only the points of change included in the proposed revision as submitted by the committee that has drafted it. The revision can be perfected by first-degree and second-degree amendments, but as in the case of any other bylaw amendment, the old document is not pending; and therefore, while the revision can be rejected altogether, leaving the old bylaws intact, the old document cannot be altered with a view to retaining it in a changed form. Consideration of a revision of the bylaws is in order only when prepared by a committee that has been properly authorized to draft it either by the membership or by an executive board that has the power to refer such matters to a committee.”*

(Robert’s Rules of Order section 57:5)

The Board of Directors believe that it is important when developing or amending documents that are as important as our Party Bylaws, that the members of this Party participate in that process. The policy committee has already received positive suggestions for amendments from our members and many of those suggestions have been implemented.

The goal of the policy committee has been to create a clear, concise, and easy to use set of Bylaws for use by our members.

The policy committee has also created a draft Party Platform to present to our members. Under the current bylaws, the direction of this Party could be changed on a whim by the Party Leader or Board of Directors without the consultation or participation of the membership. **What would our reaction be if our candidates were elected but did not prioritize the Party’s interests or uphold our foundational beliefs?**

**Your input to the Party Platform is important.** The Objectives and Guiding Principles of the Party have been added to the draft Bylaws to protect them. If adopted, these objectives and principles cannot be changed without a majority vote of the membership at an AGM or SGM. Currently, the objectives and principles are not protected in this way. If we lose focus or allow individuals with malicious intentions to infiltrate the party, it will be dismantled and crumble from within. Our dreams of one day having our own nation will be over.

These Revised documents once adopted, will only serve to benefit the members of this Party. The success or failure of **this Party is up to us!**

Ron Robertson

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### Party Bylaw Revision REMINDER:

Membership Participation Request:

The **Board of Directors Policy Committee** for **The Independence Party of Alberta** has been working on revisions to the [Party Bylaws](#) and the [Party Program](#). The objective is to **benefit the membership** by ensuring the operation of the Party is managed in the spirit in which it was intended.

The **goal of the Policy Committee** has been to **enhance the operation of the Party** by ensuring the [Bylaws](#) and [Party Program](#) are clear, concise and better equipped to protect the Party in situations it may face in the future.

To this effect, **recommendations for changes** to the [Bylaws](#) and [Party Program](#) shall be submitted to the membership for approval at the Annual General Meeting on **April 20, 2024, in Carstairs, Alberta.**

As part of this process, the **Policy Committee** is requesting input from all members. If members have recommendations for changes to the [Bylaws](#) and the [Party Program](#), the Board of Directors requests that you submit your proposed revisions **by March 1, 2024** to: [coms@ab-independence.com](mailto:coms@ab-independence.com) with the subject **“BYLAW RECOMMENDATIONS”**.

Please visit The Independence Party [website](#) to access current Party Bylaws and Party Program.

[www.abindependence.com](http://www.abindependence.com)

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### HOUSEKEEPING TIPS :

- **Please note** that the **revised** DRAFT Party Bylaws and DRAFT Party Platform will be sent through an email blast **shortly after the deadline of March 1, 2024**. Both documents will be loaded onto TIP’s website for review.

- **All Social Media** sites will remind Members to review the **revised DRAFT Party Bylaws and DRAFT Party Platform** before the AGM in Carstairs on April 20th. All additions, revisions and deletions for the revised DRAFT Bylaws and DRAFT Party Program can be sent to: [coms@ab-independence.com](mailto:coms@ab-independence.com) before April 2, 2024.
- All **members will have an opportunity to recommend changes** at the AGM.
- If you have signed up for **TIP's Newsletter and Emails** AND are NOT receiving **TIP correspondence**, please email: [coms@ab-independence.com](mailto:coms@ab-independence.com) and update your email address.
- **Join Us and Make a Difference!** Volunteering at our AGM is a **rewarding experience** that offers valuable insights, connections, and the satisfaction of knowing you've **contributed to something meaningful**. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of our AGM Committee! **To volunteer or learn more**, please email: [coms@ab-independence.com](mailto:coms@ab-independence.com) with your name, number and add **AGM Volunteer** in the **subject line**.

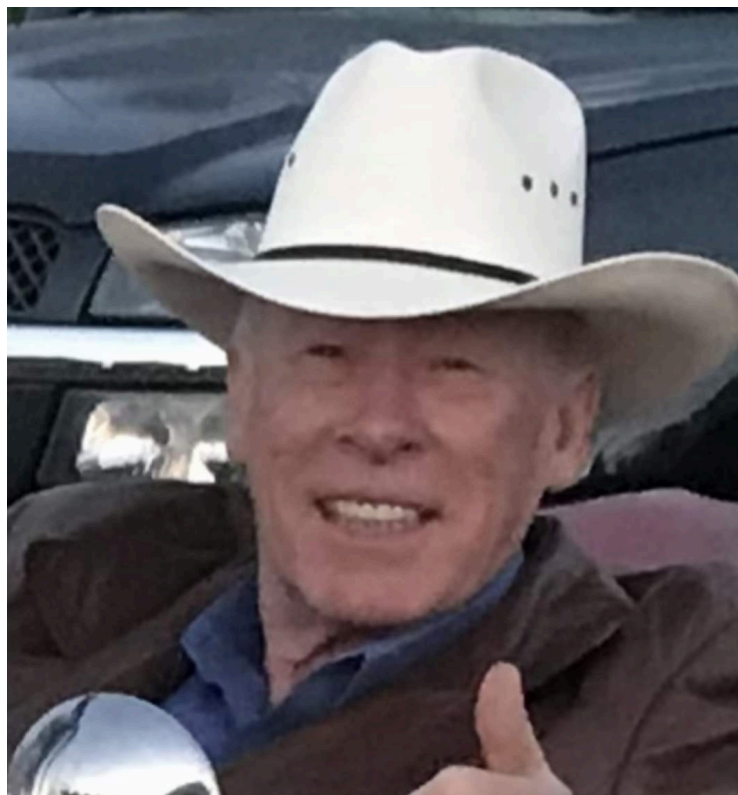
**We look forward to having you on board!**

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**Subscribe now**

#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT!**



#### **TIP TALK COMMENTARY**

As I see it !

Would you cut a cheque and send it unanimately to an individual in Central Canada, knowing that they have no connection nor interest in you, or possibly, not even speaking the same language as you?

Someone that basically despises you, your community, and your province?

Would you do this on a regular basis...say, every month?

Would you do this, even though it brought hardship to you, your family, and community?

What if you quit sending the cheque, and your local government forced you to continue the practice? Would you be in favor of that decision?

Well I have great news for you. That is exactly what is happening right now and for the past 100+ years! Not only is this 'fundamental' happening right now; it is slated to increase forever.

This is the situation we Albertans find ourselves in with a provincial government that will not only do nothing to stop this fiscal nightmare, but won't even recognize the problem.

With every one of our government run agencies needing more funding, they continue to stall on every issue that concerns the livelihood of Albertans. I can only think of one solution. Maybe you can too!

**Michael Bennison** – Director for The Independence Party

### Western Standard

The good people of Westlock have spoken and they've voted against Pride rainbow crosswalks! STAY STRONG WESTLOCK!

<https://www.westernstandard.news/news/alberta-town-bans-pride-crosswalks-non-government-flags/52631>

Westlock Mayor Jon Kramer told media Thursday evening his council **opposed the ban** on non-government flags and Pride-coloured crosswalks.

***“Council did not support the proposed Crosswalk and Flagpole bylaw, as we felt it went against our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion,” said Kramer in a statement to media Thursday evening.***

**GET INVOLVED!** We need good people out there! In politics, on school boards, municipal governments, constituency associations, etc.

**Here are 3 links to solid explanations regarding the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ideology or 'Orwellian Happy Talk' and why they are perpetuating the EXACT opposite and meaning of DEI and why DEI has become a money making model:**

1. [Ben Shapiro speech at the Iowa University for Young Americans Foundation](#)
2. [National Review: Douglas Murray on Meritocracy](#)
3. [John Stossel interview with Erec Smith, a former DEI trainer, now a Professor of Rhetoric at York College:](#)

***"It seems to be making people less likely to interact with people who are unlike them ... because it's like a minefield now."***

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### **Saying What Needs To Be Said OUT LOUD**

#### **Has Achieved Important & Notable Success!**

We are so happy to bring current and meaningful content to our members. Please find the links to all the **LIVE FB** interviews and the video links from the November Olds Event below:

- [Katherine Kowalchuk and Leighton Grey](#)
- [In The Meow with Siberian Kitten](#)
- [Olds Event with Katherine Kowalchuk, Lani Rouillard and Eva Chipiuk](#)
- [Stacey's Happy Place with Lani Rouillard](#)
- [Unstoppable Truth with Jaime Sale and Katherine Kowalchuk](#)

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### **TIP BITS:**

Check out our **GROWING social media links** and follow **The Independence Party** and commentaries! **Share and engage** with these pages and please provide your opinions - your comments are **imperative** to call for a **Referendum for Independence**. The more you engage, the more we grow as a **political PARTY** and **SPREAD** the message that the **ONLY alternative** to our current situation - is [The Independence Party!](#)

[@ABindependence](#) With 2913 X Followers

[@TheIndependencePartyofAlberta](#) With 1971 X Followers

[@TheIndependenceParty](#) With 7500 Facebook Followers

[@theindependencepartyab](#) With 174 Instagram Followers

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## **How To Become Engaged in Politics**

Becoming **engaged in politics** is a **valuable way** to **contribute to your community** and **have a voice** in the decision-making processes that affect society. Here are steps you can take **to become more politically engaged:**



1. **Educate Yourself:** Start by learning about the political system, the structure of government, and the key issues affecting your community, country, or region. Stay informed about current events through reputable news sources, books, documentaries, and educational programs.
2. **Identify Your Values and Priorities:** Reflect on your values and the issues that matter most to you. This will help you align with political causes and candidates who share your perspectives.
3. **Register to Vote:** Your vote is a powerful tool for shaping the political landscape. Ensure you are registered to vote in local, regional, and national elections. Keep your voter registration information updated.
4. **Attend Local Meetings and Events:** Get involved in your local community by attending town hall meetings, city council sessions, and community events. This is an excellent way to understand local issues and connect with elected officials and community leaders.
5. **Join Civic Organizations:** Many communities have civic organizations, advocacy groups, or local chapters of national organizations focused on specific issues. Joining such groups can provide you with a platform to voice your concerns and work collaboratively with like-minded individuals.
6. **Volunteer for Political Campaigns:** Consider volunteering for political campaigns to gain firsthand experience in the political process. This could involve canvassing, phone banking, organizing events, or helping with social media outreach. Campaigns often welcome volunteers, and it's a great way to learn about the political landscape.
7. **Connect on Social Media:** Follow political figures, parties, and organizations on social media to stay updated on political developments. Engage in discussions, share information, and connect with like-minded individuals. Social media platforms can be powerful tools for political awareness and activism.
8. **Attend Public Hearings and Committee Meetings:** Participate in public hearings and committee meetings to observe decision-making processes and express your views on specific issues. Many decisions are made at these meetings, and public input is often encouraged.
9. **Run for Office or Join Local Boards:** If you're passionate about creating change, consider running for local office or joining community boards and commissions. This allows you to directly influence policies and decisions that impact your community.
10. **Encourage Informed Discussions:** Foster informed and respectful discussions about politics within your social circles. Encourage others to voice their opinions and engage in constructive dialogue. This can lead to a better understanding of different perspectives.
11. **Stay Persistent:** Political engagement is an ongoing process. Stay persistent in your efforts, stay informed, and remain actively involved. Political change often takes time, but individual efforts can contribute to broader societal shifts.

Remember that political engagement comes in various forms, and **you can choose the level of involvement that suits your comfort and availability**. Whether it's through voting, volunteering, or running for office, **every action contributes to the democratic process**.



### Provincial Board of Directors Election 2024!



**Are you interested in being part of the biggest movement in Alberta history? We are looking for all those who are ready to stand firm in creating a prosperous & free Alberta. If you are interested in becoming a Board Volunteer ... **START YOUR ENGINES!** Get your civic CV & 'Letter of Interest' ready to go....and make sure to let your passion for truth, justice and change SHINE through for an INDEPENDENT ALBERTA!**

**Watch for more information to come shortly....**