



**Malouf**  
Pour en finir  
avec Falardeau

Page 3



**Hecht**  
Statist Islam: A continuing  
challenge to the west

Page 13



**Murphy**  
Grey torpedos federal prison  
smoking ban

Page 9

Ensemble et libres Together and free

# THE METROPOLITAIN

5 NOVEMBRE 2009 • VOL. 3, NO 3

THE BILINGUAL JOURNAL OF REFLECTION, OPINION AND THE ARTS • LE JOURNAL BILINGUE DE RÉFLEXION, OPINIONS ET LES ARTS

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA



PHOTO: TONY MANAROLIS COMMUNICATIONS

**Bernard Amyot**

info@themetropolitain.ca



## Loi 104 : l'obscurantisme nationaliste

Si l'on se fie aux réactions pressées et émotives au Québec suite à la publication du jugement de la Cour suprême du Canada invalidant certaines dispositions de la Loi 104 en matière de droits linguistiques, on pourrait facilement se croire dans une société à la pensée unique où le nationalisme et la Loi 101 ont statut de religion dont l'infaillibilité ne peut être contestée que sous peine d'excommunication. Dire qu'on entend encore, dans Le Devoir par surcroît, la ligne de Duplessis, ce grand défenseur des droits et libertés, de la tour de Pise qui penche toujours du même bord... Désolant, surtout en 2009...

Si l'on met de côté un instant ces écarts de langage relevant de la bêtise et cet unanimité pour le moins étouffant et conformiste, on se rend vite compte que le débat dérape sur des considérations politiques exploitant l'insécurité linguistique plutôt que de porter sur les enjeux réels, à savoir les droits linguistiques protégés par la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés et le rôle des tribunaux de protéger les citoyens

Suite à la page 6

**SEE PAGES 7 & 8 FOR MORE  
COVERAGE OF BILL 104**

## We dodged a bullet! Une lettre ouverte au Maire Tremblay

**Beryl Wajzman**  
Editor & Publisher

wajzman@themetropolitain.ca



state of disrepair. Well, the election of either Bergeron or Harel could have led our city into the reverse. A prospering St-Catherine street boarded up if either Harel or Bergeron had a chance to institute either of their ideas about closing the street to traffic from Papineau to Atwater in Harel's case, and from Papineau to Guy in Bergeron's case.

Continued on page 4

## Too earnest An historical perspective on the election

**Alan Hustak**

hustak@themetropolitain.ca



Following a bizarre campaign, Gerald Tremblay won his third consecutive term Sunday, the first mayor to do so since Jean Drapeau in 1966. But the comparisons end there. Drapeau

Continued on page 5

## LA PERFIDIE! The UN and the Goldstone libel

Par Beryl Wajzman  
Rédacteur en chef et éditeur

"Every day at the U.N., on every side, we are assailed because we are a democracy. In the U.N. today there are in the range of several dozen democracies left; totalitarian regimes and assorted ancient and modern despotisms make up all the rest. Nothing so unites these nations as the conviction that their success ultimately depends on our failure. Most of the new states have ended up as enemies of freedom."

Those words were not expressed yesterday. They were spoken over thirty years ago by Daniel Patrick Moynihan while serving as US Ambassador to the UN. They are as true today as they were then.

C'est dans le contexte des « ennemis de la liberté » que nous pouvons le mieux comprendre la perfidie des actions de l'ONU. Particulièrement, celles de son Conseil des droits de l'homme. S'il y a jamais eu un libellé contradictoire, c'est bien celui-là. Au cours des dernières années, le Conseil a été présidé et guidé par de tels champions des droits de l'homme

comme la Libye, Cuba et la Chine.

This past Friday the Council endorsed a report that accused Israel of war crimes in Gaza, passing a resolution that singled it out for censure without referring to wrongdoing by Palestinian hard-liners Hamas. A coalition of Arab, Muslim and leftist-run Latin American countries in the 47-member Council were responsible for its passage. No European democracies supported the draft, and the United States, the Ukraine and four EU members opposed it. The author of the

Suite à la page 11



**TRAVIS: Extending 101 is nonsensical**

Page 8



**TARNOWSKA: New feature - Sophie's Choices** Page 17

# They handcuffed my son for reasons unknown

By Jack Locke

They handcuffed my son for reasons unknown  
Forced him down onto stone-cold ground  
The boy's still a boy, but boy, has he grown.

With cuffs cutting tight he let out a moan  
It's not very nice to be wrongfully bound  
They handcuffed my son for reasons unknown.

On Saturday night when crooks are prone  
Young cop entered my home without a sound  
The boy's still a boy, but boy, has he grown.

No door knock, no ring, no courtesy shown  
He trespassed my castle to my astound  
They handcuffed my son for reasons unknown.

When friends enter a domicile not their own  
Without consent, reputation is browned  
The boy's still a boy, but boy, has he grown.

There a duty to knock when guard of Queen's throne  
For this, Montreal police are world-renowned  
They handcuffed my son for reasons unknown  
The boy's still a boy, but boy, has he grown.

Jack Locke is of the Foundation for Public Poetry

## THE MÉTROPOLITAIN

*Ensemble et Libres ~ Together and Free*

Édifice Hermès, Tour A, Suite 155, 1470 rue Peel,  
Montréal, QC, Canada, H3A 1T1

Tel: 514-759-8541

Fax: 514-759-8544

e-mail: [info@themetropolitain.ca](mailto:info@themetropolitain.ca)

Rédacteur en chef et Éditeur  
*Beryl P. Wajzman*

Managing Editor and Deputy Publisher  
*Anthony Philbin*

Rédacteur-adjoint principal  
*Daniel Laprés*

Creative Editor  
*Alan Hustak*

Contributing Editor  
*Brigitte B. Garceau*

Coordonnateur, Affaires internationales  
*Leonard Dykler (Paris)*

Copy Editor  
*Ray Doucet*

Photojournaliste  
*Robert J. Galbraith*

Editorial Artwork  
*Roy Piperberg, Melissa K. Wheeler*

Ventes et Marketing  
*Joseph Mardini, Genevieve Maclean*

IT Director  
*Valeri Prudnikov*

Webmestre  
*François Charbonneau*

### Editorial staff

*Alidor Aucoin, Daniel K. Bartlett, Michel-Wilbrod Bujold,  
Chris Bumbrey, Dan Delmar, Guillaume Durou,  
Vincent Geloso, Louise V. Labrecque, Pierre K. Malouf,  
Jessica Murphy, Isaac J. Olson, Robert Presser, Peter Sauvé,  
P.A. Sevigny, David Simard, Shaman Yamell*

### Editorial contributors

*Rouba Al-Fattal, Alain-Michel Ayache, Germain Belzile,  
Jean-Charles Chebat, Duff Conacher, Esther Delisle,  
Graham Dodds, Daniel Dufort, Robert Elman, Fred Eytan,  
Patrick C. Gagnon, Julius Grey, Rudyard Griffiths, Nancy  
Hinton, George Jonas, David T. Jones, Barbara Kay,  
David Kilgour, Rémi Landry, Marc Lebus, Lewis W. Mackenzie,  
Timothy Mak, Annette Paquet, John Parisella, Andrei  
Piontkovsky, Daniel Romano, Michael Ross, David Solway,  
Francis Tourigny, Thomas R. Velk, Hubert Villeneuve,  
Albert A. Zbily*

### Strategic Counsel

*Charles S. Coffey*

## Letters and Submissions

The Métropolitain encourages letters and submissions from our readers in both official languages. SVP envoyer vos textes à:

[submissions@themetropolitain.ca](mailto:submissions@themetropolitain.ca)

### Disclaimer

All materials accepted for publication may be subject to editing. *The Métropolitain* aims to meet the need for original and unconventional thought and opinion on local, national and international affairs. The opinions and views expressed by the contributors to *The Métropolitain* are strictly their own and do not necessarily represent those of the ownership, its advisors, members or editors. *The Métropolitain* does not accept responsibility for the views expressed in any letter, article or comment that appears in these pages. It does accept responsibility for giving these submissions the chance to appear. No reproduction is permitted without prior written permission from the Publisher or Deputy Publisher. Any and all reproductions must clearly credit the specific issue, article and author as they originally appeared in *The Métropolitain*.

Maison Joseph Battat

the  
**metrontario**  
group



Pierre K. Malouf

« Brasse-camarade »

malouf@themetropolitain.ca

Ex-dramaturge, romancier persévérant, essayiste et poète à ses heures, Pierre K. Malouf fréquente des fédéralistes et des indépendantistes, des gens de gauche et des gens de droite, des jeunes et des vieux, des écrivains et des ingénieurs. Gentil comme tout, il ne dit pas toujours tout ce qu'il pense, mais pense toujours ce qu'il écrit.

LA PATRIE

# Pour en finir avec Falardeau

Dans mon dernier Brasse-camarade, Les rues de la honte, je lançais, au terme d'une démonstration qui montrait l'absurdité du projet de changement de nom de la rue Amherst, un appel auquel manquait une phrase essentielle : « Mais je vous en conjure, débarrassez-nous d'abord du boulevard Maurice-Duplessis ! » Cet oubli est d'autant plus déplorable que l'entête de l'article annonçait qu'il y serait question du CHEUF. Je reviendrai sur le sujet dans un prochain article ; aujourd'hui je veux régler le cas de Pierre Falardeau.

Tout parent de joueur de hockey a croisé à l'aréna de ces partisans déchaînés qui crient à l'injustice à la moindre occasion — punition donnée aux Bons du Québec, ou pas donnée aux Méchants du Canada, pour laquelle jouent aussi quelques abominables traîtres nés dans nos vieilles paroisses — ; qui crient au complot médiatique pour un simple hors-jeu ; qui hurlent que l'arbitre a été acheté par un ANGLA, un ethnique ou un capitalissse ; qui accusent feu le grand-père d'un joueur adverse de sentir mauvais (« Pourriture, Ryan ! ») ; qui abominent d'injures les partisans des Méchants (« D'la maaaaarde, Cohen ! Bloke de McGill, Taylooooo ! »), qui, grands experts de la GAME, gueulent des ordres aux joueurs de leur propre équipe (« Passe ! Shooté ! Patine ! Fais l'indépendance ! ») ; qui attendent le coach après une pratique pour lui passer un savon ; qui se prennent aux cheveux avec d'autres partisans des Bons ou menacent de sévices corporels ceux des Méchants (surtout s'ils s'avisent de mettre le pied sur les plaines d'Abraham)...

Il appert que le gueulard en question est aussi un pas pire cinéaste et un auteur méritoire. Mais quand y met les pieds à l'aréna, y capote ! Dans cette ligue de province où deux équipes s'affrontent vingt-quatre heures par jour, il fait partie du folklore, il est inamovible. Animateur de foule, il n'en anime qu'une moitié, l'autre étant formée d'ennemis mortels ou de traîtres à la Nation. Très populaire auprès des commentateurs de sport, il devient intarissable dès qu'un micro lui est tendu. Il déride les folliculaires avec ses jurons, il fait vendre de la copie avec ses insanités.

Que disent les autres parents « pognés » avec un tel énergumène ?

De retour à la maison, Mme Marois dit à son mari : « As-tu vu l'fou à Falardeau à soir ? Y a encore grimpé d'in rideaux !... »

Il y a des conciliabules :

« Si y continue, dit l'un, moé j'change mon gars d'équipe.

— Faudrait, y dire de s'calmer un peu, glisse un autre.

— À cause de lui on fait rire de nous aut'es.

— Ouais, mais c'est une excellent partisan, susurre en latin M. Landry. Et un très bon garçon... Un jour il m'a dit qu'il éprouvait à mon égard une grande affection.

— Y participe à toutes les activités, opine M. Duceppe. Y organise des manifestations spaghetti, pis tout ça bénévolement !

— Coudon, demande quelqu'un, y porte quel numéro son garçon ?

— C'est le p'tit Bourgeois.

— Non c'est le p'tit Boulanger !

Et puis un jour, le gueulard d'aréna casse sa pipe. La GAME se poursuit en son absence. Les Méchants sont toujours les Méchants, les Bons toujours les Bons, mais le niveau de décibels a baissé. Le sol de l'aréna est jonché de bouchons de cire, mais personne n'ose dire ouf ! Avouer après sa mort qu'on en avait marre du gueulard, ce serait faire la preuve qu'on était trop lâche pour l'affronter de son vivant.

Le parallèle que je viens de dresser a des limites. Si je le rend public malgré ses lacunes, c'est qu'il m'a permis de comprendre pourquoi des indépendantistes apparemment sains d'esprit enduraient Falardeau, pourquoi ils portent un cilice sous leur camisole trifoliée pour avoir l'air d'être en deuil. C'est tout simple : ils avaient peur de lui ! Falardeau les intimidait.

**Il appert que le gueulard en question est aussi un pas pire cinéaste et un auteur méritoire. Mais quand y met les pieds à l'aréna, y capote ! Dans cette ligue de province où deux équipes s'affrontent vingt-quatre heures par jour, il fait partie du folklore, il est inamovible. Animateur de foule, il n'en anime qu'une moitié, l'autre étant formée d'ennemis mortels ou de traîtres à la Nation. Très populaire auprès des commentateurs de sport, il devient intarissable dès qu'un micro lui est tendu. Il déride les folliculaires avec ses jurons, il fait vendre de la copie avec ses insanités.**

— Vous vous trompez, c'est le p'tit Rhéaume ! »

Et tous de réaliser que le gueulard d'aréna est le père spirituel de tous les joueurs de l'équipe ; et tous de s'attendrir en se rappelant la cause de son indignation, de sa colère, de sa révolte : en 1759, son équipe, LEUR équipe, qui s'appelait déjà les Bons, s'est fait laver par ceux qui s'appelaient déjà les Méchants. Impossible de rabrouer un si fidèle patriote.

Imaginez comme ils auraient été mal pris s'il les avait accusés de défaitisme ou de trahison... Ils n'ont pas osé le dénoncer quand il tonitruait à l'aréna, ils perdraient la face s'ils ne lui demeuraient fidèles après sa sortie.

Ayons par conséquent quelque indulgence pour les larmes de crocodile de Mme Marois et de M. Landry, qui seraient bien plus à blâmer si leurs regrets étaient sincères.

...si le Gouvernement nous protège de tout,  
qui donc nous protège du gouvernement ?

...if the Government protects us from everything  
else, then who protects us from the government?

Citoyens Anti Gouvernement Envahissant

CAGE

Citizens Against Government Encroachment

www.cagecanada.ca



**Beryl Wajzman** Editor & Publisher  
wajzman@themetropolitain.ca

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

WE DODGED A BULLET, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Montrealers voted to give Mayor Tremblay a third term. They voted their interests. They rejected pie-in-the-sky. Now Mayor Tremblay has to make sure he doesn't let the people down. This legacy term of the Mayor's must be proactive and not reactive.

Nous avons choisi d'illustrer ce message avec l'image ci-dessus. Il y a tellement de contenu dans un journal qui est parfois manqué. McLuhan avait raison, le médium est le message. Nous avons voulu que notre message soit fort, clair et sans équivoque. Les Montréalais devraient se rappeler de cette image.

Just as our stories on some of Louise Harel's questionable intimacies as Minister and Richard Bergeron's more far-fetched conspiracy notions began to filter through other papers and media, so I want our message to stay with all of you now.

The last poll before the election had the Mayor behind 34 percent to 30 percent. He won 37-33. His vote margin of victory was approximately 20,000. We have devoted the front page of this publication to the election in every issue the past several months. We made a difference and so did every one of you who read them.

The Montreal of cosmopolitan community crosses all ethnic and language

groups and all parts of this island. East, west and downtown. This cosmopolitanism rejects the politics of language and exclusion. Francophone, Anglophone and allophone, it is committed to make the broad community work. It chooses not to flee down the 401 where some even some 400,000 Quebec



Francophones have gone since 1976. This cosmopolitanism sees itself as a fully enfranchised and a fully legitimate part of a city it helped build.

Mr. Mayor, those who played such a large part in getting you re-elected ask not for the crumbs of political pandering, but for politics of purpose that will enrich and empower. They reject the politics of division and discord based on the great lies of the culture wars of the past thirty

years that have been a hallmark of Louise Harel's public record. They seek to balance the necessity of environmental protection with the urgency of economic growth without the wholesale, slavish eco-theocracy of Richard Bergeron that replaces policy with platitude. And they say enough to control state rule and regulation that make so much of our day-to-day activities subject to prohibition and penalty and is the silent undercurrent of both the Vision and Projet platforms.

M. le maire, vous devez réaliser tout cela. Ce

sont des citoyens sophistiqués qui se sont avérés être le succès de votre campagne cette année. Mais, ça ne s'arrête pas là. Ils ont voté pour vous M. le maire non seulement comme une alternative aux politiques séparatistes et aux idées extraterrestres, mais comme une acceptation de vous en tant qu'un homme intelligent, juste et intègre. Cela ne signifie pas qu'ils oublieront la nécessité de réparer les échecs du processus qui proviennent trop souvent de l'hôtel de ville.

They voted their interests, and their interests reflect the greater good of the city at large. Montreal's greater good will be served by communicating in English, the lingua franca, to the outside world. Montreal's greater good will be served by an understanding of the need for development and encouraging solid relationships in the North American and international business community.

Montreal's greater good will be served by not making this city a battleground for renewed separatist or cultural debates.

Montreal's greater good will be served by not reigniting linguistic wars and scaring off businesses from coming here. Montreal's greater good will be served by not making war on cars and by not destroying commercial arteries in favour of pedestrian promenades or bike paths. Montreal's greater good will be served by an empathetic understanding of the hopes and aspirations of all its citizens including those who may not be Francophone du souche but are nevertheless Quebecois and citizens of equal stature meriting equal respect. Montreal's greater good will be served by recognizing that statist rule and regulation has gone too far and is criminalizing this city's population and threatening its future.

Mr. Mayor, you won an historic third term with the help of people who are loyal to the principle set out above. They are not looking for more bureaucracy and more inquests. They are looking to you for leadership. They are looking to you to show them that you understand that the buck stops with you. That it cannot be passed to a committee or commission. They are looking to you to surround yourself – in the Mayor's office – with a brain trust that will allow you to take decisive measures to make our public services seamless; to get our unions to co-operate and to generate a renewal of the downtown core.

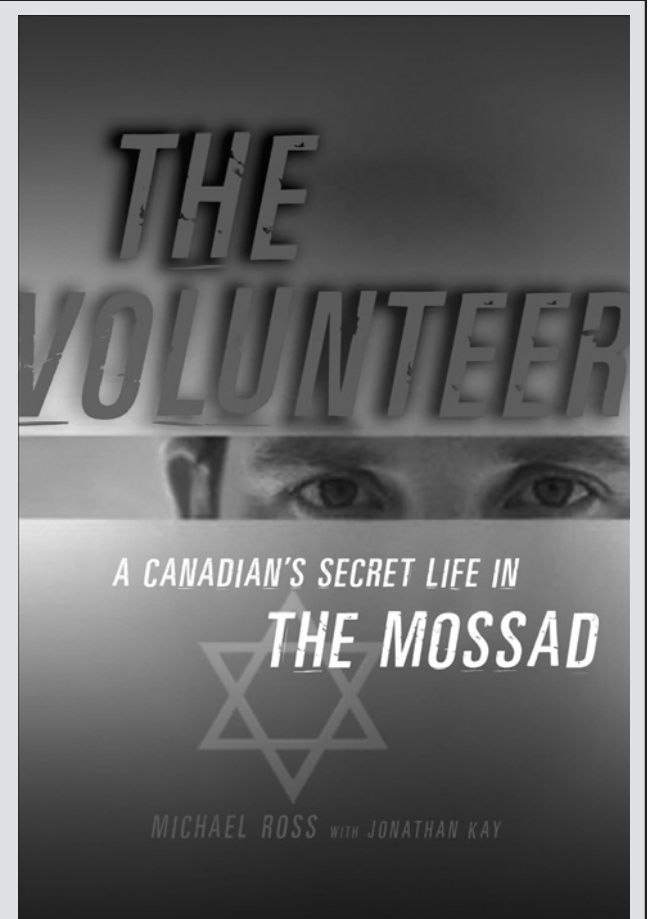
Nous croyons que vous avez les instincts et les capacités nécessaires de faire ceci. Cette victoire devrait vous donner le courage d'aller de l'avant. C'est votre mandat d'héritage M. le maire. N'oubliez pas pourquoi vous l'avez voulue et n'oubliez pas les gens qui vous ont aidé à l'obtenir. Elles ont de l'influence!

# THE VOLUNTEER

*The riveting story of a Canadian who served as a senior officer in Israel's legendary Mossad.*

For seven-and-a-half years, Ross worked as an undercover agent — a classic spy. In *The Volunteer*, he describes his role in missions to foil attempts by Syria, Libya, and Iran to acquire advanced weapons technology. He tells of his part in the capture of three senior al Qaeda operatives who masterminded the 1998 attacks on American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania; a joint Mossad-FBI operation that uncovered a senior Hezbollah terrorist based in the United States; and a mission to South Africa in which he intercepted Iranian agents seeking to expand their country's military arsenal; and two-and-a-half years as Mossad's Counterterrorism Liaison Officer to the CIA and FBI.

Many of the operations Ross describes have never before been revealed to the public.





## TOO EARNEST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



PHOTO: ROBERT J. GALBRAITH

Rosemont, and Diane Lemieux, the star candidate earmarked to run Tremblay's executive committee, who also went down to defeat in Ahunatic.

By staying away from the polls in large numbers again, electors demonstrated a troubling indifference to municipal politics. It is hard, it seems, to get Montrealers outraged about anything these days. In this

election was 1982, when Drapeau defeated Jean Doré. Like Drapeau in 1982, Tremblay returns to office with his sails trimmed and an impressive opposition breathing down his neck. His Union Montreal party lost seats to both Louise Harel's Vision Montreal and to Richard Bergeron's quixotic Project Montreal.

Though the Mayor has a very

**Though the Mayor has a very workable majority, City Council has not been as fragmented since the three years Sarto Fournier was mayor in the late 1950s.**

Mayor Tremblay's patrimonie term, he will give this city a lasting legacy if he helps change that.

It is perhaps worth noting that the last time voter turnout exceeded 50 per cent in a Montreal municipal

workable majority, City Council has not been as fragmented since the three years Sarto Fournier was mayor in the late 1950s.

Of those who did bother to cast ballots, a significant number were

still seduced by Louise Harel's siren song of separatism. Mme. Harel will sit in council as a formidable opposition leader. An equally significant number of voters, especially in the Plateau, were prepared to shake things up by putting their trust in Project Montreal's surrealists who have some wild and wacky ideas about how to run a city.

The campaign was one of the most competitive in recent municipal history, but at times it seemed more like a reality television show - a competition among three equally troubling or troubled candidates that was reduced to irritating sound bites. Overlooked by most election

night commentators is what is now at stake.

Tarred by revelations of price fixing and corruption Tremblay's new administration will have to make good on its promise to appoint an ethics commissioner. But patronage is endemic, and won't be easy to eliminate. It goes back more than a century to the days when Raymond Préfontaine was mayor, to a time when 25 percent of the city budget went to line the pockets of 23 of the city's aldermen. A government inquiry back then determined the city had been "saturated with corruption, arising mainly from the scourge of

patronage," and that the aldermen had been "boodling and engaged in abuses of all kinds." The solution to the boodling was to increase the number of ward heeling alderman, thereby compounding the original problem. Graft is not the immediate problem. The budget is. Montreal by law, is not allowed to run a deficit.

Tremblay will be hard pressed to chart a course between the demands of Quebec City and the 27 rambunctious rookies on council calling for change.

It will take more than platitudes to keep this administration on a true compass.

**riosud**  
*Vêtements mode pour la femme d'aujourd'hui*

Alma • Amos • Beloeil • Chicoutimi • Dolbeau • Gatineau • Joliette • La Sarre • Mont-Laurier  
 Montréal (Lasalle) • Québec • Rimouski • Rouyn • Shawinigan • Sherbrooke • Sorel  
 Ste-Marie • St-Jérôme • Terrebonne • Trois-Rivières • Val d'Or • Valleyfield

Le Nouveau **riosud** • COHOES *Super Magasin*  
 VÊTEMENTS • MEUBLES • DÉCOR

MONTRÉAL 4908, Jean-Talon O. GREENFIELD PARK 4980, Taschereau E. LAVAL 1799, St-Martin O. MONTRÉAL-NORD 6000, Henri-Bourassa E.

SIÈGE SOCIAL 4810, Jean-Talon O., Suite 203, Montréal (Québec) H4P 2N5 info@riosud.com  
[www.riosud.com](http://www.riosud.com)



## Bernard Amyot

info@themetropolitain.ca

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

LOI 104 : L'OBSCURANTISME NATIONALISTE, SUITE DE LA PAGE 1

BILL 104

contre l'État lorsque leurs droits protégés sont remis en question.

En ces matières sensibles, inutile de dire que la démagogie n'est jamais de mise. Une question si délicate (la survie du français) mérite un traitement beaucoup plus circonspect. Dans le contexte du débat sur ce qu'est devenu l'obsession linguistique, il faut toujours se garder de jeter de l'huile sur le feu. L'alarmisme en ces matières n'est jamais souhaitable.

L'on devrait en effet se féliciter qu'un système impartial de justice appliquant la Constitution fasse primer les droits et libertés sur l'arbitraire de l'État, plutôt que de s'empresse à condamner le «pouvoir des juges» et remettre en question la légitimité de la primauté du droit, pièce fondatrice de notre démocratie. Comment condamner une décision qui réitère que les droits linguistiques des minorités francophones et anglophones du Canada, d'un bout à l'autre du pays, se doivent d'être placés au-dessus des manœuvres politiciennes ?

La Charte des droits et libertés a fait en sorte d'enclôser dans la Constitution canadienne les droits collectifs des minorités linguistiques d'un bout à l'autre du pays. Le fédéralisme que nous vivons au Canada permet de reconnaître et protéger les droits des minorités, comme il a par ailleurs permis à la majorité au Québec d'affirmer sa spécificité.

On peut certes tenter de régler une situation problématique, mais pas par une solution qui fera en sorte de brimer du même coup des droits protégés pour d'autres citoyens. On ne peut boucher un trou en érigeant devant lui un mur d'une hauteur sans

commune mesure avec la grosseur du trou, et ainsi créer des injustices collatérales. La Cour a rappelé avec justesse l'importance de ne jamais perdre cela de vue lorsqu'on affecte les droits de tiers innocents.

Il y a lieu de s'interroger si les leaders indépendantistes disent vrai lorsqu'ils prétendent qu'une charte des droits et libertés formerait l'un des piliers d'un Québec indépendant. En effet, les mêmes considérations juridiques que celles analysées par la Cour suprême dans la décision sur la Loi 104 y seraient toujours de mise. La protection de la minorité et l'indépendance des tribunaux se devraient d'en être les pierres d'assises. Un Québec indépendant soucieux des droits et libertés ne pourrait en arriver à une solution qui ferait fi des protections constitutionnelles à l'égard de sa minorité linguistique.

Si l'on se fie aux réactions épidermiques et ethniques des Bernard Landry, Joseph Facal et autres à la décision de la Cour suprême du Canada, on peut résolument conclure qu'au nom de la nation, ceux-ci n'hésiteraient pas à s'autoriser à défier à la fois l'autorité des tribunaux et les protections constitutionnelles en faveur des minorités linguistiques. Leur raisonnement est simple : «Crois ou meurs». Critiquer la Loi 101 n'est tout simplement pas permis au Québec, car cela devient un débat d'allégeance à la pensée unique nationaliste, laquelle semble peu soucieuse de la diversité.

La question linguistique est au coeur du débat constitutionnel canadien, mais surtout elle est à la fois la pierre d'assise et la

pierre d'achoppement du mouvement indépendantiste. Le fédéralisme canadien est non seulement indispensable pour la protection du français dans les provinces de common law, mais également au Québec. La situation objective actuelle démontre que la langue pourrait bien être le fossoyeur du projet indépendantiste qui n'a grandi qu'à l'aulne d'une crainte maintenant désuète de nous voir perdre notre langue. L'intégration des allophones vers l'école française a démontré un réel avancement pour le français. Cette action aura été porteuse, aucune autre coercition ne l'aura été. À lui seul, ce chapitre de la Loi 101 aura en quelque sorte rendu leur projet obsolète avant même qu'il ne se réalise.

C'est dans le cadre fédéral canadien que l'épanouissement du français comme langue commune au Québec s'est effectué depuis plus de 30 ans. De même, le Canada défend plus vigoureusement la diversité culturelle par rapport à l'hégémonie américaine que ne le font les indépendantistes québécois. La vitalité des minorités francophones hors Québec et de la minorité anglophone au Québec défie la logique même du mouvement indépendantiste. Le projet ethnique des nationalistes québécois nie cette réalité hors Québec, comme il nie d'ailleurs l'existence d'une vibrante minorité anglophone au Québec.

Les francophones du Québec ont atteint un degré de confiance et de maturité linguistique qui ne devrait jamais ébranler leur farouche attachement aux droits et libertés.



When only the best is good enough, trust Levinoff

BOUCHERIE  
**Levinoff**

Premium Red Brand Meats. Delivered Directly To Your Home!

8610 8th Ave., St-Michel  
**(514) 725-2405**



2021 Frontenac, Montreal  
**(514) 526-6500**

www.levinoff.com


**BILL 104**

# Freedom is indivisible: La tragédie de la décision 104

Chaque fois que l'indivisibilité de la liberté est violée, nous sommes obligés d'exprimer notre opposition. Particulièrement, quand cette violation se produit dans notre cours. Et précisément quand ce que nous défendons est la souveraineté du choix individuel. Parce que la liberté de choisir est au cœur d'une société libre. C'est la leçon objective dans la différence entre la liberté et la tyrannie.

Last Thursday the Supreme Court of Canada not only compromised that freedom – it compromised its own integrity. By ruling Quebec's Bill 104 unconstitutional on the grounds that it breached minority language rights protected by Sec.23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but then delaying the executability of its own judgment for a year in order to give the Quebec government time to find a more palatable method of breaching those self-same rights, the Court politicized itself to the point of self-abnegation.

A right is a right is a right. Neither the Charter, nor any document ever penned, can create a right. All the great documents of mankind reflecting our transcendent yearnings for redemptive change, either mirror the freedoms we are inalienably born with or strive to enshrine equitable arrangements for

their expansion. The latter is what the Charter attempted in guaranteeing minority-language education rights everywhere in Canada. That, the Supremes recognized. But then they left the door open for the violation of those rights again. Nothing can make that conscionable.

C'est à se demander si un individu aurait violé une certaine loi criminelle ou civile, est-ce que la Cour confirmerait la loi mais donnerait à l'individu une année pour la contourner? Bien sûr que non. Cette décision a été motivée par la convenance politique. Elle a cherché, en même temps, à confirmer le principe et à plaire au pouvoir. Ce jeu d'équilibre n'a jamais fonctionné dans l'histoire lamentable de ce monde. Ça rabaisse tout simplement le respect du public pour la justice.

It is interesting to note that so many were shocked when the Mouvement souverainiste du Québec (MSQ) called for a demonstration outside the offices of lawyer Brent Tyler who won the 104 case. Among the reasons the MSQ gave for the demonstration was that Tyler should learn that "challenging Francophone rights has consequences." People were stunned at the implicit threat linked to the word "rights." But why should they be. If the Supreme



Court can prejudice a right through legal machinations, how much less legitimate is it for the MSQ to prejudice that right – as well as that of free expression - through physical menace? It is only a question of degree. It is the Court itself that has cheapened Canadian conscience and constitutional consequence and left the door open for thugs. The Supremes have not learned that appeasement never works. As Churchill said, "An appeaser is someone who feeds the crocodiles hoping they'll eat them last. But eat them he will."

In the 104 reference the Court's

decision signaled that Quebec cannot dismiss through legislation all private English-language education. The court insisted that English-eligibility certificates be handed out on the basis of a nuanced "global qualitative assessment of a child's educational pathway." The Court made clear that Quebec cannot discriminate in limiting access to English education. Yet in giving Quebec a year to find a non-discriminatory method of closing the springboard into English education, it sustained the general Quebec objective of social and political marginalization

of minorities and the language rights that adhere to them. In so doing it not only failed in its duty to uphold Charter protection for minorities, it also inherently narrowed the scope of opportunity for Francophones. The Court did not act justly. Twenty-five kids who trusted in our justice system can attest to that.

L'étendard d'une société juste ne peut pas être porté légèrement, et son fardeau est tombé de plusieurs mains à travers l'histoire. Chaque génération doit être vigilante qu'il ne tombe pas de ses mains. En essayant d'introduire les notions d'être politiquement correct et de plaire à tous à nos lois, ou de juger des lois à travers ces prismes, ce que nous faisons est de simplement encourager la perversion de nos confiances les plus sacrées en apaisant chaque intérêt spécial, régional et ethnique qui semble constituer une menace.

Les droits et les libertés sont indivisibles. Si nous voulons les apprécier nous devons être disposés à les prolonger à tous avec la plus grande largesse possible. C'est l'espoir de cette nation. C'est ce que l'article 23 essaie de faire. C'est ironique alors que cette article était communément appelée la « clause Canada. » Car c'est lui que les magistrats suprêmes ont vraiment abandonnés. Ce pays !

*"You can get anything you want in life if you help others get what they want."*

- George F. Lengvari, Sr.





**Dermod Travis**  
info@themetropolitain.ca

Dermod Travis is executive director of the Canada-Tibet Committee and was a member of the Larose Commission.

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

**BILL 104**

# Extending 101 is nonsensical

Zilch.

“Alex that would be: ‘what is the impact of extending Bill 101 to the CEGEP level on the quality and promotion of the French language?’ Correct for \$200.”

Recently, former Quebec premier Bernard Landry and a coalition of French language groups held a news conference to call on the Parti Québécois to adopt a policy to restrict enrolment at English language CEGEPs.

In 2000, the Larose Commission on the State and Future of the French language, of which I was a member, reviewed the idea of extending Bill 101 limits on English eligibility to the CEGEP level. The arguments and statistics then were much the same as they are today. Unanimously, we did not carry the idea forward. In a more vernacular phrase, we buried it.

Emotional pleas may make great headlines and cultivate linguistic insecurities, but they do not make good public policy.

For a few of the activists who support the idea of extending Bill 101, this was and is a measure to promote the French language, for others a means to promote sovereignty. The latter is nonsensical and the former misses the mark.

While the proposal – if ever adopted – may satisfy a few into a false sense of security over the French language, it fails to address a far greater menace to the use of French at home and in the workplace. And that menace is not the English-speaking community or the English language, but rather the quality of French that is taught in Quebec schools regardless of whether those schools teach in French or English. Over the summer two language issues arose that were telling not so much for their respective substance, but for the reaction they generated among many of these same language activists.

The first was in regards to the fact that the percentage of

allophones had reached an overall majority of enrolment in the French system’s primary and secondary levels on the island of Montreal. The Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste likened it to the “Louisianisation” of Quebec.

Clearly the irony was lost on the SSJB that if you force allophones to go to French schools they would likely become the majority over time. The second was the case of a University of Sherbrooke student who had failed his university level French proficiency exam twice.

Naturally, the allophone story generated alarm, but the case of the university student passed by without a peep from those very same activists when he is the real McCoy.

If francophones attending a francophone university are repeat-

CEGEP to attend, some substantive, some trivial. The ultimate choice may not just be a question of language, but also proximity, curricula and other considerations particular to each student regardless of linguistic background.

Not every CEGEP offers the same programs, has the same reputation or is on a convenient bus route. And while bus routes may seem a trivial side

issue, for some students who need to hold down a part-time job while studying, it can be a factor in their decision making process.

And let’s not forget that this proposal would also apply to francophone students who likely will be less than amused at having their rights stripped from them in a misguided attempt to

## If francophones attending a francophone university are repeatedly failing their French proficiency exams, something is seriously adrift in Quebec schools long before a student ever reaches CEGEP.

edly failing their French proficiency exams, something is seriously adrift in Quebec schools long before a student ever reaches CEGEP.

And at a time when we need to be focused on providing the best education possible to our students, not just in math or science but French as well, a few wave a red herring at the media instead. Because at the end of the day proposing to extend Bill 101 to the CEGEP level may ensure a well attended news conference, but after all is said and done it is a red herring.

Many factors weigh in on a young adult’s choice of which

restrict the rights of allophones.

After all the headlines, volleys and counter volleys that this proposal will undoubtedly generate, the fact remains that if you’re old enough to join the Canadian Armed Forces, you’re probably old enough to choose your CEGEP without help from Uncle Bernard.

If these activists truly want to ensure the vitality of French in Quebec they need to get back to the basics, to be creative in their policy initiatives and leave bad ideas once buried in the graveyard of ill-conceived ideas good and buried.

“You will find *true*

**SUCCESS** in those *efforts*

that captivate your

*heart and soul.*

Belief fuels **PASSION**

and *passion rarely fails.*”



2000 Peel, Suite 900  
Montréal, Qc H3A 2W5  
(514) 842-8636  
www.canderel.com





# Federal Court throws out prison smoking ban

**H**ardened criminals enfeebled by severe nicotine fits have won their court battle against a sweeping prohibition on smoking in federal penitentiaries.

On Oct. 23, Federal Court Judge Luc Martineau overturned the total ban enacted by Corrections Canada in May, 2008.

Last year, 19 Quebec inmates - including Gerald Matticks, a notorious mobster jailed on drug charges - challenged the ban on smoking outside and inside prisons, hiring prominent constitutional lawyer Julius Grey to plead their case.

Grey argued the ban violated inmates' charter rights and was discriminatory because guards could still smoke outside.

"There's a certain degree of cruelty in this whole thing," he noted.

"This shows a bureaucrat - no matter how highly placed - can't decide how people live."

Down the road, the ruling may also open up tobacco bans in chronic care facilities, psychiatric facilities and old-age homes, notes Grey.

In fact, anywhere where freedom of movement is limited.

"It certainly seems to me if someone's 95 and he wants to smoke he should be allowed," Grey said.

The smoking ban in penitentiaries came into affect in January 2006 and was later tightened, preventing inmates from smoking outdoors.

In his ruling, Judge Martineau noted that smoking is legal and that the ban had no basis under the current legislation.

Canada's Non-Smokers' Health Act



**Down the road, the ruling may also open up tobacco bans in chronic care facilities, psychiatric facilities and old-age homes, notes Grey. In fact, anywhere where freedom of movement is limited.**

prohibits smoking in or directly outside federal buildings - but not on the grounds as in the case of the prison ban.

He also noted the ban did nothing to reduce or prevent exposure to second-hand smoke.

"The new guideline simply goes too far," the judge wrote in his judgement.

"The ban on outdoor smoking has no rational link with the rights of non-smokers who don't want to be exposed to second-hand smoke."

Grey says the ruling also underscores prisoners' rights.

"You lose your freedom, it's true. But you don't lose your other rights," he said.

The ruling will apply to all federal prisons.

Nearly 75 per cent of the prison population are regular smokers and over 20 per cent have admitted to smoking over 30 cigarettes a day, according to a 2006 report by Corrections Canada.

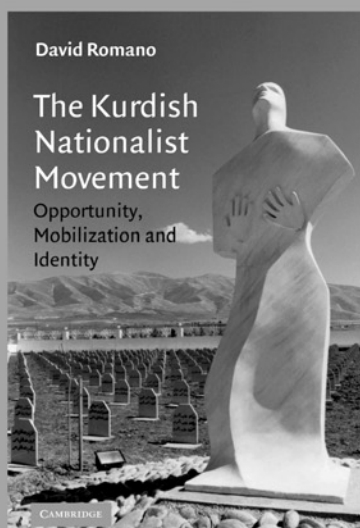
The federal government has 45 days to decide whether to appeal or change the legislation - and how they will change the legislation if they decide to do so.

Only then will Grey know whether the battle is over.

Quebec has backed off a complete ban in its provincial prisons and allows smoking outdoors but rulings vary from province to province.

However, Aboriginal inmates and other offenders whose religious and spiritual practices could be affected are exempt from the total ban.

## Cambridge Middle East Studies



David Romano focuses on the Kurdish case to generally try and make sense of ethnic nationalist resurgence. In a world rent by a growing number of such conflicts, the questions posed about why, how and when such challenges to the state arise are becoming increasingly urgent.

Throughout the author analyzes these questions through the lens of social movement theory, considering in particular politico-social structures, resource mobilization strategies and cultural identity. His conclusions offer some thought-provoking insights into Kurdish nationalism, as well as into the strengths and weaknesses of various social movement theories.



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

[www.cambridge.org/us](http://www.cambridge.org/us)



**Mischa Popoff**  
info@themetropolitain.ca

Mischa Popoff is a freelance political writer with a bachelor's degree in history.

# Environmentalists still trying to kill the internal combustion engine

Remember when global-warming activists screamed for the electric car? They weren't bothered that it could only go 100 miles, or that it could only carry kids and golf clubs, or kids and groceries, but never all three. This new breed of green believers was willing to lead the way by vastly inconveniencing themselves in the hope the rest of us, overwrought with guilt, would follow suit.

According to the 2006 documentary *Who killed the electric car?* blame for the demise of woefully inadequate electric vehicles rests at the feet of nasty automobile companies and evil oil companies. You're supposed to believe that a dirty, inefficient technology is being artificially propped up while a clean and perfectly viable technology is being suppressed, all in the name of greed.

Appreciating that people need to go further than 100 miles between charges, some manufacturers took a giant leap backwards and combined a small internal combustion engine with a generator and an electric motor. Nothing new there, but the marketing department dubbed it "hybrid electric technology," which is like calling yourself a "hybrid vegetarian" because you sometimes eat vegetables.

A new "hybrid faith" was born. Emboldened by government purchases of huge fleets of hybrids the environmentalists started to attack the naysayers. But whatever the guilt trip, this revolutionary crowd has never found time to contend with actual science. They haven't because they can't.

The amount of energy required to move a given weight over a given distance at a given rate of acceleration is immutable. The eternal hope that there will someday be advances in battery technology won't change the laws of physics as described by Isaac Newton in his 1687 work *Principia Mathematica*. In fact, this should be recommended reading for any hybrid owners who wonder why they get such abysmal mileage.

Switching our fossil-fuel based economy to a sometimes-



**Switching our fossil-fuel based economy to a sometimes-electric economy will not save any energy. None. It will only change the source of energy.**

electric economy will not save any energy. None. It will only change the source of energy.

For the faithful, 35 or 40 mpg in a hybrid seems reason enough to brag, in spite of the fact that many gasoline vehicles do just as well. Then there's the diehard hybrid owner (perhaps

one who practises the fine art of granny-driving) who claims to get 50 or 60 mpg. Many diesel cars do that well, but evidence shows that such mileage is actually a pipe dream for a hybrid. Don't take my word for it, or even Newton's...

Phil Edmundson, former New Democratic MP and author of the *Lemonade Car Guide*, says categorically, "We don't recommend electric and gasoline engine hybrids because their fuel economy can be 40 percent worse than the automakers report." That should rock anyone's faith, unless of course Edmundson turns out to be in the pocket of Big Auto or Big Oil. Think that's likely?

Clearly it's not the cleanliness or efficiency of hybrids and electric cars that propels their sales. It's an avowed hatred fostered by some for the oil industry, and nothing more.

Never mind that all the CO<sub>2</sub> stored in fossil fuels once floated harmlessly in the earth's atmosphere. Never mind that the oceans absorb 98 percent of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and that burning all known oil reserves tomorrow would barely elevate atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels over time. Never mind that manufacturing batteries for cars is detrimental to the environment and that disposing of them will prove even dirtier than the dreaded ship wrecking business.

No, never mind all that. You're supposed to invest in this inefficient technology in spite of Edmundson's warnings that "long-term reliability is unknown, battery replacement cost is estimated to run as high as \$8,000 (U.S.), [and] expensive electric motors are predicted to have a high failure rate from corrosion."

Go on, the self-righteous environmentalist says, Take a financial hit and do your part to put a nail in the coffin of the internal combustion engine! In the public relations campaign to advance a "green" agenda, it hardly seems to matter to politicians that doing so could lead to the crime of the century against civilization and nature.



Le Groupe  
**Parlementaire**  
The  
**Parliamentary**  
Group



Deb Grey



Val Meredith



John Nunziata



Lorne Nystrom



Patrick Gagnon

**The Parliamentary Group**  
400-200 Elgin Street  
Ottawa, Canada K2P 1L5  
613.860.0043  
www.parliamentarygroup.com

The Parliamentary Group assists with regulatory, governmental and legislative advocacy issues. Our pan-Canadian government relations and lobbying firm helps clients navigate the often confusing corridors of government with a comprehensive range of services.


**LA PERFIDIE! THE UN AND THE GOLDSTONE LIBEL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

report, South African lawyer Richard Goldstone, criticized the Council's resolution as being one-sided. "This draft resolution saddens me as it includes only allegations against Israel," he told the Swiss newspaper *Le Temps*. "There is not a single phrase condemning Hamas as we have done in the report. I hope that the Council can modify the text."

Pauvre Richard. Il est attristé. Pauvre lui. C'est à se demander si quelqu'un qui vit dans ce monde dangereux a un droit à une telle naïveté dangereuse. C'était intrinsèque dans le processus de sa propre commission que les résultats seraient prédéterminés. Son rapport de 574 pages, qui se concentre est en grande partie sur l'Israël, suggère dans ses conclusions que l'Israël et le Hamas enquêtent sur les allégations de crimes de guerre contre leurs côtés respectifs. Même ce petit signe d'équité fut rejeté par le plein Conseil dans son vote de vendredi.

And what did Goldstone think when he undertook his mandate, that the Council would suddenly change its anti-Israel bias? The Human Rights Council, which replaced the discredited Human Rights Commission several years ago, is still dominated by dictatorships and theocratic tyrannies. It is obsessed with denouncing democratic Israel. It has targeted some 80% of its resolutions at one member state, Israel, while the major human rights violators enjoy, what Irwin Cotler has called, "exculpatory immunity." The Council has had more emergency "Special Sessions" directed against Israel than against all the other countries of the world combined. The Council hearing last week was the sixth "Special Session" on Israel in the last three years alone. And the Council excludes only one country – Israel – from membership in any regional grouping, thereby denying it international due process.

But Richard Goldstone himself must also shoulder much of the blame for the predictably biased outcome. The Commission was replete with anti-Israel prejudice. First, it's very terms of reference drew an equivalence between the actions of Israel in self-defence and those of Hamas in blatant aggression seeking to destroy it. Goldstone had the temerity to call the 12,000 Hamas rocket attacks "reprisals". Second, the Commission was imbalanced focusing as it did on Israel's faults with no consideration for its right under international customary and statutory law to self-defence and self-help. Third, the Commission failed to consider the intolerant and psychotic pan-Islamic ideology that drives Hamas and chose to treat it like any other state party. In so doing it legitimated, by inference, Hamas practices including the use of civilians as human shields. Fourth, Goldstone failed to act against London School of Economics professor Christine Chinkin's presence on the Commission after she declared Israel guilty of "aggression" and "war crimes" in an interview with a London newspaper. Her statement was made prior to seeing any evidence. Finally, the Report spent



**Richard Goldstone est devant l'histoire. Il a reconnu que son mandat était « une résolution biaisée et inégale du Conseil des droits de l'homme de l'ONU » mais avait cru qu'il avait reçu un mandat renforcé et équitable du président du Conseil.**

only two pages on the thousands of Israeli victims of years of Hamas bombings.

The Goldstone Commission's perfidious libel against Israel went even deeper in its central foundational principle. It colored with moral relativism and no distinction Israel's thousands of cell phone calls warning Gaza civilians; Israel's thousands of texts warning civilians; Israel's hundreds of thousands of leaflets in Arabic dropped warning civilians; Israel's medical facilities set up on the edge of Gaza to treat civilians; Israel's delivery of food to feed civilians with Hamas hiding in civilian areas; firing from the cover of Gazan civilians against Israeli civilians in Sderot and Ashkelon; Hamas use of ambulances for military purposes; Hamas' use of mosques as armament depots and rocket launching pads; Hamas shootings of the legs of Gazan civilians refusing to help or aid in the targeting of Israel.

Richard Goldstone est devant l'histoire. Il a reconnu que son mandat était « une résolution biaisée et inégale du Conseil des droits de l'homme de l'ONU » mais avait cru qu'il avait reçu un mandat renforcé et équitable du président du Conseil. Il a reconnu que le mandat n'a pas été soutenu par les principaux membres démocratiques du Conseil des droits de l'homme - l'Union européenne, le Japon, le Canada, et la Suisse. Il a reconnu que les résultats de la Commission « ne tiendraient pas la route dans une cour. » Pourtant, il a continué avec ce travail maléfisant.

The Council was not moved by truth or objective witness. Col. Richard Kemp, a former commander of British forces in Afghanistan, told the council that war crimes accusations against the Israeli Defence Forces

(IDF) were misplaced. "The IDF faces a challenge that we British do not have to face to the same extent. It is the automatic, Pavlovian presumption by many in the international media, and international human rights groups, that the IDF are in the wrong." He argued Israeli forces took "extraordinary measures" to give civilians in Gaza notice of targeted areas, including dropping two million leaflets and making 100,000 phone calls. "Despite all of this, of course innocent civilians were killed. War is chaos and full of mistakes. There have been mistakes by the British, American and other forces in Afghanistan and in Iraq, many of which can be put down to human error. But mistakes are not war crimes," Col. Kemp said.

No indictment could be as searing as the words written to Goldstone by his old friend from South Africa Brenda Press Fix. She wrote to him in a letter that, "I am bewildered by the direction you have taken as part of the United Nations Human Rights Council. This rogue Council has been tainted by a membership that does not condemn Iranian tyranny, Chinese oppression, African despotism but spends their time condemning one country unjustly, Israel. The Goldstone Commission bears your name. One would expect the mandate of any report to be objective so that your name could be respected and a legacy ensured. Instead your committee ignored the facts, embraced bias and rendered the report bearing your name, illegitimate." This report did not arise from ignorance or naiveté. I am trying so hard to resist the conclusion that your role and report might represent a self-serving desire to ingratiate yourself for a more senior position in the kangaroo court called the United Nations. But

if true-and one hopes that this is not the case-at what price? Association with the infamous U.N. garners no respect so why would anyone seek to be head inmate at the U.N. Asylum?"

So egregious has been the Goldstone process, that it may have actually achieved a new low in the decades long assault by the United Nations against Israel, the frontline nation in the family of the free defying the onslaught of Islamism. One can understand why the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Anti-Semitism (ICCA), co-founded by Mount-Royal MP Irwin Cotler and British MP John Mann, expressed "shock at the absence of any mention in the Goldstone Report of the anti Jewish incitement in the Hamas Charter which the London Declaration obliges Parliamentarians to expose and unmask. The Founding Conference of ICCA adopted the London Declaration to Combat Anti-Semitism which in Section 6 resolves that 'never again will the institutions of the international community and the dialogue of nation states be abused to try to establish any legitimacy for anti-Semitism, including the singling out of Israel for discriminatory treatment in the international arena.' The consideration of the Goldstone Report under a Special Agenda Item of the UN Human Rights Council singling out Israeli human rights violations – and now holding a 'Special Session' on such violations – constitutes a flagrant double abuse of UN institutions. "

Les questions soulevées par la Coalition inter-parlementaire de lutte contre l'antisémitisme (ICCA) sont préoccupantes et sombres. Quelle est le rôle exact que joue l'antisémitisme à l'ONU est un sujet pour un autre article. Mais un parallèle peut être établi. L'antisémitisme nie l'égalité des droits à l'expression individuelle juive dans une société particulière. L'antisionisme nie l'égalité des droits à l'expression collective juive au sein de la grande communauté des nations. Le premier nie aux juifs la particularité légitime, le second nie aux juifs la souveraineté légitime. Les deux sont des manifestations d'exclusivité et d'intolérance. Elles représentent le message et la métaphore du mépris. Le langage figuré en est un de haine.

Tristement aujourd'hui, le profil de Moynihan de l'ONU tient encore. Les tyrannies continuent à monopoliser l'ordre du jour de l'ONU avec des saccages et des harangues anti-occidentales; pas parce que l'Occident agit incorrectement, mais plutôt parce qu'il agit correctement. Vivre en liberté. Ces tyrans théocratiques et ces petits despotes ne peuvent pas concurrencer sur le champ de bataille de la liberté. Ils n'osent pas exposer leurs peuples à la brillante lumière de la liberté. Et aujourd'hui, comme il y a longtemps, leur succès dépend ultimement sur l'écrasement de l'Occident; parce que c'est seulement comme ça qu'ils peuvent ainsi continuer à piller, moralement et matériellement, leurs peuples emprisonnés.



## David T. Jones

David Jones, co-author of *Uneasy Neighbo(u)rs: Canada, the USA and the Dynamics of State, Industry and Culture*, is a former U.S. diplomat who served in Ottawa. He now lives in Arlington, Virginia."

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

# Election Day USA: Virginia and New Jersey

On Tuesday, November 3, as a resident of Arlington Virginia, I voted. As I did so, I recalled that Canadian friends had voted earlier in the week in Montreal for mayor and council members. On my ballot were candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, and a variety of state and county officials, e.g., school board. For a variety of personal and institutional reasons, this was the first time I'd ever voted in Arlington, having participated by

absentee ballot for 45 years in my home town, Scranton, Pennsylvania. But now I was exercising my franchise where I live; it was a privilege to do so freely and one about which I am not blasé.

As a result, I had the 21st century experience of voting booth "touch screens," which were sophisticated and effective. Politely, my screen reminded me that I had not voted for one position that had not registered my all-too-soft touch on the touch screen.

On Wednesday morning, the spinmeisters were gyrating at top RPM. On the right, it was the end of the "age of Obama" while from the president's flaks, it wasn't even a light cold, let alone pneumonia.

But I did more than vote. Indeed, I handed out campaign literature for the Republican Party to those

approaching the voting site. Doing so was interesting in its own right, as northern Virginia generally and Arlington in particular are very strongly Democrat. For many years, campaigning as a Republican in Arlington was as feckless as campaigning as a Pequiste in Westmount. Reinforcing this reality was the 2008 presidential election during which Senator Obama carried Virginia for Democrats for the first time since Lyndon Johnson won in 1964.

But that was then and now is a year later. It was a perfect autumn day—sunny and crisp, but voters were far below 2008 peaks; Democrats were staying home, and if Democrats don't vote in Northern Virginia, the party loses since "down state" is heavily Republican.

Moreover, there were those "straws in the wind" so beloved by observers to reinforce pollster predictions. Not only were there Republican campaign workers, but voters were taking sample ballots. In contrast, there were years, one Republican campaign worker recounted, that the only way you were able to tell for whom to vote was to get the Democrat sample ballot—and vote against their selections.

Moreover, few voters indicated any substantive anxiety. One suggested he was voting Republican, because "socialism" from the Democrats had forced such choice. But otherwise the most vocal concern was over the repeated/ endless "robo calls" on telephones from both Republicans and Democrats. Serious issues such as funding to improve the public transportation net, privatizing state liquor stores, and state-level response to the Great Recession went unremarked.

In the end, Virginia "came home" to the Republicans. They beat the Democrats like a drum, sweeping

every state-wide office by wide margins. The White House, sensing weeks ago that Virginia was a lost cause, had sawed its candidate off at the knees, huffily stating that he had not followed their campaign advice so that was why he was behind. Talk about a kiss off.

More important for President Obama was New Jersey—a traditional Democrat stronghold where no Republican had won statewide office in a decade—with an incumbent Democrat governor, a billionaire willing to spend any amount of money to hold his seat. Consequently, although Obama "did the necessary" to support the Democrat candidate in Virginia, he concentrated his efforts in New Jersey—where a year ago he had beaten Senator McCain by 16 percentage points. But New Jersey's electorate, disgusted by corruption that had moved past the Soprano TV stage and irritated by the governor's failures to fulfill promises, e.g., reduce taxes, ousted the incumbent.

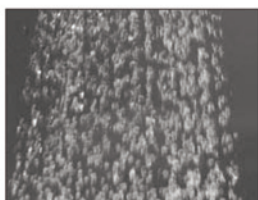
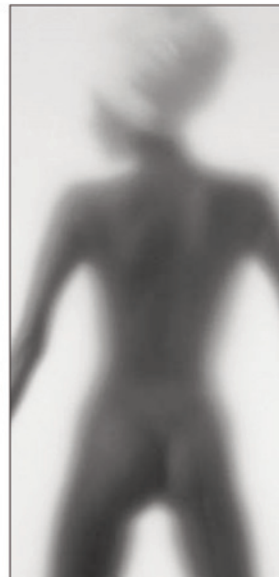
On Wednesday morning, the spinmeisters were gyrating at top RPM. On the right, it was the end of the "age of Obama" while from the president's flaks, it wasn't even a light cold, let alone pneumonia. In reality, there are a few observations:

— off year elections are historically bad for the president's party. They are dominated by local issues and "send a message" acolytes. These local circumstances often translate into embarrassing defeats for national leaders, particularly if they feel compelled to invest personally in a local campaign.

— incumbency is deadly for personalities and parties. In both Virginia and New Jersey, Democrats had held the governorship for eight years. To govern is to choose, and in bad times, the incumbents get the blame. Why re-elect someone who obviously doesn't have the answers when there is an alternative that might have them?

— Obama's personal popularity remains strong, but he isn't strong enough to lift misguided wagons out of ditches. The "message" from November 3 is more for the ears of the federal congressional 2010 elections than for the presidential election in 2012.

SKALA  
SKALA HOMEWARE PRODUCTS INC.  
L'ART DE LA SALLE DE BAIN





Part 1 of 2:

## Statist Islam:

# A continuing challenge to civilization

It would have been unlike Prof. Samuel Huntington of Harvard University to say "I told you so" after 9/11. He is too austere and serious a thinker, with a legendary career as arguably the most influential and original political scientist of the last half of the 20th century – as always, swimming against the current of prevailing opinion.

His writings in the 1990s entitled "The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of the World Order" presented a thesis that ran totally counter to the zeitgeist of the euphoria about globalization and a borderless world after the end of the cold war.

He stated unequivocally that after the end of the cold war there would be a clash of civilizations. He inferred that soil, ethno-cultural devotion and religion-based energy would claim and define the world in conflict.

Prof. Huntington also drew a map of the world which can be described as "The West and The Rest". He recognized other less challenging civilizations – Hindu, African, Buddhist and others – but to him in the post cold war world, only the Islamic civilization would re-emerge as the nemesis to the West. He demonstrated that "Each has been the other's Other" from the time of the first Muslim invasion of Europe in the eighth century of the Common Era, followed by repeated attempts to conquer the Christian lands in both West and Central Europe, and in the East with campaigns against Christian Czarist Russia. Not to be outdone, Christian powers mounted vast plundering crusades in their attempts to reconquer their Holy sites in the East, while entertaining themselves on off days with plunder and pogroms in the Jewish parts of European cities which they crossed on the road to Jerusalem.

To Huntington, "The 20th century conflict between liberal democracy and Marxist Leninism was only a fleeting and superficial historical phenomenon compared to the continuing and deeply conflictual relations between Islam and Christianity".

Huntington expresses – says Professor Fouad Ajami, the renowned Islamic Scholar at Johns Hopkins University – an anxiety about the will and the coherence of the West. The West neither monitors nor defends the ramparts of its free society. Islam will be and remain Islam, Huntington warned, while he was equally dubious that the West would remain true to itself and its mission of freedom, the rule of law and human rights.

indeed not his fault that we did not heed his darker vision of the world which confronts us today.

Permit me to review the historical onslaught of Islam, from its foundation in the 7th century and its attempts to dominate the world.

Islam is a monotheist religion originating in the teachings of the Islamic prophet Mohammed, a 7th century Arab religious and political figure. The word "Islam" means submission, or the total surrender of oneself to G d/Allah. Muslims believe that G d revealed the Quran to Mohammed, G d's final prophet, and regard the Quran as the fundamental source of Islam.

Muslims regard Mohammed as the restorer of the original monotheist faith of Abraham, Moses and Jesus. Islamic tradition holds that Jews and Christians distorted the revelations G d gave to those prophets by either altering the texts, introducing a false interpretation, or both.

Here are certain thoughts presented by the great Middle Eastern scholar, Prof. Bernard Lewis, that should help us shed light on the conflict which we witness in the Middle East today but which really had its antecedents with the birth of Islam in the 7th century of the Common Era.

Prof. Lewis states that Islam is a religiously defined civilization, comparable with Christendom. They both proselytize and the two have challenged each other for centuries. Both Islam and Christendom share the same roots in the Judaic and Hellenistic traditions. They contain components of Hellenistic philosophy dealing with justice and morality as well as science. But in Islam and Christianity, the firm belief exists and is maintained by followers of both religions, that they are the exclusive possessors of G d's final truth which it is their obligation to bring to all humanity.

Notwithstanding, Christianity found accommodation as early as in the writings of St. Augustine who recognized the concept of a state existing parallel to religion. He referred to this quote attributed to Jesus: "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto G d what is G d's", establishing the philosophical concept of a duality in society referred to today as Church and State.

Islam, on the other hand, has merged religion and state authority wherein the two are interwoven, and state power and authority are at the service of Allah, helping to bring Allah's word to all the infidels – Jews, Christians, Buddhists, and other non-Islamic faiths.

Islamic faith began almost immediately after its advent with the triumphant emergence of the new religion from its Arabian homeland and its spread Eastward to the borders of India and China, and Westward across North Africa and the Mediterranean Islands into Europe.

The subsequent Islamic penetrations of Western Europe ended with the Christian reconquest of Granada and the expulsion of Mohammedism from the Iberian Peninsula in 1492. This struggle had lasted eight centuries.

Islam also islamized parts of Russia during the various Czarist wars against Islamist Ottoman Turks, wherein an ongoing struggle between a Christian power and Islam existed. It should be emphasized that there is still an ongoing conflict between Russia and its Chechen Islamic province which continues unresolved to this day.

Muslim advances into Europe created Muslim occupations of the Balkans and South Central Europe including Budapest for close to 200 years. At a later date, the Ottoman Turks were defeated at the gates of Vienna on two occasions, the last defeat being final in 1683, when Emperor Leopold I of Austria imported a French general by the name of Prince Eugene of Savoy who defeated with finality the Muslim Turks led by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent.

At the height of its power, the Ottoman Empire spanned three continents, controlled much of South Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. It stretched from the Straights of Gibraltar, including the Atlantic Coast of Morocco in the West to the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf in the East, and from the edge of Austria, including Hungary and parts of the Ukraine in the North, to Sudan and as far as Yemen in the South.

It came to an end progressively through a series of wars against various European/Christian powers, and the Ottoman Empire dissolved into modern-day Turkey as its remnant after World War I.

Therefore, repeated conquests stretching over a millennium are the antecedents to the rebirth of the compelling struggle on the part of Islam to control parts of the world, with Jihad, or its modern manifestation – international terrorism – as its tool to achieve a Muslim world and convert all infidels, meaning all non-Muslim.

Prof. Lewis also has specifically stated that it is manifestly wrong for political reasons to state that we are engaged in a war against terrorism. This is as if Churchill had told us we were engaged in a war against submarines. Terrorism, like submarines were a tactic, is not the enemy. The enemy, Prof. Lewis has said, is Islamism, which he placed as the third in a

sequence of ideological deformations that have taken place in his lifetime, the first two being Bolshevism and Nazism. Prof. Lewis suggests that one way to deal with Islamism is to mobilize Muslims themselves – or is this wishful thinking when our own hesitation is clearly interpreted as our weakness.

### Today's political realities

Now, let's address today's political realities in the light of what has historically impacted the course of time. Let me quote the so-called current conventional wisdom, which is reinforced by the outpouring in the media by so-called reasonable "experts", that Islam is actually just another religion of peace, and that the vast majority of Muslims just want to live in peace.

This all may be true, but in light of the Muslim terrorist acts that we regularly witness – from Bali to New York, in the Northern Chinese provinces, from Mumbai to Madrid – the reference to the religion of peace becomes questionable. It clouds the issue and may make us feel optimistic while somehow diminishing the specter of the fanatics who rampage the globe in the name of Islam.

The fact is that, today, it is fanatics who rule Islam at this moment in history. Their impact on everyday people manifested itself openly with the celebrations, in July 2008, surrounding the release from an Israeli jail of the child murderer Kuntar. He gained immediate national hero status in the Muslim world, echoed equally in utterances by the allegedly peace-loving Abu Mazen, the president of the Palestinian Authority, an alleged peacemaker in the eyes of the West – the former Number 2 to Arafat for decades – and the author of a PhD thesis on Holocaust denial at Moscow University. The release of the convicted Libyan terrorist from a Scottish jail for compassionate reasons in August 2009, and his jubilant welcome in Libya, is a further manifestation of the climate of fanaticism which prevails in Islamic societies.

Let us bear in mind that it is fanatics from the Muslim world who daily slaughter children and non-Arab Muslim tribal groups in Darfur, and are progressively taking over segments of Africa, be it Nigeria or the Somali lands. It is Islamic fanatics who bomb, behead, murder or honor kill. It is the fanatics who stone rape victims and homosexuals. It is the Muslim fanatics who teach in the schools the value of being a shahid – a martyr – when becoming suicide bombers.

The peaceful majority in Muslim lands is cowed into a non-existent force.



# Canada at the G20: power, but do we have a plan?

In 1976, French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing decided that it would be a good idea to invite the leaders of the major western economic powers (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) to an informal summit at a chateau outside of Paris to discuss their current common economic problems, giving birth to the G7. Later expanded to include Russia (G8) this intimate grouping of world powers dominated the international economic and trade agenda until the Asian currency crisis of 1997 had ripple effects around the world, making a broader consultative forum a priority to encourage cooperation with the developing world. That body was christened the G20, and today it represents nearly 85% of worldwide economic output (GDP) though 90% of the world's countries are not at the table.

While the big GDP players are well known to be the original G7 plus China, it is more useful to look at economic output on a per capita basis, displayed graphically.

following paragraphs detail a few positions worth considering as we move towards Hunstville 2010.

On trade, Harper has been a consistent promoter of free and open markets and has encouraged other world leaders to resist the domestic pressure to return to protectionism for short-term political gain. Canada will find a strong alliance, if it seeks one, with China and India who need to keep overseas markets open if they are to continue to grow their economies. While India and China's need to export is obvious, they also need to maintain access to technology developed abroad as they build their own high-tech sectors. Another important consideration is continued immigration to western nations so their young people can attend the finest universities available and bring their knowledge back home for dissemination and the creation of economic value.

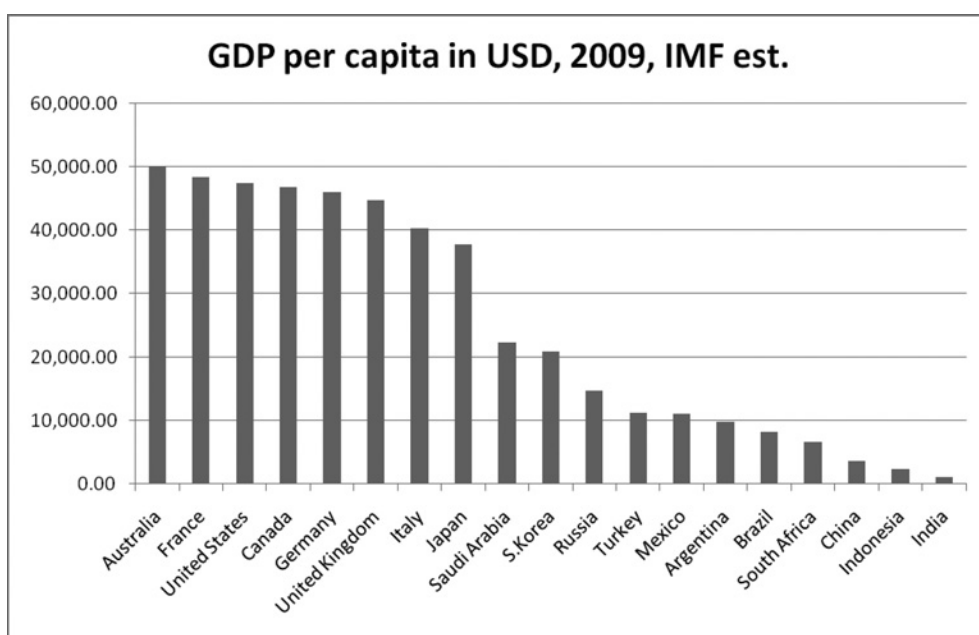
What should Canada ask of these nations in return? From China, Canada should ask that the government be less aggressive in encouraging its natural resource companies from buying

can avoid an anti-foreign investor backlash at home and expand our reach abroad at the same time.

Looking further at natural resources, Canada has what the world wants: energy and water. We have renewable freshwater resources which the Americans are desperate to share, and oil and gas that the whole world still needs even as we seek alternatives to a carbon-combustion economy. The current problem is that Canada

India have no plans to divert funds from building their economies to the corrupt regimes of central Africa, for instance. If Canada really wants to assert leadership at the G20, then it should stand up now and declare that the Copenhagen round is a non-starter and pull out. Canada can, and will stick to its own plan for achievable targets and the rest of the world should buy in as long as other nations want to consume what we extract from the

**Canada should use its influence to quiet these voices, and remind them that if they want oil from a politically stable ally then they should stop criticizing the trough from which they feed. If the US, the European Union and even the Chinese wish to gamble their economies on the long-term viability of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq, so be it – Canada can seek clients elsewhere if their attacks continue to remain so shrill and incessant in nature.**



Though Canada may have a smaller total GDP than the original G7, we are near the top of the list on a per capita basis and are way ahead of upcoming Asian powerhouses like China and India. Canada is no longer the small player at a table of seven, but a serious contender for power and influence in a broader economic forum. Canada is also hosting the 2010 meeting in Hunstville, Ontario. What does Canada intend to do with its newfound clout? Does our government have a set of objectives and a strategy to achieve them? The

up Canadian mines and development companies, regardless of how tempting those targets may be. Rather than buying up assets here, the Chinese should be directed towards seeking joint ventures with Canadian companies in China to further the development of that country's under-exploited natural resource sector. While foreign companies already invest heavily in the Chinese natural resource sector, Canada can offer special expertise for operating under difficult geographical or weather conditions, more so than the Americans and Europeans. Canada

consumes enormous amounts of water to facilitate oilsands extraction, up to 10 barrels of water for one barrel of oil. Even though a great deal of this water is recycled, the political optics look bad at home and worse abroad as American environmentalists and Europeans (across the board) scold us for using copious amounts of one resource to extract another.

Canada should use its influence to quiet these voices, and remind them that if they want oil from a politically stable ally then they should stop criticizing the trough from which they feed. If the US, the European Union and even the Chinese wish to gamble their economies on the long-term viability of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq, so be it – Canada can seek clients elsewhere if their attacks continue to remain so shrill and incessant in nature.

The environmental issue is coming to a head in Copenhagen where world economies are seeking a replacement for the failed Kyoto round of emissions caps. Copenhagen is looking less like the reductions sought by Kyoto and more like a transfer of trillions of dollars from the developed to the developing world as compensation for future first world pollution. The Copenhagen round is a complete, untenable, nonsensical farce because none of the developed world's economies can afford these transfer payments and the developing producers like China and

earth.

A final consideration must be given to currencies and the talk of replacing the USD as the world's reserve currency by a basket of the Euro, the Yuan and a smattering of others. Canada's major trading partner remains the United States and any move away from the USD will impose increasingly complex transaction costs on Canadians as we would have to learn to quote and purchase in a new world currency that could end up being more unstable than the one it seeks to replace. It is not the first time that other countries have talked about replacing the US Dollar, but the discussion has more traction this time as the US monetizes its current deficit and future inflation would devalue the US national debt held by other nations, notably China. Canada should, in its own interests, forcefully denounce this movement and express confidence in the USD and encourage other nations to discard this distraction and work on more productive issues, like international banking regulation reform.

Canada has a fantastic position within the G20 of being in better economic shape than most and producing what the world wants. It is now up to our government to capitalize on our enviable status and advance our agenda in a way that demonstrates that our interests represent clear, realistic and coherent policies for other G20 members to emulate.

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

Stephen Schettini is author of *The Novice: Why I Became a Buddhist Monk, Why I Quit and What I Learned* (Greenleaf Book Group, Sept. 2009). See [www.thenovice.ca](http://www.thenovice.ca).

**Stephen Schettini**  
info@themetropolitain.ca



**SOCIETY**

# Why is the Dalai Lama so popular?

When I wanted to meet the Dalai Lama back in 1980, I went to his door in Dharamsala and knocked. "Sure," his servant said. "Tomorrow afternoon okay?" That, of course, was before he became an international superstar.

Like all those who've had one-on-one time with him, I came away from that hour-long interview with the experience of being deeply liked. I felt that nobody, not even my own mother, had ever paid such rapt attention to me. Who can resist that? I also found him far more open intellectually than most other Tibetans. After a year studying logic and philosophy in the great Sera Monastic University, I'd come to him with my doubts. How come "Because the Buddha said so," is considered a valid reasoning? Even more disturbing was the long list of sicknesses believed, even by the highest lamas, to be caused by invisible magic serpents (nagas). Wasn't Buddhism supposed to be the non-religion, the epitome of clear-minded thought?

It wasn't so much his answers as his attitude that soothed my worries. He made it clear that beliefs are a personal matter and that perhaps I didn't need to take the ancient tradition of Buddhist scholarship too seriously. After all, as he never tires of saying, "This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness."

Another part of the Dalai Lama's appeal lies in what he's not. A blogger on answerbag.com pointed out, "He's a religious guy

who doesn't support killing or hating people for God. It's a big improvement." He's a world leader whose only spin is his self-effacing, playful and too-friendly-for-words persona.

The Chinese too are indirectly responsible for the Dalai Lama's popularity. Although he has ample reason to be absolutely furious at them, his response is a patience that's little short of breathtaking. They invaded his country, tortured and killed tens of thousands, forced monks and nuns into public sex acts, levelled ancient monasteries and shrines and have numerically outpopulated Tibetans in Tibet. Last year, Chinese official Zhang Qingli called the Dalai Lama, 'a devil with a human face but the heart of a beast.' Nevertheless, in Calgary recently he said he still expects one day to return to Tibet. The worst charge you might level at him is naïveté.

In actual fact, the Dalai Lama's at the centre of a long-standing religious schism that's pitted disciples against gurus, separated monks from their monastic brothers and resulted in murder and mayhem. All this over an invisible being called Dorje Shugden whose ostensible job was to protect the Buddha's teachings. Back in the nineteen-eighties the Dalai Lama proclaimed Shugden a renegade, and now he can't seem to get the genie back in the bottle. This has forced scholars of Tibetan Buddhism to take a closer look at the history of Tibet, where they've found many precedents for what can only be described as theocratic power struggles, underhanded scheming and religio-civil war.

Which brings us to perhaps the underlying reason for the Tibetan leader's popularity: Buddhism. Visitors to Asia may perceive Buddhism as old-time religion, complete with invisible beings, superstition and intolerance, but scratch beneath the gaudy veneer and you find a thoughtful, healing and wholesome system of thought and daily practice.

In an age when religious faith is on the decline and people are having trouble swallowing its hollow residue, Buddhism offers a spiritual path that's compatible with scientific enquiry, and perhaps even with twenty-first century realpolitik. The Dalai Lama is the lynchpin of Boulder, Colorado's Mind & Life Institute that seeks to, "establish mutually respectful working collaboration and research partnerships between modern science and Buddhism." Commenting upon this work, The Dalai Lama noted three crucial parallels between the Buddhism and modern science. They 1) share a deep suspicion of any notion of absolutes, 2) believe in universal natural laws of cause and effect and 3) depend on an empirical method. You can go a long way on those three premises.

Because of all this, I and hundreds of other Westerners who became Buddhist monks back in the seventies and eighties eventually left the religious trappings behind but remained guided by the principles that made the Buddha's teachings endure for twenty-six centuries. If they can survive the onslaught of consumerism and globalisation, they may outlive the Abrahamic religions.

## AVOCADO MAN

### Fresh

*"Avocados Are Our Business"*



2348 chemin Lucerne, suite 534, Mont Royal, Qc H3R 2J8

514.312.3701 • toll free 1.800.672.8030

[www.mravocadoman.com](http://www.mravocadoman.com) • Email [admin@mravocadoman.com](mailto:admin@mravocadoman.com)

# The System is the Scandal!

"The ability of powerful corporations to influence politicians is one of the ongoing challenges to democracy. And organizations such as Democracy Watch play a critical role as monitors and whistle blowers, especially when all of the major Canadian media organizations are enmeshed with government." — *Hugh Winsor, Columnist, The Globe and Mail*

**I want to become a supporter of Democracy Watch** by making an Automatic Monthly Deduction. By choosing to make an Automatic Monthly Donation, I am authorizing Democracy Watch to automatically withdraw the following amount from my chequing account or my credit card every month. I understand that I can stop the monthly donation at any time simply by calling Democracy Watch at: (613) 241-5179

Please circle the amount of your Automatic Monthly Donation:

\$5   \$15   \$50   \$100   \$500   \$1000   OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot become a sustaining donor at this time, but enclosed is my donation.

## Payment Options:

**OPTION #1—Chequing Account:** Send this form and a cheque marked "VOID" to:  
*Democracy Watch, P.O. Box 821, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1P 5P9*

**OPTION #2—Credit Card:**

VISA    MasterCard

Expiry Date

--	--	--	--

Card Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

YES — Please add me to the Democracy Watch Email List so I can receive updates on key issues facing Democracy in Canada!

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

[www.dwatch.ca](http://www.dwatch.ca)

Democracy Watch, P.O. Box 821, Station B, Ottawa, Canada K1P 5P9 • Tel: 613-241-5179 - Fax: 613-241-4758 • Email: [dwatch@web.net](mailto:dwatch@web.net)





## Sophie's Choices

# Starting over

It's been 9 (frostbite-free) years since I lived in Canada. I'm back, this time with a one-year-old daughter, after finding out that my soon-to-be-ex-husband John was having an affair with his Hobbit-like coworker in New Jersey, but we'll get to that another time.

I've rented an apartment in the same neighborhood I grew up in, and I still go to the same local restaurant where as 20-somethings, my girlfriends and I used to order the cheapest wine on the menu, eat masses of dumplings, and flirt with the guys at surrounding tables. On the first night I went back, I recognized a guy my friend Tanya used to flirt with, despite the fact that he was now bald and wore canary

yellow cycling shorts that appeared to be two sizes too small.

I flew here from Philadelphia two weeks ago, in perfect accept-your-marriage-is-over weather: blustery, windy, dark. John drove me to the airport, which was surreal, to say the least. However, he kindly took the opportunity to remind me that:

a) His affair was not a "full-blown" affair, and

b) She had "nothing to do" with our breakup.

It was only thanks to our daughter Lily being in the car and his being at the wheel that I resisted the urge to pull his nostrils over his head and feed him my shoe.

Off I flounced into the airport, painfully aware that I was flying away from the last home John and I will ever share, from what's left of our marriage...and from Target. I checked in, and filled out all my luggage tags with our old address by mistake, and had to resist throwing myself onto the luggage conveyer once I realized it. I considered trying to get an upgrade based on the enormity of the occasion (grieving in economy class just seems wrong), but didn't trust myself not to cry in front of my fellow passengers.

I arrived safely in Montreal, along with 91 boxes of belongings. The movers were excellent, and unusually helpful - one of them gave me his number "in case I had any trouble hooking up my VCR...or anything else". Despite the kind offer from lovely Martin, I don't think my VCR will get hooked up anytime soon...nudge, nudge, wink, wink. I should have given the number to my landlady who spent most of moving day standing in my stairwell while the movers tried to get by with their boxes. The guys were convinced that she stood there so that they'd have to rub up against her as they went up and down the stairs. Now there's an idea.

The next visitor was my mother, who in her infinite wisdom decided that the day I moved in was the perfect occasion to give me two newborn kittens. Her gift has propelled me into an entirely new category of womanhood: Single Mother with Cats. Perfect. Their names are inspired by recent events: Mor and On. Or perhaps Emotional and Midget. I also like the sound of IHopeHisNostrils and BlowUp. Your suggestions are welcome.

Two days later, when Lily got home, most of the boxes had been unpacked, and her room was ready and full of familiar toys. "Oooooohhhh!", she said. Since then, she's begun teething and has caught onto the fact that this is not the home she remembers, and refuses to let go of her pacifier or her favorite stuffed lamb under any circumstances. She also had nightmares for the first time in her life, which only inspired more rude names for the kittens, names I cannot reprint here. She asks "Whew Dada?", and I don't know what to say. I know what I want to say, but there's no way she'll make any friends if she goes around shouting "The Bastahd's in Joisey"! I realize that I'm supposed to be mature about this, but frankly, all I want to do is build voodoo dolls of my ex and his Hobbit, and roll them in kitty

litter. I have no doubt that my therapist will be pleased with my progress.

In an effort to keep us both busy and out of the stairwells, I've signed Lily up for music class, Kindergym and a manic playgroup for what seems like 315 kids in a church basement. I've already met some nice women, five of whom came over for wine and cheese last week, and five of whom I've undoubtedly freaked out by telling them what happened to my marriage, so that they are probably going through their husband's credit card statements as I write this.

My friend Kate brought me one of those joke "Grow your Own Husband" kits that night, so I will not remain single for long, because my new mate has almost reached his peak height of 6" after spending the last 72 hours in a glass of water. He'll probably accuse me of being controlling because I forced him to grow, or tell me he really didn't want to grow at all, but thought I'd get mad if he had told me so earlier. Or he'll cheat on me with one of Lily's dolls. Unlikely though, as she doesn't own any dolls with excessive body hair and a propensity for tight polyester garments. Miaow.

Needless to say, I had a few glasses of wine too many that night and remembered only next morning that Lily and I had playgroup, and that I was expected to bring an art project to inspire the kids with. Considered the "Create-Your-Own-Voodoo-Doll" idea, but decided on grabbing dead leaves and shoving them into a plastic shopping bag on the way there, queasy every time I bent down. Strangely enough, my suggestion that the children glue the leaves to paper in the name of art was not a big hit. I managed almost two hours of socializing before spending the musical portion of the playgroup worshipping the toilet bowl in the men's bathroom in the basement of the Baptist church, while my daughter sang "The Wheels on the Bus" with the other kids and their normal mothers.

So this is the first weekend that my ex will fly in to see his daughter. I need sleep, exercise, and highlights, and he needs to make her smile. Unfortunately, my two good friends have plans this weekend, so don't be surprised if you find me in a crowded stairwell somewhere, holding a voodoo doll.

Next week: Well-Meaning Advice and Other Forms of Torture

**ENTRETIEN AUTOMOBILE**  
**AUTOSPA™**  
**EXOTIC CAR CARE**

**1529 Boul des Laurentides Tél. (450).668.6772**  
**PONT VIAU, LAVAL, QC H7N 4Y6**



**Nouveau! Réclamation D'Assurance & Service de BodyShop**

BRABUS®

TECHART



AC SCHNITZER

NOVITEC ROSSO

FALKEN

TOYO

BRIDGESTONE

PIRELLI

DUNLOP

Continental





SPYN MOMO



TSW

SIRIUS

ALPINE

Bluetooth

clarion

Pioneer

XENON KIT

# PIPERBERG'S WORLD

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA



# One of North America's largest and most dependable suppliers of steel foundation products.

## Pipe and Piling Supplies' high quality stocks include:

- Wide-flange Beams
- Spiral Pipe
- Bearing Pile Beams
- Piling Pipe
- Sheet Piling
- Concrete Piles



Pipe & Piling offers competitive pricing and quality pre- and post-sale expertise.

It's twelve sales and stocking facilities are available to serve you across North America in:

Vancouver 604-942-6311	Edmonton 780-955-0501	Calgary 403-236-1332	Toronto 416-201-8189	Montreal 514-879-9008	Halifax 902-835-6158
Washington 253-939-4700	Nebraska 402-896-9611	Kansas 1-800-874-3720	Illinois 1-800-874-3720	Michigan 1-800-874-3720	Pennsylvania 1-800-874-3720

Pipe & Piling Supplies Ltd.



[www.pipe-piling.com](http://www.pipe-piling.com)

## ARTS &amp; STYLE



Alan Hustak

hustak@themetropolitain.ca

WWW.THEMETROPOLITAIN.CA

# Still a man to watch; Pierre Trudeau

He infatuates us still.

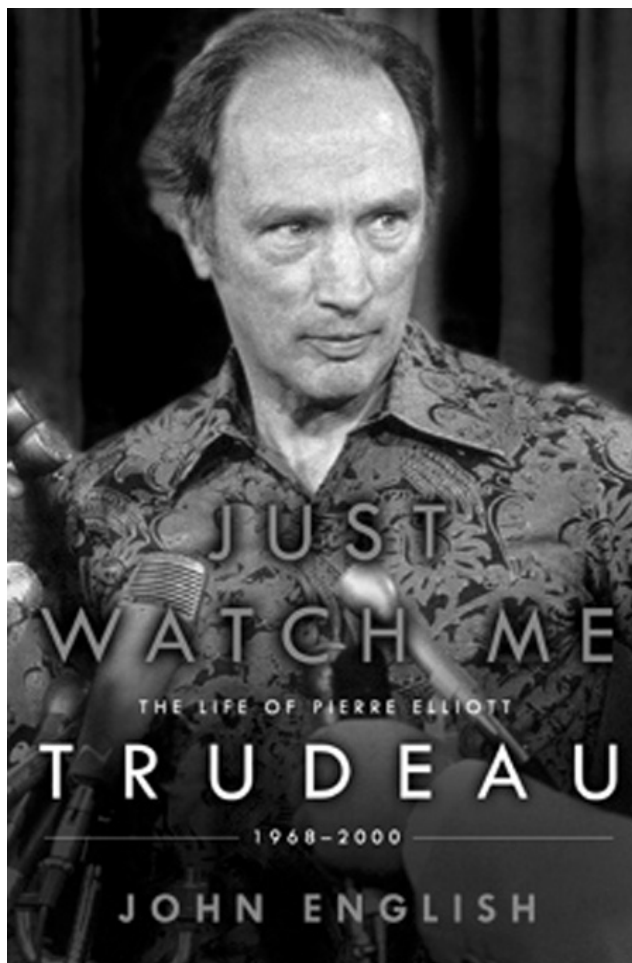
At least a dozen biographies about Pierre Elliott Trudeau have been written, none of them as satisfying as *Just Watch Me*, (Alfred A. Knopf Canada, 788 pp. \$39.95) the second volume of John English's dispassionate, intimate look at Canada's most contradictory, perplexing and some say greatest Prime Minister.

Dead for almost a decade, Trudeau remains a paradox. Perhaps no one has examined his life better than English, general editor of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, a former Member of Parliament who is also Lester Pearson's award-winning biographer.

In this book Trudeau comes across as a "suberb actor," the most stylish and sexy prime minister since Laurier, who English tells us, "truly believed that he represented a revolutionary innovation in Canadian politics. He knew well what the crowd wanted, enjoyed the attention, and therefore "took refuge in ambiguity and caution."

He was a loner with little tolerance for most people and had little patience for the nuts and bolts of politics. Here was a Prime Minister who could quote from *Antigone*, counted Fidel Castro among his friends, and who in spite of being devoutly Roman Catholic, slept with a slew of glamorous women, including Barbra Streisand, (whom he nearly married,) guitarist Fiona Boyd, actress Louise Marleau, and in his 70's, fathered a daughter with Deborah Coyne.

The book never quite explains to anyone's satisfaction why a man of Trudeau's stature married Margaret Sinclair, who never accepted the demands of the public stage. Once on a beach, a bored Pierre asked Margaret what she was reading. It was Erica Jong's *Fear of Flying*, "A pornographic classic about a brilliant woman in an unfulfilled marriage who flees her husband and has anonymous sex. Trudeau's thoughts remain a mystery," English tells us, "But they may be surmised."

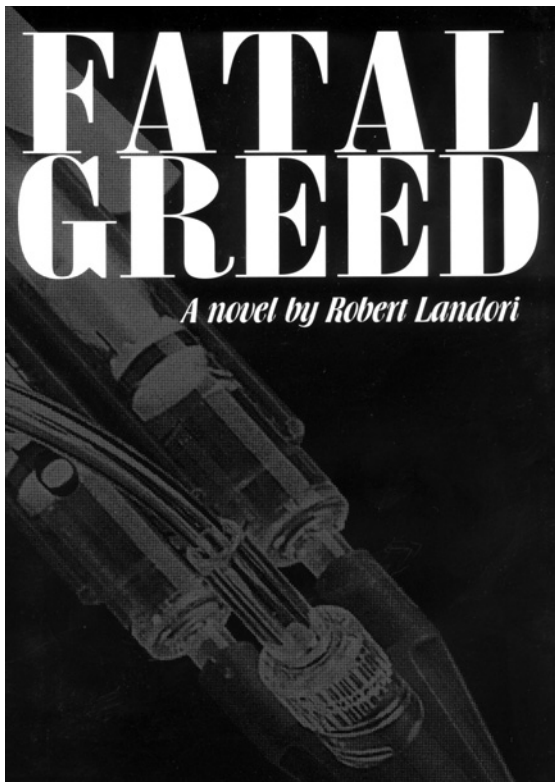


Even before the wedding, Trudeau presciently anticipated that she would one day leave him, and apparently demanded that she give up smoking dope and "stop being so flighty." Yet in spite of the odds in this case, it seems, he trusted passion over reason. English tells us that Trudeau tried everything to make his marriage work. Some of his political choices were equally as puzzling. Still, as English reminds us, in spite of separatist revisionism, no prime minister has ever been as popular in Quebec as Trudeau who once won 74 of its then 76 seats.

Trudeau was a devoted father to his three sons, and as a practicing Catholic read the Bible to his boys. As to Trudeau's religious convictions, we are told that during a canoeing trip, Trudeau had a lively discussion with future MP John Godfrey about his particular approach to Roman Catholicism, views "which unfortunately remain lost to history" because Godfrey was too inebriated to remember any of it.

The footnotes are as engaging as the book. Who for example, is aware, that Trudeau believed that "Jews had for too long been excluded from the bench, the boardroom, and the cabinet. He appointed the first Jewish Cabinet minister, the first Jewish Supreme Court judge, the first Jewish principal secretary to the prime minister (Jack Austin) and the first Jewish deputy minister of external affairs – Allan Gotlieb, who later became the first Jewish ambassador to Washington. When a Jewish group met with Trudeau and thanked him for all he had done for the community, he expressed surprise. Once presented with the list, he responded, "I guess I did."

Trudeau was, as other biographers have variously described him, our Northern Magus, a philosopher king who came to office with the reputation of a fire-breathing socialist and left as a shape changing, pragmatic centrist. Stephen Harper, who came to office as a rabid right wing conservative seems to be conjuring up Trudeau's ghost. Like Trudeau, Harper has learned to appreciate that if the centre is to hold, you sometimes have to sacrifice what lies around its edges.



## Mutant Mad Cow Disease in Toronto. Murder in Palm Beach.

The arcana of Bermuda offshore banking. Ex-CIA and Mossad men desperate to seize a weapon of mass destruction from Al-Qaeda, off the Caymans, on the morning of 9/11. *Oh, and love.* What more could you ask for in this hard-cover thriller by Robert Landori. Get it at Chapters/Indigo, or order an author-signed copy from the publisher.

Dear Studio 9, please rush me \_\_\_\_\_ author-signed copies of Fatal Greed at \$39.00 each (including tax and postage). My cheque is enclosed.

Or, I choose to pay by  Visa  Mastercard  Amex (please circle one)

Mail or fax to: 514-937-8765

Card number ..... exp ..... / /

Name .....

Address .....

City/Postal Code/Prov.-State .....

Studio 9, 9 Parkside Place, Montreal, QC, Canada H3H 1A7 Phone orders: 514-934-5433



# Segal's "Inherit the wind" succeeds

**I**nherit the Wind. Jerome Lawrence and Robert Lee's dramatization of the 1925 Scopes monkey trial, is a timely old chestnut of a play, especially now that the fossil skeleton of Ardi, a 4-foot tall female primate who died 4.4-million years ago, is making headlines.

There are those who argue that Ardi's discovery proves Darwin's theory of evolution was wrong, and that humans did not evolve from ancestors that resemble chimpanzees. The doctrines of creationism, and its less explicitly religious cousin, intelligent design, both guided by faith in the Old and New Testaments, continue to be counter narratives to the science of evolution.

Inherit the Wind isn't as much about the debate between evolution and religion as it about the right of individuals to think for themselves, consider all the evidence, then draw their own conclusions.

The Segal Centre's fluid production that runs until Nov. 8 affords theatergoers the pleasure of watching veteran actor Sean McCann delight in making mincemeat out of ignorance. McCann is cast as Henry Drummond, a libertarian lawyer, (based on Clarence Darrow) who defends a small town biology



Inherit the Wind Courtroom scene

teacher, Bertram Cates (Karl Graboshas), who has been charged by the state with the crime of teaching Charles Darwin.

Cates is being prosecuted by Matthew Harrison Brady, (David Francis), a right wing blowhard, - the Rush Limbaugh of his day. Brady is a rabble-rouser, certain in his fundamentalist beliefs, including his conviction that the world was created at precisely 9 a.m. on October 23, 4004 BC. He's the kind of guy who would tell you that Noah had dinosaurs onto his ark along with the rest of creation.

The first act is largely exposition and Greg Kramer's spirited, if sometimes uneven staging, introduces us to a huge God-cheering, God fearing Bible belt

community, exposing its small town mentality. At one point, during a revival meeting, there are at least two dozen hymn singing actors on stage.

Eli Bunton's set design adds to the claustrophobia - no easy task on the Segal's sprawling stage. One question, however, the casting decision to throw a jarring interracial romance into the mix. No rural Tennessee schoolteacher in the 1920s would have been openly able to have a black girlfriend, especially not one like Rachel Brown, (Tamara Brown) the agitated daughter of the local Bible thumping preacher. As Rachel's father, the Rev. Jeremiah Brown, (Tyrone Benskin) doesn't quite have the fire-and brimstone in his belly that one expects.

The stilted second act, with its

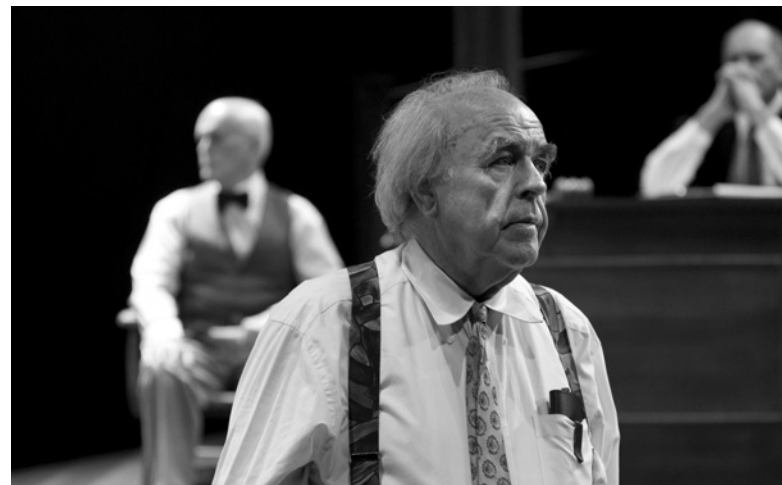
courtroom scene, is tailor made for old stage pros like McCann and Francis. Although it pits Drummond against Brady, the act weighs heavily in McCann's favour. Other teams who have tackled the exchange include Chris Plummer and Brian Dennehy, George C. Scott and Charles Durning, Spencer Tracey and Fredrick March, and most recently, Kevin Spacey and David Troughton.

In the Segal's production, McCann brings all the authority of a seasoned veteran to the part. There are no real fireworks here, just the solid, weary resignation of a man who relies on common sense to get him through life. Francis is all bombast, and is perhaps a little too one-dimensional

to be sympathetic as the barnstorming Brady who denounces the dangers of Evil-loution. To be fair, it's a tough role; the guy who plays Drummond has the house in his corner.

Karl Graboshas nicely captures the part of the principled teacher; Tamara Brown is affecting as his love interest. Marcel Jeannin is good as E.K. Horbeck, the self-important, know-it all newspaper reporter covering the trial, Bill Corday makes a strong impression as the illiterate juror, Elijah, as does Adam Driscoll, as young Howard Blair, a student called to testify against his teacher.

The three little monkeys who dart around the stage add a nice touch, too.



Standing: Sean McCann (plays Henry Drummond). On left sitting in the chair: David Francis (plays Matthew Harrison Brady). On right: Bill Croft (plays the Judge).

PHOTOS: ANDRÉE LANTHIER

## Piazza San Domenico

By Alidor Aucoin

**A**kiss is just a kiss but in Steve Galluccio's overrated romantic farce, In Piazza San Domenico, a lip lock has toxic consequences. Galluccio's play, held over at the Centaur until November 15, is a crowd pleaser in the same way that mindless B-movies have a following. The playwright claims Feydeau as an inspiration, but Feydeau enlarged human foibles; Galluccio combines the improbable with the predictable, then exploits human nature in crude and unrealistic fashion. The plot is set in motion when Carmelina, a hot-blooded Italian beauty, (Christina Broccoli) catches her studly fiancée, Guido (Guido Comello) stealing a kiss from the blowsy town tart, Mafalda, (Mara Lalli). Out of revenge she dumps Guido in favour of the village idiot, Severino, (Carl Alacchi), and proposes to marry him instead. Some performers like Ellen David and Vittorio Rossi are better than the material. A subplot that involves the romance between Carmelina's widowed mother, Isabella, (David) and a Pasquale, (Rossi) a door-to-door vegetable salesman is touching, funny and effective - the best thing about the show. All the other characters are caricatures, particularly Jocelyne Zucco and Michel Perron, who mug their way through their parts as a dysfunctional married couple.

The laughs are there all right, but they're cheap - just like the song and dance routine that ends the show. John C. Dinning overdesigned the scenery, but Roy Surette gets full marks for directing traffic through the Piazza with aplomb.



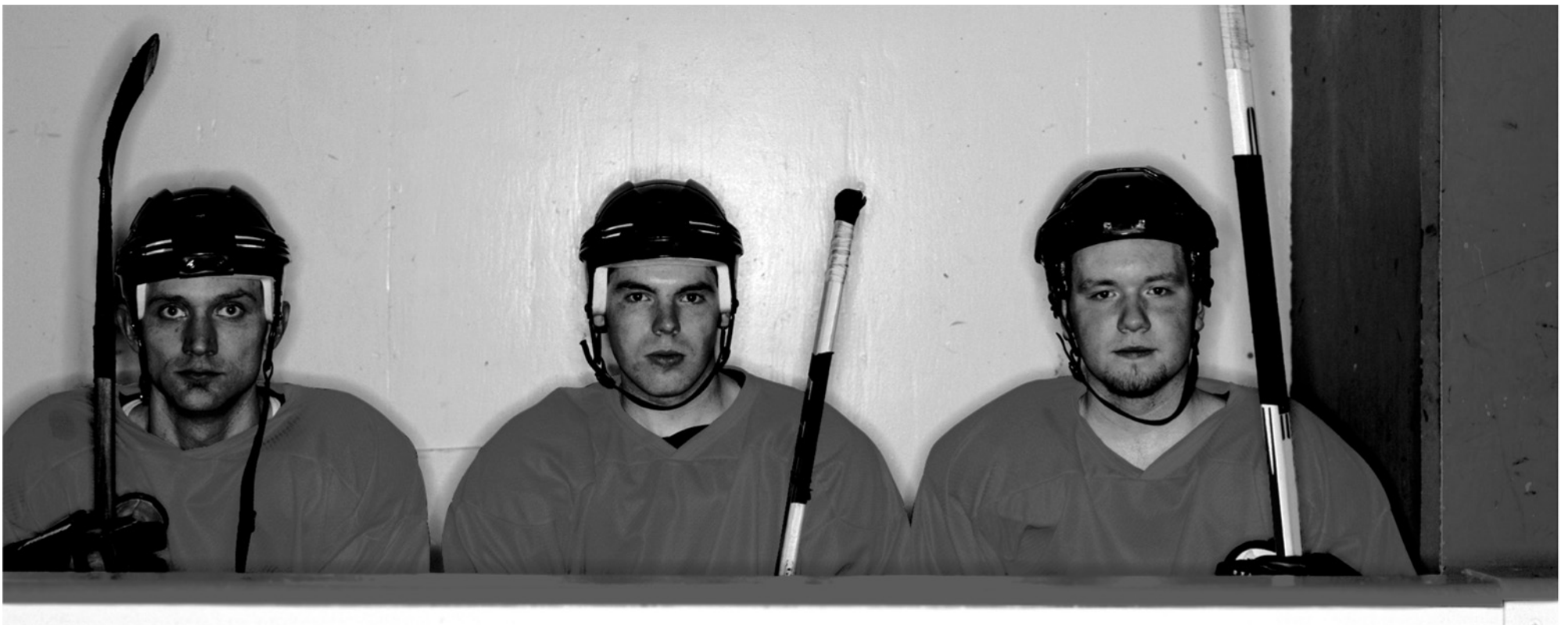
## If we build it, they will come.

Magil Construction prides itself on its reputation for excellence. Its expertise has been perfected on projects of every conceivable size and complexity. Delivering a project on-time and on-budget has been fundamental to Magil's success.

Founded in 1953 by architect Louis B. Magil, the company specialized in residential construction. It has since expanded into commercial, industrial and institutional construction valued in billions of dollars.

**MAGIL**

www.magil.com



# Proud to be Canadian?

Canada provides hundreds of million of dollars in aid to dictators, tyrants, and corrupt governments around the world.

Of the 25 countries named in the new International Policy Statement as key recipients of Canadian aid, only 6 are deemed by Freedom House to be free, while 19 are unfree or dictatorships. All 25 are identified as having corruption as a major problem, combined with weak parliaments, a lack of transparency and little respect for the rule of law.

Instead of working to bring about positive change, Canadian aid allows these dysfunctional and sometimes tyrannical regimes to remain intact while we apply band-aids to the symptoms.

Canada consistently fails to support democracies around the world such as India, Taiwan, America and Israel. In many cases, we actively work against them. And with the exception of Ukraine, Canada refuses to take measurable action to support the billions of people aspiring for democracy, freedom and accountable governments around the world.

## Make Democracy a Guiding Principle

Canada's foreign policy is centred around three Ds (Defense, Development and Diplomacy). CCD believes that our policies should be guided by a 4th D, Democracy. Canada must make ending corruption, respect for the rule of law, and open, accountable and transparent governments key foreign policy priorities. If you agree, become a member of the CCD.

Founded in 2003, the Canadian Coalition for Democracies (CCD) is an organization of concerned Canadians dedicated to the protection and promotion of democracy at home and abroad. CCD will influence the Canadian political process and public opinion to achieve a more pro-democracy foreign policy.

Canadian  
**Coalition**  
for **Democracies**

PO Box 72602 - 345 Bloor Street East, Toronto, ON, M4W 3J0, Canada  
Tel: 416-963-8998 • Fax: 425-944-3546 • [www.CanadianCoalition.com](http://www.CanadianCoalition.com)



# « Heureux sans dieu » : 14 voix pour l'athéisme

L'ouvrage collectif *Heureux sans Dieu*, qui vient de paraître sous la direction de Daniel Baril et Normand Baillargeon, offre un kaléidoscope sur un thème fort peu abordé dans nos sociétés soi-disant modernes : l'athéisme. Pourtant, comme le rappelle Hervé Fischer dans sa communication les athées représentent 25% des Canadiens selon un sondage effectué en mai 2008.

Cependant, mal venus seraient ceux qui voudraient trouver dans ce collectif une doctrine sur l'athéisme. Aucun mythe fondateur sur lequel échafauder quelques principes de base. Aucun rituel, aucun ornement. Aucun contenu doctrinaire, aucun guru à adorer. Pas de prosélytisme. L'athée ne cherche pas à convaincre,

il exprime seulement ce qu'il est.

Certains des auteurs sont athées « presque » de naissance ; c'est le cas de Normand Baillargeon (philosophe) qui se considère « intact de dieu », pour emprunter à Prévert. Isabelle Maréchal (journaliste, comédienne, éditorialiste et animatrice à la radio et à la télévision) : « D'aussi loin que je me souviens, je crois bien que je n'ai jamais cru... Croire c'est se rallier à un même courant d'idées et ne plus avoir à penser ». Yannick Villedieu (journaliste scientifique), a compris très jeune que dieu était une hypothèse dont on n'avait pas besoin. Yves Gingras (sociologue des sciences), lui, nous amène tout de suite dans le vif du sujet, c'est-à-dire sa conception de la vie en

société : « Croyez en qui vous voulez et élevez les temples que vous voulez (à vos frais et dans le respect des lois et règlements bien sûr...), mais ne perturbez pas la vie publique avec vos pratiques et encore moins avec vos injonctions religieuses. » Hervé Fischer (artiste et philosophe) apporte quelque chose de relativement nouveau dans le domaine de la science, la mythanalyse qui réfléchit sur « la puissance de la religion et des superstitions en général ». Elle a une visée thérapeutique en vue du progrès de la société. La mythanalyse « considère la religion comme une névrose collective, comme une aliénation masochiste et doloriste ».

Pour la plupart des auteurs l'abandon de la foi religieuse s'est produit

vers l'adolescence. Ghyslaine Taschereau (écrivain et humoriste) qui « ne comprend pas pourquoi les représentants de la secte catholique doivent se priver de sexe... Pourquoi donc l'Être suprême leur aurait-il installé bite et con si c'était pour leur en interdire l'usage? ». Vers l'âge de 15 ans, Louis Gill (économiste) a décroché de la religion suite à une discussion en classe, et Daniel Baril (anthropologue) à 13 ans suite à une confession pour « necking », la honte d'avoir raconté ça à un prêtre. Louise Gendron (journaliste) a décroché vers l'âge de 12 ou 13 ans, devant les incohérences de la vie au couvent et de ses « questions insolentes » au dire des religieuses plutôt embêtées de ne savoir quoi répondre. Arlette Cousture



(écrivaine) à 12 ans, elle sert la messe, se fait charitablement traiter d'« innocente » pour la négligence d'une bonne sœur qui avait omis de sortir le voile de l'ostensoir qu'elle devait remettre au prêtre. Cette humiliation n'était que le début d'une série de prises de conscience face à la religion, ce qui l'amena à apostasier secrètement alors qu'elle était en Belles-Lettres aux études classiques. « Tout athée que je sois, je n'ai jamais été indifférente à la vie et à ses exigences parfois terriblement difficiles. Au contraire j'ai toujours été tentée d'aider ou d'intervenir, de soulager ou d'accompagner. Et ce sont les valeurs que je souhaite avoir transmises à mes enfants ». Pour Louise Dussault (comédienne) c'est l'ouverture à une carrière d'artiste, de théâtre et de chant qui transforme son orientation. Elle s'est vue confrontée à la vindicte de l'Église catholique et de ses mœurs puritaines lors de la création de la pièce de Denise Boucher, *Les fées* ont soif, en 1978. Un des moments historiques forts qui a contribué à la libération de la femme au Québec. Pour Yves Lever (enseignant et consultant en cinéma) le passage de la foi à l'athéisme s'effectuera vers la trentaine après être devenu prêtre jésuite. « Tout ce sacré apparaît dérisoire quand on oriente son esprit dans une autre direction, quand on sait que la soif ne prouvera jamais l'existence de la source ».

Quatorze témoignages de libération que vous aurez plaisir à lire si vous êtes athées, que vous aurez plaisir à détester, peut-être, si vous êtes croyants et le prenez trop personnel.

*Heureux sans dieu, Montréal, VLB éditeur, 2009.*

## RETRO HEAT

# Old Cast Iron Radiators



Shafter Bros. Inc  
Since 1927

259 Van Horne Avenue  
Montreal, Quebec Canada  
H2V 1H9

Tel: 514.274.8347  
Fax: 514.274.7652  
Toll Free: 1.800.361.1778

[www.oldcastironradiators.com](http://www.oldcastironradiators.com)  
[www.steamexperts.com](http://www.steamexperts.com)



# le ch<sup>âteau</sup>teau

ladieswear . menswear . footwear . accessories

