



Lindsay WINCHERAUK

GUEST SHOT: 6 JANUARY 2006

IF POLITICS WAS HOCKEY

If the election was a pickup hockey game, it might come down to next goal wins. Since confederation, the Liberals, Conservatives and NDP are called every four years to the rink to battle against each other in a game of "winner keeps going."

For the last thirteen years, the Liberals remained on the ice, sometimes dominating and at other times faltering and barely holding on.

Suddenly their finesse game or low-keyed approach hit a major glitch. The Gomery Commission and the teams were brought back to Canada's political rink. They were guilty of resting on their laurels, perhaps getting too fat.

As much as Canadians are passive, we couldn't, or shall I say, weren't allowed to forgive and forget.

This time, the game's outcome is up in the air.

Actually, it really is just the Liberals or Conservatives. However, the NDP can make inroads, and the Bloc revs up the separation bandwagon.

PERIOD 1

Conservatives throw a fierce elbow by challenging same-sex unions. We believe the radical right-wing mentality of their leader hasn't changed and that they want to act as our moral barometers.

Big mistake; yet to be determined – it was early in the game.

Liberals are slow to take the ice. They've been trying to figure out what happened.

How could we balance the budget and still be asked to take part?

Clichéd answers wear thin. "We'll give 110 percent" no longer cuts it. We want more.

NDP grind away like a third or fourth line displaying a brief flash. But, with determination, they net a few goals. Not enough, but they make an impact.

Bloc does nothing more than showing how fragile our great nation is. I'm surprised Alberta hasn't joined the push for separation.

The Zamboni breaks down.

PERIOD 2

The pace quickens.

The Liberals fire shots at childcare.

The Conservatives up the ante.

The NDP muck in the corners.

People get shot.

Screams go out for gun controls.

Each party shoots.

Goals are scored for both sides.

Healthcare, immigration, abortion, Christmas, public transport, fuel prices, and who's more patriotic confuse some voters.

PERIOD 3

The ice is getting choppy with all the mucking and mudslinging.

The parties are hitting harder.

The refs are letting them play. It may be with our money and the right to spend it, but they are fighting hard.

The game is winding down and maybe changing from the last goal wins to last shot wins.

Can you forget the first elbow?

Frankly, it scares me.

I hope the Liberals take the last shot.

WHO IS LINDSAY WINCHERAUK?

Lindsay Wincherauk is a fearless writer. He has published two books and has had more than eighteen OPEDs appear in major commuter newspapers. Lindsay wasn't born with a silver spoon in his mouth. His father (who wasn't his father) worked as a mechanic. His mother (who wasn't his mother) worked as an excellent chef in a diner. In fact, his birth was in a secret place where |society deemed| unfit mothers were sent to give birth in isolation – shading families from shame. If the babies survived being born, usually, they were sold to wealthy Americans or adopted out to farm families.

Lindsay's life began with a lie.

Despite Lindsay's perilous beginnings, starting with deception, Lindsay knew no better and went through life excelling at things, usually in two-year stints. Be that athletics (hall of fame, record holding, one-eyed quarterback), scholastically, career-wise (generating more than \$70 million in revenue for one company), socially, + without question: creatively!

Lindsay's challenging beginning instilled in Lindsay heaping doses of compassion and empathy. Lindsay's life starting out as a lie gave him a keen sense to spot BS from miles away. It also provided him with a dry sense of humour and an understanding those born with silver spoons in their mouths will never be self-aware enough to understand (or admit) their good fortune.

During Lindsay's work career, he was well-liked by all coworkers. Lindsay was also well respected by his diverse collection of clients, developing several fantastic friendships, primarily because Lindsay is known for his unflinching integrity and ability to hold conversations on most topics.

Lindsay's life mantra is:

The most valuable part of life is the fabulous people we meet during our journeys. If you treat people with respect (leaving judgment at the door), and more importantly, by opening doors for those less fortunate or who can't speak up for themselves, you are living a good, compassionate life. Making money at all costs is not the only thing mattering. Life can be difficult + devastatingly unfair.

Lindsay believes sharing vulnerability is what makes us human. Lindsay will never shy away from being honest about his pain.

Lindsay also believes we must stand up for ourselves, + more importantly, for those who are too burdened by the injustices of life, they can't find the strength to stand up for themselves.

SOME THINGS LINDSAY IS MOST PROUD OF ARE WHEN:

- A sixty-year-old employee of his, who had entered a point of life where life had become more struggle than joy (it happens to all of us as we age), said to Lindsay, *"I must thank you. I've listened to how you treat people, + by listening, I've learned so much about compassion and patience. Thank you. I consider you a great friend."*
- Another employee who was struggling with addiction thanked Lindsay for his kindness, presenting Lindsay with a Christmas card from him and his girlfriend. Tucked inside the card: lottery tickets.

LINDSAY WINCHERAUK, compassionate, empathetic, well-read, kind, blessed with unflinching integrity, humour in balance, loved by coworkers + friends alike.

Lindsay will always stick up for the underdog. Lindsay understands there are countless older people suffering job loss because COVID gave some companies an opportunity to – Lindsay thinks it is essential to draw attention to this life-threatening issue by being the voice for those too broken to speak up for themselves.

Lindsay is currently pitching four manuscripts to publishers and literary agencies. One of the manuscripts (he can't talk about) will blow the roof off the predatory practices of – Lindsay is writing relentlessly and is also pitching OPEDs and short stories, fiction, + non to literary magazines around the globe.

Lindsay has appeared on Breakfast Television, radio programs in Montreal, + several others in the Vancouver area. Lindsay has also been a featured guest on CKNW + CBC, both on several occasions. And Lindsay was a vital witness of a Hate Crime. This led to the first Hate Crime conviction in Canadian legal history, resulting in him being a speaker at an Enough is Enough Rally (anti-violence rally) with dignitaries, politicians, law enforcement, and community leaders in front of a crowd of approximately five thousand.

Lindsay was the **#1 MIXED-TAPE DJ** at the **UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN** for most of the nineteen-eighties, a fact bringing him joy.

Lindsay resides in Vancouver.
