

SCANDALS?

***We Don't Got No
Stinking Scandals***



***Why Canadians Are
Cynical About Politics***

by Wendy Elliott

Scandals? We Don't Got No Stinking Scandals:
Why Canadians are Cynical About Politics

© 2013 Wendy Elliott. All rights reserved.

First print edition by Wendy Elliott:
Welliott Publishing, 2005, Canada
ISBN 978-0-9780264-0-3

Cover design and cover copyright by Wendy Elliott.

The scanning and distribution of this book without permission is illegal and an infringement of the author's intellectual property. For permission, other than for review purposes, please contact the author at wendyelliott.ca.

Contents

Preface	1
Introduction	3
The Stinking Scandals	
Confederation & the 19th Century	7
1. The First Official Scandal	7
2. Assassination of the Agriculture Minister	8
3. The Pacific Scandal	9
4. Let Us Buy Your Vote	10
5. The Uppity Speaker	11
6. Conflict of Interest and the Defence Minister	11
7. Father Brown's Untimely Death	12
8. Den of Forty Thieves	13
9. President and Leader of the Official Opposition	13
10. Divorce and the Finance Minister	14
11. The Rykert Timber Scandal	15
12. The Caraquet Railway Scandal	16
13. Sex and the Finance Minister	17
14. A Too-friendly Postmaster General	18
15. CPR and the Necklace	18
16. The McGreevy & Langevin Dredging Scandal	19
17. The Baie des Chaleurs Railway Scandal	21
18. The Quebec and Lac St. Jean Railway Scandal	22
The 20th Century Begins: A clean slate?	24
19. Nepotism, Shmepotism	24
20. Lord Graham and Electoral Fraud	24
21. Sex and the Railways Minister	25
22. Corrupt Electioneering and the Public Works Minister	26
23. Slippery Bill's Paved Road	26
24. The Great Waterways Railway Scandal	27

25.	Manitoba Legislative Building Corruption	27
26.	A World War I No-No	28
27.	The Halifax and South Western Railway Scandal	29
28.	Public Works Corruption (What a concept)	30
29.	Sir Crazy Sam	30
30.	The Patriotic Potato Scandal	31
31.	Highway Robbery	32
32.	The Red Menace Threat to Nova Scotians	33
33.	Booze and the Customs Scandal	34
34.	Crazy Sir Sam and the Currie Smear	35
35.	The Beauharnois Power Scandal	36
36.	Sex and the Public Works Minister	38
37.	Electoral Fraud in Nova Scotia	39
38.	Sex and the Premier	40
39.	Special Branch Spy D.208	41
40.	Greasing the Wheel	42
41.	The Gouzenko Spy Scandal	43
42.	Slander and the Premier	45
43.	The Premier's Passion Pit	46
44.	On the Petawawa Payroll	47
45.	Children Highway Builders	47
46.	Federal Electoral Fraud	48
47.	ON: Highway Robbery	48
48.	Booze and the Health Minister	50
49.	Joey and Dr. Valdmanis	50
The Dawn of a New Era?		53
50.	The Fighting Dempsey	53
51.	Hard To See the Forest for the Trees	53
52.	Expenses and Favours	54
53.	Québec: Electoral Fraud	55
54.	The Investigation of the Ambassador	56

55.	Ontario: Got Gas?	57
56.	Québec: Got Gas?	58
57.	From State to Senate to Scandal	58
58.	Firing the Governor	59
59.	The Voters' Certificates Scandal	60
60.	The Lawyers and the Mob	61
61.	Futurama and the Cabinet Ministers	63
62.	The Minister and the Racetrack	64
63.	The Stonehill Affair	65
64.	A Cold Warrior of Minor Proportions	66
65.	Sex, Spying and the Associate Defence Minister	67
66.	The Nick of Time	68
67.	Sex and the Education Minister	69
68.	Phlamboyant Phil	69
69.	The October Crisis	70
70.	Las Vegas of the Maritimes	71
71.	Violent Death and the Premier	73
72.	Moosehead and the Bagman	74
73.	Rock 'n Roll and the PM's Wife	75
74.	Sex, Lies and the Solicitor General	76
75.	Conflict of Interest and the Premier	76
76.	Come Fly With Me	77
77.	Dirty Tricks Campaign	77

Welcome to the 1980s	79	
78.	Scotch and Corn Flakes	79
79.	A Little Extra Would be Nice	79
80.	Fundraising in Nova Scotia	80
81.	The Uncouth Education Minister	80
82.	Murder and the Energy Minister	81
83.	Pot and the Premier	82
84.	Nannygate	83

85.	Titillation and the Defence Minister	83
86.	Naughty Talk by the Solicitor General	84
87.	Tunagate	85
88.	April in Paris	85
89.	The Sinc Stevens Affair	86
90.	The Return of the Convicted Minister	88
91.	Husband + Wife = Conflict of Interest?	89
92.	Self-Interest and the Mining Minister	90
93.	The Gravel Affair	90
94.	Drinkin' with Scotland Yard	92
95.	The Flipping Transport Minister	92
96.	Stocks and the Public Works Minister	93
97.	Was Her Face Red!	94
98.	Bribery and the Public Works Minister	94
99.	A Loan and the Supply and Service Minister	96
100.	It Doesn't Count	96
101.	Insider Trading and the Premier	97
102.	A Not-So-Bright Starr	98

The End of the 20th Century	100	
103.	Shoplifting and the MP	100
104.	Defamation and the Premier	100
105.	The Attorney General's Cell Phone	101
106.	Fantasy Garden Affair	102
107.	Liar, Liar, Her Pants are on Fire	102
108.	Fraud and the Tourism Minister	103
109.	The Pin-up Boy	104
110.	Come Fly With Me	104
111.	Those Pesky Rules!	105
112.	The Piper Affair	105
113.	No-Sex, Please. Were Ontarians.	106
114.	The Smell of Money	107

115. A Shell Game	108
116. Eenie Meanie Minie Moe	110
117. Sexual Assault and the Premier	111
118. Negative Advertising	113
119. Harlequin Romance Couldn't Have Written It Better	112
120. Comparing Premiers to Hitler	113
121. Liar, Liar, His Pants are on Fire	114
122. Untendered Advertising Contract	115
123. The Attorney General Upholds the Law	115
124. Bingogate	115
125. The Multi-Corp Affair	117
126. Untendered Referendum Contracts	118
127. Professional Misconduct	119
128. The Conflicted Driveway	119
129. Attempted Murder and the Prime Minister	120
130. The Welfare Diet	121
131. Sexual Harassment and the Municipal Affairs Minister	122
132. Booze and the Health Minister	122
133. To the Back of the Bus, er, Shop	123
134. Triple Trouble	124
135. They Don't Count	125
136. IBM Olympic Perks	125
137. Uh, That's a No-No	126
138. An Influence Peddler	127
139. To Live in the Official Residence or Not	127
140. The Airbus Affair	128
141. Our Somalian Shame	130
142. A Different Condiment	132
143. The Premier and The Stalker	133
144. Sex and the Speaker	134
145. For He's a Jolly Good Fellow	134
146. If I Recall Correctly	135

147. The Casino Licence and the Premier	136
148. Lord Black of Crossharbour	136
149. The Scandal of the Olympic Bid	138

What a Way to Begin the 21st Century	140
---	-----

150. The Scandal of the Ferry Bid	140
151. Stock and the Wet Suit	140
152. Stock and the River Flows Through It	141
153. Stock and Doris Day	141
154. Stock and The Libel Suit	142
155. Stock and the Dinosaurs	143
156. Let's Kick Him When He's Blind	144
157. The Minister and Incident of Hate	144
158. Ring-a-Ding-Ding	145
159. The Grand-Mère Affair (a.k.a., Shawinigate)	146
160. There's No Place Like Home	148
161. Stock and the Judge	148
162. Bygone Sex and the Defence Minister	149
163. The Solicitor General and His Brother	150
164. You Dirty, er, Rat	151
165. Skiing and the Public Works Minister	152
166. Booze and the Defence Minister	152
167. George Bush is Not a Moron	152
168. Expenses and the Tourism Minister	153
169. George Bush is Not a Statesman, but Is He an Idiot?	154
170. No Privacy for the Privacy Commissioner	155
171. Expenses and the Environment Minister	156
172. Fraud and the Deputy Minister	157
173. Premier #03-02659	158
174. It's a Raid	158
175. Lawyer to MP to Thief to Lawyer Again	159
176. The Steamship and the Prime Minister	160

177. Paying a Judge to Stay in the Country	161
178. The Sponsorship Scandal	162
179. The Railway Chief and the Olympian	165
180. Stock and Arafat	166
181. Pizza and Strippergate	167
182. The Love of Money	168
183. Floor Crossed Lovers	169
184. If You Listen Really Hard...	170
185. Minting Money	171
Afterword	173
Answers	175
Bibliography	179
Index	185

The Stinking Scandals

Test your knowledge of scandals involving Canadian politicians and senior civil servants. Remember to judge the scandal according to the mores of its time. *Hint: There may be more than one correct answer!*

For the answers and scoring, see page 175. Good luck. Let's begin.

Confederation & the 19th Century

1867

1. The First Official Scandal

Sir Alexander Galt, a Father of Confederation and Minister of Finance in the Conservative government of John A. Macdonald, pleaded with Cabinet to provide half a million dollars to keep the Commercial Bank of Canada from bankruptcy. He did this because:

- a) it was his job to maintain a balanced economy in the country
- b) he was looking out for the little guy who could lose his life savings if the bank collapsed
- c) he was a wealthy man who didn't want to wave goodbye to his \$26,000 worth of shares in the Commercial.

Cabinet refused Galt's request. On November 7, 1867, the first official day of the first parliament of the Dominion of Canada, he:

- d) grinned and waved the flag with his Cabinet colleagues
- e) gave his maiden speech on the superb shape of the new country's finances

- f) resigned in a fit of pique and started tongues wagging on this special day.

1868

2. Assassination of the Agriculture Minister

Walking home late one night along Sparks Street, the Minister of Agriculture in Macdonald's Conservative government, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, reminisced over the parliamentary speech he had just finished making in support of:

- a) Canadian unity
- b) government grants to farmers
- c) free trade with the Americans.

He was almost at the door of his boarding house when he was attacked by a drunken member of:

- d) the United Farm Workers, a labour organization supporting family farms
- e) the Citizens for a Free Canada, a group of militant anti-reciprocity trades and businesses
- f) the Fenians, a group of Irish Canadians and Americans who wanted the British out of North America.

His attacker, who was later hanged in Canada's last public execution, had fatally wounded McGee by:

- g) stabbing him in the heart
- h) shooting him in the back of the head
- i) strangling him with his own neck scarf.

3. The Pacific Scandal

In the election of 1872, Sir John A. Macdonald and his Conservative government campaigned on the platform of strengthening the country by building a railway to the Pacific Ocean, thus including British Columbia in Confederation. As an incentive, \$30 million and 20 million hectares of land were budgeted for a private company to build it. Macdonald won re-election and, shortly after, awarded the contract to wealthy shipping magnate Sir Hugh Allan. It was soon revealed that:

- a) some of the Conservative campaign finances came from American investors of the Northern Pacific Railroad who wanted control of the Canadian Pacific Railway
- b) Macdonald's Quebec lieutenant and a Father of Confederation, George-Étienne Cartier, had promised Allan the contract in return for \$360,000 for the Conservative campaign
- c) British Columbians had financed half of the Conservative campaign in exchange for the promise of a railway.

The Prime Minister vehemently denied the bribery charges, but during the royal commission which followed, it was clear he was guilty. The evidence that caused the government to fall in disgrace was:

- d) a statement from W. S. Coogan, an American investor who testified, "Cartier promised us 51% of the railway"
- e) an affidavit signed by Sir Sandford Fleming, railway engineer, that he personally witnessed the transfer of funds
- f) a telegram from Macdonald to Allan's lawyer, J.J.C. Abbott, which read, "I must have another ten thousand. Will be the last time of calling. Do not fail me. Answer today."

and the answers are...

Answers

1. c, f
2. a, f, h
3. a, b, f

Canadian Politics/Humour

Written in a humourous, quiz-book style, **Scandals? We Don't Got No Stinking Scandals** documents 185 scandals involving politicians, heads of crown corporations and senior bureaucrats throughout Canada's 139-year history.

185 Political Scandals

- murder
- suicide
- kidnapping
- rape
- shoplifting
- theft
- fraud
- slander
- libel
- bribery
- conflict of interest
- extravagant expenses
- mob connections
- impersonation
- dirty tricks
- wire tapping
- boozing
- stalking
- lying
- spying
- ridicule
- stupidity
- and sex, drugs and rock 'n roll.

Test your knowledge. See why ordinary law-abiding, fair-minded, hard working Canadian citizens are cynical about politics.

\$19.95
CANADA

ISBN 097802640-3



9 780978 026400