

## REFORM PARTY OF ONTARIO's "PURPLE BOOK"

November 2009    **A STRONGER ONTARIO IN CONFEDERATION**

### **Our Values & Principles:**

1. The will of the majority must prevail, within the bounds of the Canadian Constitution.
3. Government services should be provided at the level closest to the user of that service, with that level of government being held accountable to voters.
4. Taxation should occur only to fund government services authorized by the people's representatives.
5. We believe that budgets must be balanced and that financing is only appropriate for infrastructure projects that will generate revenues for the government in the future.
6. We believe that Ontarians are overtaxed and that our tax system must be simplified, reorganized, and taxes reduced.
7. All citizens are equal.
8. All provinces are equal.
9. We believe that all three levels of government in Canada must have unique and non-overlapping responsibilities.
16. We believe that Ontario's society must remain harmonious and to that end Ontario should work towards a New Ontario Vision.

### **Ontario's proper place in Confederation:**

Ontario is Canada's second-largest province by land area and its most populous one. Ontario creates 40% of the wealth created by the Canadian economy. Canada has not elected a prime minister from Ontario in 40 years. Ontario has for too long been seen as a pool of votes to support the wishes of other parts of the country. Some \$20-billion leaves Ontario each year, to be used by the federal government as well as transferred to other provinces and territories.

### **To that end, we propose the following remedies:**

1. Ontario must obtain proper representation in the federal House of Commons and Senate, which means more MPs and Senators.
2. Reform Ontario's New Ontario Vision will see the province follow a path of greater leadership in confederation, regularly initiating new ideas and leading the federal-provincial agenda.
3. Ontario will become more autonomous as part of the Who Does What Commission process, and will exclude the federal government from provincial and municipal jurisdictions.
4. Ontario will follow Quebec's lead by developing a separate Income Tax system, as well as a separate Ontario Pension Plan.
5. Ontario will insist on a role concerning immigrants as Quebec now enjoys.
6. Ontario will initiate a new Ontario Cultural agenda to encourage harmony amongst our many and various cultural groups. This will include an end to unofficial bilingualism, as Quebec has successfully done, plus a sign law promoting the use of English.