



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Akaash Maharaj thanks Party Members for their Participation
in the Liberal Party of Canada's Leadership Race**

Uxbridge, Ontario – Tuesday 05 December 2006

*Akaash Maharaj
writes to members of the Liberal Party of Canada,
to conclude his earlier appeal on behalf of Stéphane Dion's
campaign for the leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada*

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Dear Colleagues,

I hope this note finds you well, and recovering from the high drama of the Liberal leadership convention this past weekend. I am writing to follow-up my letter to you of last week, in which I asked for your support in Stéphane Dion's campaign.

I wanted to thank the thousands of Liberals, irrespective of their candidate of choice, who replied and otherwise took an active interest in choosing our new leader and the future of our country.

Stéphane's campaign had little establishment support, less media encouragement, and painfully modest financial resources. However, it also had the support of Canadians from coast to coast to coast, who believed that far-sighted vision, intellectual courage, and unimpeachable integrity are the finest campaign of all. The results of the convention were as much a triumph for the grassroots democracy as they were a victory for Stéphane.

Still more remarkable was the extraordinarily positive atmosphere of the convention itself. No political party has ever had as strong a field of leadership candidates as we enjoyed this weekend, and any one of those candidates would have made Canadians

proud. To a person, each candidate proved his or her quality through the grace with which he or she greeted the results and ultimately supported Stéphane as our new leader.

For an institution that strives to be the one true Party of national unity, our ability to emerge from this convention united, revitalised, and focussed on the public good, is the greatest possible outcome. Stéphane has made clear his desire to extend an open hand to all other candidates and their teams, as they have towards him and his.

I am elated that there will again be a place for all Liberals in the Party that seeks to govern for all Canadians. I very much look forward to us all working together with our new leader, to help take our Party into the next election as a Party of principle, worthy of our country.

With best wishes,
Akaash

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