

The “Big L” Case for Kevin Falcon:

December 7, 2010

Dear Liberal Friends,

Over the past several decades, we have been honoured to work with you on many Federal Liberal campaigns in BC. Like you, we are enormously proud of the volunteer efforts we have collectively put in for Liberal Leaders from Trudeau right through to Ignatieff. In good times and bad we have been grateful to serve in various leadership positions including Candidates, Women's Commission President, BC Campaign Co chair, Party President, Campaign managers and as Young Liberals. In some elections, we have simply worked on sign crews, raised money or most importantly of all, canvassed for Liberal candidates in the rain and snow, all because - like you - we share a strong passion for the pursuit of Liberal values in our democracy.

In recent days, our thoughts have turned to provincial politics and the current BC Liberal Party Leadership race. As you know, on Feb 26, 2011 the BC Liberal Party will select a new leader for the first time in 17 years. This leadership campaign presents a historic opportunity for grass roots party renewal and a debate that we hope you will all participate in.

The BC Liberal party has always been a big tent and must continue to be a harmonious coalition of reasonably-minded citizens spanning the wide center of the BC political spectrum.

What unites us all is the desire for a government that brings together the key elements of fiscal prudence while recognizing that in a province as vast as BC, government has a positive role to play in the lives of our citizens. At this critical time in our provincial life, we believe that BC needs a Premier who is a team player with a demonstrated ability to get things done; one with a keen understanding of the importance of the all regions of this province, and the role we can all play in moving our Provincial agenda forward. A leader driven not by ideology, but by doing what is right. A Leader with a deep commitment to evidence-based decision making and a willingness to grow the BC Liberal family from both sides of our coalition.

We have nothing but the deepest respect for all the candidates in this race; however, we believe one particular candidate stands apart from the pack - Kevin Falcon.

If you look at his record as a Minister and public servant we hope you'll see why.

Socially progressive, Kevin Falcon has been an outspoken and articulate champion for Vancouver's Insite, a harm-reduction model that has successfully decreased the adverse health, social and economic consequences of drug addiction on the downtown eastside. Mr. Falcon listened to the doctors, front-line social workers and addicts about this critical program; he then immersed himself in deep study about the medical facts and how this program was helping those most in need. Then he led, throwing the full weight as Health

Minister behind the program. This is but one example of Mr. Falcon's demonstrated record of making sound public policy decisions based on evidence and rational facts. This style of leadership can also be seen through Kevin Falcon's unwavering support for BC's world leading Aids research, which was recently commended by Dr. Julio Montaner from the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS.

On the day Kevin announced his intention to seek the Leadership, he spoke eloquently about the need to support young children with special needs,

"bright children with dyslexia - many of whom have unique skills for a digital world - shouldn't be forgotten because our education system is not geared to help them learn the way they need to learn. So too with autistic children. We must ensure parents of autistic children are supported in choosing the best style of intervention for their kids and ensuring parents know that they will have support in figuring out how we can make the system work better for them - not have them work better with our system"

We believe that Kevin Falcon has the capacity to develop the best plan to help young families in BC whether it be with support for our children or with our aging parents.

On economic issues, Kevin Falcon has a solid record as a builder, driving forward critical infrastructure projects in our Province that have made BC more competitive in the global economy. These include helping grow the Port of Prince Rupert and the further investments that have been facilitated with inter-modal facilities in Prince George, to the Canada line. With all these matters, Kevin Falcon has demonstrated his ability to lead by doing what was right for our jobs and economy.

As proud Federal Liberals and BC Liberals, we believe that it is time for a new generation of Leadership in BC. A leader that Listens, Learns and Leads.

We humbly submit to you that Kevin Falcon is that Leader.

We look forward to being in touch with you in the days ahead to discuss how you can join with us and get involved in Kevin's campaign.

Best wishes and thank you,

Celso Boscariol,	Past President LPC BC, Laurier Club Chair
Bill Brooks,	Past Candidate, Langley
Judy Higginbotham,	Past Candidate, South Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale
Adam Korbin,	Past VP Vancouver Quadra Riding.
Doug Leung,	Four time Campaign Manager, Vancouver Quadra
Catherine Loiacono,	Past Young Liberal Executive Member
Caroline Murphy,	Past President, LPC BC Women's Commission
Scott Nichol,	Past Riding Association President, Campaign Manger
Tom Panos,	Laurier Club Member, riding volunteer
Eric Yung,	Member, LPC (BC) Communications Committee
Bruce Young,	2008 LPC (BC) Campaign Co Chair