

Stephen Harper's Patronage Frenzy

37 Conservative insiders appointed in just six weeks

Background:

Appointments by John Baird (Sept 9):

William Wheatley – Director of the Board of VIA Rail Canada	Donated \$1100.00 to Conservative Party of Canada in 2008 (Elections Canada)
Terry Geddes – Great Lakes Pilotage Authority	Endorsed Helena Guergis in 2006 Election (Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin, Jan 25 2006)

Appointments by John Baird to Toronto Port Authority Board (Sept 1):

Robert Poirier	Organized \$1,100/plate fundraiser with Tony Clement in 2009 (JoeOliver.ca, Conservative Candidate in Eglinton-Lawrence)
G. Mark Curry	Donated to Progressive Conservative Candidate in 1997 (Elections Canada)

Appointments by Diane Finley to Employment Insurance Act Boards of Referees (Sept 9):

Nick Katalifos	Donated Conservative MP Maxime Bernier (Elections Canada)
Claire-Marie Jadot	Donated to Conservative Party in 2006 (Elections Canada)
James Carpeneto	Donated to Conservative MP Pat Davidson in 2008 (Elections Canada)
Heather Jane Chutter	Former member of Vancouver Quadra Conservative Association (Vancouver Sun, May 22, 2007)

Appointment by Greg Thompson to Veterans Review and Appeal Board (Sept 9):

Joseph Wilfred Arsenault	Former P.E.I. Progressive Conservative MLA (Charlottetown Guardian, September 10, 2009)
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Appointments by Diane Finley to Canada Pension Plan Review Tribunals (Sept 9):

Judy Dreeshen	Conservative campaign worker and spouse of Conservative MP Earl Dreeshen (Red Deer Advocate, March 26, 2008)
Joe Spina	Brampton Progressive Conservative MPP, 1995-2003 (Ontario Legislative Assembly)
Jeffrey Keefe	Donated to Conservative Party Candidate in 2006 (Elections Canada)
Suzanne Déry	Donated to former Conservative MP Luc Harvey (Elections Canada)
Kelley Sherwood	Conservative/Reform Party activist; appeared in 1997 Reform Party platform (Ottawa Citizen, October 19, 1996) Spouse of former PMO operative Kory Teneycke
Arthur Lust	Donated to Conservative MP John Baird in 2008 (Elections Canada)
James Walsh	Donated to Conservative Party in 2004 (Elections Canada)
Robbie Grossman	VP of St. Paul's PC Association (stpaulspca.com)

Appointment by Jason Kenney of Citizenship Judge (Sept 9):

Raminder Gill	Ontario Progressive Conservative MPP, 1999-2003 (Ontario Legislative Assembly) 3-time Federal Conservative candidate (1997, 2004, 2006) (Elections Canada)
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Appointment by Jason Kenney to Immigration and Refugee Board (Oct 6):

Gilles Guenette	Donated to Conservative MP Royal Galipeau in 2006. (Elections Canada) 1988 Progressive Conservative Candidate in Ottawa-Vanier
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	(Elections Canada)
Michel Byczak	Donated \$1,000 to Conservative candidate in 2004 (Elections Canada)

Appointments by Rob Nicholson and Stephen Harper to Federal Courts (Sept 9):

Peter Bryson – Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia	Donated \$4,750 to Conservative Party and Candidates since 2006 (Elections Canada)
Claude Dallaire – Puisne Judge of the Superior Court for the district of Montréal	Donated to 2008 Conservative Party Candidate in Lac-Saint- Louis (Elections Canada)
William Burnett – Judge of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench for Manitoba.	Donated \$2,000 to Conservative Party since 2005 (Elections Canada)
Robert Dewar – Judge of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench for Manitoba.	Donated to Conservative Party in 2008 (Elections Canada)
Pierre Blais – Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Appeal and a member ex officio of the Federal Court.	Conservative Cabinet Minister under Brian Mulroney (1987-1993)

Appointment by James Moore of Canadian Human Rights Museum Director (Sept 10):

Stuart Murray	Former Leader of the Manitoba Conservatives (2000-2006)
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Appointment by Tony Clement to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (Sept 9):

Christopher Essex	Former Reform Party Activist (National Post, November 18, 1999)
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Appointment by Peter Van Loan to National Parole Board, Atlantic Regional Division (Sept 9):

Mildred Dover	Former PEI Progressive Conservative MLA (1996-2007)
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Appointment by Jim Prentice to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (Sept 9):

Leonard Cusack	Former PEI Progressive Conservative Candidate (Elections PEI)
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Appointment by Stephen Harper to the Advisory Council on National Security (Sept 26):

Karen Oldfield	Chief of Staff for Nova Scotia Premier John Hamm's Office (PMO News Release, September 26, 2009)
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Appointments by Stephen Harper to the Senate (August 27):

Doug Finley	Director of Political Operations and National Campaign Director for the Conservative Party of Canada
Carolyn Stewart Olsen	Former Stephen Harper Director of Strategic Communications
Don Plett	President of the Conservative Party of Canada
Judith Seidman	Harper's leadership campaign co-chair for Quebec in 2003 (Toronto Star, August 28, 2009)
Claude Carignan	Conservative candidate in the 2008 federal election (Elections Canada)
Kelvin Ogilvie	Donated to 2004 Conservative candidate in Kings-Hants, NS (Elections Canada)
Linda Frum Sokolowski	Co-Chaired 2003 Canadian Alliance fundraiser (National Post, August 2, 2003)