

- Dedicated to the Restoration of Liberalism in Newfoundland -

LIBERAL REFORM PARTY

DEVELOPMENT AND REFORM

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Dear Friend:

Newfoundland needs reform. That spirit is abroad in the land again. I can sense it in the power of your handshake on doorsteps, and over a cup of tea in your kitchens. Nowhere is it burning with greater force than in Pleasantville, the cradle of that great Liberal Reformer, Premier John Kent. He breathed the fires of that spirit into Newfoundland public life over one hundred years ago.

From time to time throughout Newfoundland's history that spirit has reawoken and NOW is one of those times.

On the tide of this powerful feeling which is gripping Newfoundland, we must purge and rebuild. There are many issues to be debated in this campaign but I mention only a few in this letter.

There must be public financing of elections, and full disclosure on donations. This vital reform will free our public men from the chains of a vicious patronage system, and in result will have a wholesome and uplifting effect on public life. That is the most crucial reform of all.

That iniquitous and crushing school tax will be abolished immediately.

The provincial government must give more financial help to our city council. Other provincial governments have been assisting their municipalities for years. They don't wait until councils are at the point of collapse before running with the money bag at election time. The time for assistance to our council occurred last fall when council was in a financial crisis and were forced to raise taxes about 20%. The blame for that increase must fall on the Moores Government. I suppose one could call it a "mistake in planning". A Tory Government could never make a "mistake of the heart" because it does not have one.

In a few weeks the Moores-Crosbie Government will be a thing of the past. Hard times will go and better days will be ahead.

Let us begin then. Let it be the greatest era of reform in Newfoundland's history. Grasp the opportunity and be part of the movement. LIBERAL REFORM is not the cause of party, not the cause of faction, not the cause of any individual, but the COMMON CAUSE of every man and woman in Newfoundland.

Sincerely yours,



Dave Owens.