



www.caw.ca

CAW Delegates Meet in Final Election Push to Stop Harper Majority

April 30, 2011

(Port Elgin/ Toronto) Approximately 700 elected CAW delegates from across the country supported the call for a final push to prevent the election of a Conservative majority in Monday's federal election and limit the number of Conservative-held seats. The discussion and subsequent vote took place at a meeting of the CAW Council, the parliamentary body of the union, in Port Elgin, Ontario.

"We are extremely encouraged by the rise of the NDP in the opinion polls, and by the modest erosion of Conservative support," Lewenza said. "The NDP platform of reversing corporate tax cuts to invest in health care, pensions, and the environment, is both progressive and economically prudent."

"But that doesn't change the fact that the Harper Conservatives could still be on the cusp of winning a majority, and that would result in tremendous harm in our social fabric."

"We have to make sure on May 2 that the Conservatives do not win a majority, and that's what should guide our strategy in each riding," Lewenza concluded.

CAW Council delegates reaffirmed the union's election strategy, which has focused on preventing a Conservative majority and supporting progressive candidates.

The CAW, after consulting with local leadership and activists, has endorsed 44 NDP candidates in winnable ridings, including all incumbent NDP Members of Parliament. The CAW is also supporting 34 Liberal candidates in identified close ridings, where they have the best chance of defeating the Conservative, as well as Green Party leader Elizabeth May in Saanich-Gulf Islands.

Several CAW members are running as NDP candidates, including incumbents Malcolm Allen (Welland) and Peter Stoffer (Sackville-Eastern Shore), as well as Peggy Nash (Parkdale-High Park) and Local 222 President Chris Buckley (Oshawa). Former CAW Quebec Director Luc Desnoyers is running for re-election for the Bloc Québécois in Rivière-des-Mille-Îles.

-30-

For more information, please contact CAW Communications Shannon Devine (cell) 416-302-1699 or John McClyment (cell) 416-315-3202 or visit: <http://www.caw.ca/en/10080.htm>