

## Leader's Connections Tour - Overview of local meetings and events that have occurred about the Province, February 27-March 14

Phil Lees, Leader's Report excerpts, 20 March 2010

### February 27 - Eastern Ontario Regional Council Meeting

On Feb 27, East Region FCP members elected a new Regional VP, Tom Lavrisa. Tom comes to FCP with a great deal of experience in the pro-life arena and with executive organizational skills. The Eastern Ontario Regional Council is working to establish an executive group that will work to develop a strategy for building membership and advocating for pro-family principles in this region.

This has been an exciting process. Look forward to working with Tom and this eastern Ontario district to build a strong team that will advocate for family and life principles in the region.



### March 1, 2, 3

#### Golden Horseshoe Coffee Parties

On the evenings of March 1, 2, & 3, FCP Golden Horseshoe hosted three coffee party meetings. Each meeting was attended by 10 to 16 guests.

At the meetings there was a very positive response to the new role of constituency associations. The most important strategy is simple:

- *Constituency associations will advocate for these principles within their community between elections and also to prepare and support our candidates in the provincial elections.*
- *The role of central office is to inform, equip & mobilize by providing the training and tools (e.g. turn-key advocacy campaigns) for constituency associations to effectively represent the principles we share*



It is great to see new members excited about getting involved in the local community and seeing members take on responsibility for building membership in their area.

### **March 10 - Leeds & Grenville Inaugural Constituency Association Meeting**

It was my pleasure to be present at Fire Hall #2, Brockville for the first FCP Leeds & Grenville Constituency Association meeting.

The meeting was organized and chaired by Mike Dwyer. Attendees were very supportive of the new strategies, and spent a great deal of time discussing the education issues and how they may start with this important issue.



**Mike Dwyer and Leeds & Grenville meeting**

### **March 11 – Meeting with Clergy in Ottawa over Education issue**

On March 11, Phil met with Ottawa clergy over the issue of parental rights in education and education curriculum that is in conflict with traditional values and principles. Clergy were very supportive and have asked for a PEACE (Public Education Advocates for Christian Equity) strategy training session. Churches cannot work directly with FCP, but FCP does work with PEACE Ontario, an organization that has developed a strategy that informs families about policies and curriculum that is in conflict with the values of traditional homes and provides strategies and options for parents to lessen the affect of curriculum that could lead to confusion in the minds of children about what is right or wrong for them.

### **March 13 Evening - Kingston FCP Meeting**

It was great to see a small, but very enthusiastic group out to the meeting organized by Rev. Reynolds James at the Amherstview Church.

Thanks again to the very supportive group. Special thanks to John and Marilyn Craig who billeted the Leader and saved the Party the cost of a hotel fee.

**March 14 - Church Service**

I was asked to speak at a church service about the need for people to get involved in the issues of the community. FCP was not promoted, but people were concerned about the issues and need to get involved.

**March 14 - Afternoon, Renfrew Organization Meeting**

After church I drove from Kingston to Egansville to meet with members and discuss strategy for Renfrew. This is a very rural Electoral District, with great concern over property rights.

Again the response to our FCP strategies was greatly supported.

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**Overall** – I am feeling as though we are very much on the right track!