

# Federal By-Election November 27, 2006

## London North Centre Voter's Guide



All seven candidates were asked to rate and comment on the following statements.

5 = Strongly Agree 4 = Agree 3 = Undecided  
2 = Disagree 1 = Strongly Disagree

**1) Marriage Definition:** I support the Parliament of Canada reconsidering legislation that recently changed the definition of marriage to include same-sex relationships.

[Note: A bill which will allow MP's to decide if the redefinition of marriage is to be reviewed will be put before parliament in the coming months.]

**2) Euthanasia:** I favour maintaining the existing criminal code ban on euthanasia & doctor assisted suicide.

[Note: The termination of treatment which is burdensome to the patient, while offering no benefit to the patient, is not euthanasia. Food and fluids, however administered, are not treatment but essential means of life and must normally be provided. When death is imminent and when food and fluids cannot be used by the body, the removal of these is not considered euthanasia.]

**3) Abortion:** I support the introduction of legal restrictions on abortion.

[Note: Currently in Canada abortion can be provided to anyone requesting it for any reason or no reason, up until birth. The child in the womb has no rights and is not considered a "person" until "fully born alive".]

**4) Informed Consent:** I support full disclosure of all relevant medical information and a reasonable waiting period to consider the information for all persons considering an abortion.

[Note: Detailed information is provided for virtually all intrusive medical procedures - except abortion.

Some jurisdictions provide information developed cooperatively by opposing sides of the abortion issue including: stages of fetal development, methods and medical risks, emotional reactions and alternatives. A waiting period of 48 hours is provided to allow for consideration of the information provided.]

**5) Conscience Clause:** I will support legislation which will acknowledge the right of health care workers to refuse to participate in procedures which are in violation of their religious or conscientious beliefs.

[Note: Health professionals have requested legislation to protect them from being forced to assist in abortions and other medical procedures to which they are morally opposed.]

**6) Child Pornography:** I support the strengthening of Canadian laws which prohibit the production, possession and distribution of child pornography.

[Note: In January 1999, a BC court struck down the Criminal Code section prohibiting the possession of child pornography, describing it as "too broad". The court recommended the law be changed to not allow "artistic merit" as a defence for possession but to allow the term "public good"].

**7) Interest Group Funding:** I support the elimination of direct government funding of interest groups which actively seek to influence government policy or legislation.

[Note: Millions of tax dollars are spent annually to fund particular interest groups. Many of these groups have not demonstrated adequate support from the general public to sustain their efforts without government funding. Other groups with proven public support receive no government funding.]

### Will Arlow – Canadian Action Party

**1) Marriage Definition:** 2 = Disagree

I feel a certain kind of affirmation in the value of the institution of marriage by the new definition.

**2) Euthanasia:** 2 = Disagree

I think there ought to be a legal humane way for loved ones to bring an end to the suffering of a terminally ill or devastatingly injured person who clearly desires to end their own life but is unable to do so. This kind of action will clearly require some antiquated belief systems to be revised.

**3) Abortion:** 2 = Disagree

I am not in favor of the laws that exist now in Canada as I see no safe place to draw the line on the start of a human life except at conception... abortion is the complete and absolute abrogation of all of the rights of the unborn to protect the mother from a partial and temporary impairment of rights. In this scenario the onus clearly lies with the mother to prove beyond the shadow of any reasonable doubt that the unborn is not a person. The onus does not lie with the unborn to prove that it is a life.

**6) Child Pornography:** 4 = Agree

... I am not decided on any course of action. I don't think that legal mechanisms can be looked to in this arena with a lot of reasonable hope to provide solutions for problems that exist inside the heads of damaged individuals.

**7) Interest Group Funding:** 1 = Strongly Disagree

I support Government funding of interest groups that meet reasonable criteria and that offer themselves up in an accountable way as to how they use the funds.

### Elizabeth May – Green Party of Canada

**1) Marriage Definition:** 1 = Strongly Disagree

The issue has been settled and should not be re-opened.

**2) Euthanasia:** 3 = Undecided

We would seek greater public input in resolving this difficult question.

**3) Abortion:** 2 = Disagree

I respect the concerns for the sanctity of life – removing access to legal abortions will lead to suffering and death of desperate pregnant women.

**4) Informed Consent:** 2 = Disagree

Women considering abortion should have time to consider their options and should be encouraged to carry the baby to term – I must say "disagree: medical information should not be disclosed publicly.

**5) Conscience Clause:** 4 = Agree

Conscience is critical and no one – in a field – should be forced to ignore personal moral choice.

**6) Child Pornography:** 5 = Strongly Agree

We need to give prosecutors and police better tools to crack down and prevent abuse of children – especially via the internet.

**7) Interest Group Funding:** 2 = Disagree

Many NGOs do excellent work in the public interest.

### Glen Pearson – Liberal Party of Canada

**2) Euthanasia:** 4 = Agree

I do support a person or their substitute decision maker being able to stop medical treatment when death is imminent, except for pain medication.

**3) Abortion:** 2 = Disagree

Generally believe women are capable of making these decisions. Those opposed should use their free-speech rights to convince others of their moral beliefs.

**4) Informed Consent:** 3 = Undecided

If implemented there must be complete fairness as to the information provided during a very short waiting period.

**6) Child Pornography:** 2 = Disagree

I generally believe that present laws are working as enforced.

**7) Interest Group Funding:** 2 = Disagree

It is useful to allow alternative points of view. A new fair procedure may be required to determine funding.

### Robert Ede – Independent

**1) Marriage Definition:** 5 = Strongly Agree

Whole idea of homosexual "marriages" makes Canada look ridiculous. If 2 people want "civil union" ok.

**2) Euthanasia:** 5 = Strongly Agree

The state cannot take a life.

**3) Abortion:** 5 = Strongly Agree

No state funding for this "procedure". 100,000 "deaths" per year in Canada and we wonder why birth rate is so low.

**4) Informed Consent:** 5 = Strongly Agree

People will have abortions, but state should not be sanctioning it as "ok" nor funding the procedure.

**5) Conscience Clause:** 5 = Strongly Agree

I look forward to a case being brought.

**6) Child Pornography:** 5 = Strongly Agree

This too is a moral outrage – a sign of the decline in morals of public and ethics in government – what could be artistic?

**7) Interest Group Funding:** 5 = Strongly Agree

I favour phasing out all subsidies & reducing overall tax rates.

### Steve Hunter – Independent

**1) Marriage Definition:** 1 = Strongly Disagree

– time to move on. A smoke and mirrors tactic to take away from the fact that they are dismantling our health care system.

**5) Conscience Clause:** 1 = Strongly Disagree

Why are you in the health care business? Yourself or the people you help.

**6) Child Pornography:** 4 = Agree

– laws are in place. Fear mongering has never solved any problems.

### \*Dianne Haskett – Conservative (CPC)

Will address these issues in upcoming public forums.

5 = Strongly Agree 4 = Agree  
3 = Undecided 2 = Disagree  
1 = Strongly Disagree

Marriage Definition  
Euthanasia  
Abortion  
Informed Consent  
Conscience Clause  
Child Pornography  
Interest Group Funding

	Marriage Definition	Euthanasia	Abortion	Informed Consent	Conscience Clause	Child Pornography	Interest Group Funding
Will Arlow - Canadian Action	2	2	2	5	5	4	1
Glen Pearson - Liberal	2	4	2	3	3	2	2
Elizabeth May - Green Party	1	3	2	2	4	5	2
Robert Ede - Independent	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Steve Hunter - Independent	1	3	3	3	1	4	3
Megan Walker - NDP	1	1	1	1	1	5	1
Dianne Haskett - Conservative	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

For information on advance polls on November 17, 18, & 20 visit our website or call Elections Canada 1 800 463-6868

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