

FROM WHERE I SIT
by *Frank Gardiner*
YMASC Past President 1971 - 1972

Occupy This!

Dear Mr. Doyle, **RE: your article today “ After the Tory attacks on the CBC, who’ll be next ?**

“From where I sit !” being a old, fun loving 5th generation Canadian “colonial” descended from Protestant Irish from and around the Irish village of Killala , I enjoy your Globe and Mail column on a regular basis.

However, as a 67 year old proud grandfather and quill pen closet writer at http://www.ymasctorontoalumni.org/from_where.html , I do believe as the old folk song says “ times are a changing ” and challenge your fear mongering article and your use of the phrase“witch hunt “ by Conservastives !.

In our Canada our “ two solitudes “ are no longer English and French.....nor are they Conservative versus Liberal and others.

The new “two solitudes” occupying and now polarizing many Canadians is the severe disconnect between these new Canadian solitudes of :

Solitude # 1 - “those on the government payroll with all its secret tax funded benefits and entitlements” (aka -“ the haves” – both Liberal and Conservatives)

and Solitude # 2 “ those in our ever diminishing private sector not on the government payroll “ (aka - the “ have nots! “ - both Liberals and Conservativesand others like the Occupy group !)

Ordinary Canadians making up Solitude # 2 “ not on the government payroll “ for the most part no longer TRUST our governments , lawyers, unions, some charities and Bay Street !

Just like educational or work history qualifications, to ask that our tax funded salaries, benefits and entitlements be open and available upon request is I believe the new qualification for understanding individual expertise and government and should never be interpreted as you did in your Globe and Mail article today.

Global village economies and interconnectedness make this current OCCUPY movement a distant relative of some kind yet to be clearly clarified in today’s reality to long ago Pete Seegar and the 1960’s anthem “ We Shall Overcome” of my generation .

This spirit of talking truth to power within the “ we are the 99 per cent” Occupy slogan is perhaps a glimpse of things to come embraced by full disclosure, transparency and accountability on all fronts.

In closing, please accept this my email not so much as criticism of your article but more as a new and hopefully more open and better idea to manage our hard earned tax dollars within the creative spirit of occupying minds..... rather than public parks.