

August 13, 2019

To: Doug Ford, Leader, Ontario PC Party
Mike Crase, Executive Director, Ontario PC Party
Cc: Ontario PC Party Riding Presidents and Executive

Re: Cambridge PC Association Response to July 19, 2019 Correspondence

As president of the Cambridge PC Riding Association, I write to you in my duty representing the views of the Cambridge PC Riding Board of Directors.

On July 19, 2019, we received correspondence informing us of the creation of a *Leader's Advisory Council on Election Readiness*. In consideration of this, our board passed a unanimous resolution to have me share with you our concerns.

First, we have concerns about the ongoing positioning of lobbyists within the senior ranks of our party, their access to government, and the perpetual conflict of interest this creates.

A recent media report in the Globe and Mail described the increasing influence that lobbyists continue to have on our party and the government. In light of these details, we find it alarming that the composition of the *Council* is dominated by individuals who are either registered lobbyists, or who own or are employed at firms that focus on lobbying.

This, and the fact that the members of the *Council* predominantly live in the Greater Toronto Area, does not, as you indicate in your letter, make up a committee of "long time PC Party volunteers, representing all regions from across Ontario."

Second, the inclusion of Brian Patterson and Chris Loreto on this *Council* is inappropriate. Mr. Patterson and Mr. Loreto are each currently serving two-year terms as "President" and "1st Vice President" of our party, respectively, as a result of an illegitimate election that inexplicably has been accepted by party staff.

In summary, these series of decisions represent a continued undermining of the democratic integrity of our Ontario PC Party. It leaves grassroots party members, and their representative boards, with a shrinking voice, and without any legitimate means to enable accountable representation.

We are alarmed at these decisions and the impact they will have on our party as we move closer to the next election. We trust that you will consider these matters with the level of seriousness that they deserve.

Respectfully yours,

Lillo Ognibene

Lillo Ognibene, Cambridge PC Riding President

On behalf of,

Cambridge PC Riding Association Board of Directors

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