

August 8, 2005

Green Party of Canada – office@greenparty.ca  
Green Party of Manitoba – president@greenparty.mb.ca

Attention: President/Membership Chair

Please accept this letter as my membership resignation from your political parties. A combination of factors has influenced me to leave the Greens.

### 1) Personality over Policies

My interest in politics and political reform has been eroded by personal revelations that politics is more about personality than policies. Greens and other anti-status-quo political parties have pursued the betterment of society by attempting to reform our political structures. Yet, these political structures ultimately do not determine the kind of leadership and government we get.

The Greens have worked for over twenty years to educate Canadians about the importance of ecological thinking. Greens have promoted human rights, ecological sustainability, and political reform. The passion and logic of these positions have influenced other parties to adopt Green policies and parts of Green platforms.

Yet these Green policies and platforms are meaningless without the development of leaders, candidates, and an infrastructure that can put the policies into practice. The capacity and competence of the individual must be known before they are elected. Because a good leader will ignore bad policies and a bad leader will ignore good policies, it is the judgment of the leader that trumps everything else. Unfortunately, the Greens either fail to support its good leaders or fail to elect good leadership. This is because political parties generally fail to recognize the critical importance of personality in our candidates, party executives, and governments. I define this importance as follows:

#### **Political Persona Process**

Politics is about Governance.

Governance is about Laws.

Laws are about Philosophy.

Philosophy is about Personality.

Personality is about the interplay of perception, culture, values, and judgment.

As experienced in my professional life and in my political life, I have witnessed the power and tragedy of decisions made by persons who ignore the Process. It is not for a lack of education that our government institutions suffer from incompetence and waste, it is because of prejudiced views, a lack of thinking skill, and a dearth in motivation.

The quality and capability of the individual being elected is the single most important determinant in the type of government we will get. The more power and responsibility this individual has, the more important it is to understand this person's quality of character – their personality.

For Green politics to succeed, creating Green laws will not be enough. The quality of the laws written and the ability to enforce the law depends completely on the quality of people that Greens elect. Bad laws and bad government come from people who are not competent to fully comprehend the issues involved. The Greens are no better than any other party in addressing this issue.

## 2) Green Members Fail To Recognize This Process

The membership of the Greens fails to recognize this Process. They are ecological in their worldview but only up to a point. Other philosophical ideals are chosen to override the importance of the Political Persona Process.

Greens say that everything is interconnected. Yet, many Greens have jumped to the ideological extreme of thinking that interconnectedness also means equality. They mistakenly believe that everything and everyone is equally worthy. I have witnessed members who have been disruptive and hostile be treated with the same respect afforded to somebody who has dedicated time and money to the Greens. This is socially corrupt.

By ignoring the basis of merit – that some personalities should be supported over others – the Greens have demonstrated that they cannot be competent to run a government.

So for these reasons, I feel it is necessary to resign as member of both federal and provincial branches of the Green Party. I intend to further explore the importance of the Political Persona Process and hope that all political parties will further consider this critical factor in political governance.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Billows".

Chris Billows

Founding Member of Green Party of the Canada in Manitoba (1997)

Founding Member and President of the Green Party of Manitoba (1998)