



# Newsletter

Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound Conservative Association

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

[bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com](mailto:bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com)

Summer 2020

## **BGOS Conservative EDA Presents: Staycation 2020 Rediscovering Bruce-Grey- Owen Sound August 22<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**

This year has been an especially challenging one for everyone. Covid-19 has hit us hard both because of the danger it can present to everyone's health, as well as how it has grinded a lot of our economy to a halt. Local businesses have been hit especially hard as many of them were either forced to close their doors, or for those essential businesses who were able to stay open during the peak of the pandemic, they had to considerably change the way they did business.

As things are starting to open up again, we feel it is incredibly important to do what we can to support local businesses. That is why for our first fundraiser of the year we have decided to try something new. Something that people & families can do together, have an excuse to get out of their homes, visit parts of the area that they may not have seen in a while and to perhaps buy locally along the way and help support our economy in the riding.



All of this in a way that can be done while respecting physical distancing as we get through this pandemic together

We have set up 100 spots around the riding to visit. Some will be straight forward. Others might have a riddle associated with it. All you have to do is take a picture of you proving you were at the spot during the event.

There will be points for every spot you visit, as well as bonus points for buying stuff from local businesses and getting your picture taken with Alex who will be in areas all around the riding during the event.

For tickets (\$30) before or during, you can go to: [www.bgosconservativeeda.com](http://www.bgosconservativeeda.com) & click on the Staycation RSVP button or email us at [bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com](mailto:bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com), or call Carol @ 519-370-0014 or mail the back form. We hope to see you out there!

## **Last Chance to Vote In the Leadership**

All the ballots have been mailed out. If you have received yours but you haven't mailed it with the envelope that was provided with your ballot, you should do so quickly because ballots must be received by the party (not just postmarked) by 5:00 PM EST on August 21st in order to be counted.

If you haven't received a ballot yet & you were eligible because you had active Conservative Party of Canada membership by midnight on May 15th, you can email [info@conservative.ca](mailto:info@conservative.ca) and they can mail a new ballot to you. You should do this ASAP. The cutoff date for requesting a reprint is August 14th. If you have mailed your ballot already but it was declined (usually because of invalid ID was sent,) one of the candidates teams may contact you to let you know you should request a reprinted ballot from [info@conservative.ca](mailto:info@conservative.ca) by the August 14th deadline.

**2020**  
**LEADERSHIP**

## President's Report



For any of us who have been caught driving in a whiteout, or on the water when the fog rolls in, the pandemic engenders similar feelings of helplessness, doubt, fear and anxiety. We are literally driving into the unknown. All that we have been used to doing thus far needs to be rethought. It is indeed, a challenging time.

As everything ground to a halt in March of 2020, our plans fell apart. Instead of focusing on the momentum gained from last year, we had to mind our members and their needs. Our ability to deliver our programs and our members' ability to support us were frozen in time.

We did reach out to ensure everyone was alright. We took the opportunity of this call to remind them to renew their membership and secure their right to vote for our new leader. We expected a drop in numbers from the lofty 2,600+ registrants of the nomination race but, I am happy to report that we kept over 1,600 members active.

We also worked in the background to continue modernizing our organization. We rolled out a new structure and operational model for the Executive Team. We onboarded a new Financial Agent and transferred the responsibility from the outgoing one, Sharon Norton, to whom we are grateful for her unfailing support in the last 15 years.

We updated our website and Facebook accounts, in addition to widening our social media channel presence. We stabilized and enhanced our ability to access CIMS information. We also activated a secured collaboration platform that allows the Executive to collaborate remotely.

However, some programs did suffer setbacks such as Fundraising as our ability to run events was materially impaired by the Emergency Orders. We no longer expect to raise \$45,000 in 2020 but are still focused on raising at least \$25K. With a little bit of hardwork and support from the membership, we can get there.

We are emerging ever so carefully from this nightmare but we are not safe yet. Any step we take is weighted by more planning and operational costs in order to ensure the safety of the participants and organizers. The threat of an early election also looms large on the horizon.

In answer to these obstacles, we are focused on two major thrusts: Fundraising and Campaign Readiness.

On the Fundraising front, we are busy figuring out how to bypass, overcome and/or eliminate the obstacles put in place by COVID19. We will attempt to run two to three fundraising events before the end of April 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

On the Campaign Readiness front, we are working closely with Alex's campaign team to raise our game. Strong from the learnings of the last campaign, we are seeking volunteers now to staff the campaign operations early and to begin training.

Our volunteers are not getting younger and we need to find new blood. Conservatism is not appealing to the younger generation and this is blocking our attempts at bringing new volunteers. We need every members to put their recruiting hat on, to reach out into their network, and to bring forth recommendations of people who want to help defeat this current government. Once again, I ask that you reach out in your network and encourage younger folks to get involved.

In closing, I cannot re-emphasize enough what our EDA needs are at this time: people and donations. If you can, we need you to renew your support in both time and money.

Ducimus,

Stephan Tremblay, CD, HBA  
Chairperson and President, BGOS CPC EDA.

## Alex Ruff MP Notes From the Hill

Dear members,

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for your support in the last election and helping to make me your representative for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound. It



took a lot of hard work from all of you and it is an honour to be your Member of Parliament.

Secondly, I would like to once again thank our previous MP Larry Miller for all of his years of hard work representing us. Larry's dedication and personal commitment to our great riding along with the sacrifices made by his family is the example any politician can aspire to emulate.

Covid-19 has created challenges for all of us. Communication, following our health expert's advice, and asking for help is all key to help ensure we all get through this pandemic.

If any members have questions about the current federal suite of programmes, please reach out to my office at [Alex.Ruff@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Alex.Ruff@parl.gc.ca) or 519-371-1059. As well, my MP website [www.alexruffmp.ca](http://www.alexruffmp.ca) and my monthly MP newsletter are now up and running. Please subscribe so you have the latest federal news.

As you're all likely aware from the media, there are new Liberal government scandals being uncovered weekly. The WE scandal is front and centre but the firearms prohibition, sole source contracts for PPE with no masks produced-to-date, lack of transparency, etc are some more examples. What does this mean? We need to be ready for an election at anytime. Regardless, of who wins the leadership race in the next couple of weeks, we need to unify behind the new leader in order to defeat the Liberals in the next general election.

I hope I can count on your help and support!

Sincerely,

Alex Ruff, MP  
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

## Fundraising – Did You Know?

As your local Conservative Electoral District Association (EDA) our mandate is to support our local MP by fundraising to pay for election expenses. Election campaigns are **very expensive**, averaging around \$110,000 and we receive **no funding** from the National Conservative Party. Therefore, we rely solely on donations to the local EDA from our supporters. When you receive phone calls from the Conservative party, they are soliciting donations toward the National Campaign which will pay for the leaders' expenses during an election. Members can donate both at the National party level and the local EDA level to a maximum of \$1625 per year. We kindly ask that when making your donation that **you consider donating locally** to support the re-election of our MP Alex Ruff!

### New This Year - The \$400 Ruff Club & Sapphire Club

Members who donate \$400 or more per year to the local EDA will now be members of the new **\$400 Club** and those who donate \$1,000 or more will be members of the new **Sapphire Club**. In recognition of these donor's incredible support, they will be recognized at an exclusive club member event where they will receive a commemorative pin. As well, **\$400 Club** members will be able to attend riding events at cost and **Sapphire Club** members will be invited to attend for free. Automatic monthly credit card donations can be arranged for members who wish to join. We thank all those who donate to our Association, we couldn't do our important work in keeping Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound Conservative Blue without your help!

### Did We Miss Your Lawn Sign



We're sorry if we missed your sign. If you would like us to pick it up, please call us at 226-256-8847 and leave a message or email [bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com](mailto:bgos.cp.eda@gmail.com) and we can pick it up from you as soon as we can.

## Stay Up To Date With Us On the Web & Social Media



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



facebook.com/BGOSConservatives



@BGOS\_CPC\_EDA



/bgoscpceda



### Bruce - Grey - Owen Sound Conservative Association



**YES!**

I would like to make a donation & help keep our riding blue as an election can happen at any time during a minority government!

LAST NAME <input type="checkbox"/> MR. <input type="checkbox"/> MRS. <input type="checkbox"/> MISS <input type="checkbox"/> MS.	FIRST NAME	INITIAL/MIDDLE NAME	DATE OF BIRTH
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	CITY/TOWN	PROVINCE	POSTAL CODE
MAILING ADDRESS (IF NOT THE SAME AS ABOVE)	CITY/TOWN	PROVINCE	POSTAL CODE
MOBILE PHONE NUMBER	* PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ON EVENTS AND OTHER PARTY NEWS BY INCLUDING YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.		* EMAIL

### Buy tickets for Staycation 2020!



**YES!**

I would like to buy a ticket to participate in the Staycation 2020 rally and re-discover Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound!

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at \$30 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The price for tickets for "Staycation 2020" are to cover the administrative costs of the event. A tax receipt won't be issued for the purchase of tickets.

### Join the \$400 Ruff Club or the Sapphire Club!



**YES!**

I would like to join the \$400 Ruff Club today and make a contribution of \$400 to the BGOS Conservative Association!



**YES!**

I would like to join the Sapphire Club today and make a contribution of \$1000 to the BGOS Conservative Association!



**YES!**

I would like to help out by making a donation of a different amount! Political donations can be eligible for tax credits making the actual cost lower!

\$25  \$50  \$100  \$150  \$200  \$1625 (max)  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registered political parties are unable to accept contributions from corporations, trade unions, or associations. Please ensure you are using a personal credit card or chequing account.



I have enclosed a personal cheque payable to: **BGOS Conservative Association**



I would like to pay my contribution by credit card.



VISA



MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CVV #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

The BGOS Conservative Association will issue you an official tax receipt.

Please mail this form to: BGOS Conservative Association  
P.O.Box 3  
Owen Sound, ON N4K 5P1

Thank you very much for all your support!

Donation	Tax Credit	Actual Cost
\$25	\$18.75	\$6.25
\$50	\$37.50	\$12.50
\$100	\$75.00	\$25.00
\$400	\$300.00	\$100.00
\$1000	\$550.75	\$449.25
\$1625	\$650.00	\$975.00