

From: Rudyard Griffiths - Munk Debates [<mailto:rudyard@munkdebates.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 08:35 AM
To: 'Julian Morelli'
Cc: 'info@munkdebates.com'
Subject: RE: Green Party Debate - Important- follow-up to previous request to meet.

Dear Julian,

Thank you for your email.

Below is my reply of June 1.

Best regards,

Rudyard.

Dear Julian,

I apologize for the slow reply.

I have been traveling on business.

Thank you for being in touch.

I would like to refer you to our original press statement outlining how we determined which federal party leaders to invite to take part in the debate.

You can access this statement here:

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/story/1540825/federal-election-debate-announcement-first-ever-federal-election-debate-on-foreign-policy-proposed>

Best regards,

Rudyard

From: Julian Morelli [<mailto:julian.morelli@greenparty.ca>]
Sent: Sunday, July 5, 2015 11:16 PM
To: Rudyard Griffiths; info@munkdebates.com
Subject: Green Party Debate - follow-up to previous request to meet. Time sensitive

Good evening Rudyard,

This letter is a follow up to my June 2nd email to you requesting a meeting to have you reconsider your position. To date, I have not received a response.

I ask that have you look at this again as you consider the following.

On August 6th, Elizabeth May will participate in the Maclean's debate with the other three major federal party leaders. I am certain that following her participation, Canadians will question why she has not been invited to your debate.

I would also reiterate that this upcoming election will be the most unpredictable in history and one that will have a lasting impact on the character and makeup of Canada. At this time, public opinion suggests a minority government is probable, which provides further rationale for the inclusion of the Green Party as another voice in the development and implementation of good public policy.

As you know, Elizabeth May has led or been a significant voice in the national conversation on a wide range of important issues including C51, FIPA, safety and security, Iraq, ISIL, democracy, proportional representation, accountability and transparency, parliamentary reform, climate change, to list a few. This is in addition to the fact that she was also recognized this year as "Best Orator" and in the two previous years as "Hardest Working MP" as well as "Parliamentarian of the Year". I would also note that a number of the issues listed above, clearly are of both domestic and international importance. Elizabeth May has been and continues to be a major contributor in these discussions.

In my previous email to you, I included an excerpt of the Prime Minister's letter to Elizabeth May stating what he believed to be fair criteria for a Party leader to be included in the debates (one seat under a Party Banner).

In his letter, the Prime Minister stated:

"The Conservative Party has always supported the concept of televised national leaders' debates during a federal election. The only condition that we have attached has been the participants represent parties with at least one Member of Parliament elected under their party banner. Having one elected member is not a high bar to obtain and it helps to ensure that the party leaders represent democratically elected representatives in the House of Commons."

It is sufficient to say that his own baseline should have a bearing on your decision as to criteria. I cannot speak for Mr. Mulcair as we await his position on this. Mr. Trudeau, to his credit, recently stated publicly that he believes Elizabeth May should be in all debates, as do 81% of Canadians in a recent poll by EKOS.

With respect to the importance of precedence, in the 1993 election, Preston Manning was invited to debate when the Reform party had one seat. He was invited without holding a seat, as Deborah Grey was the elected MP under the Reform Banner. If Preston Manning had NOT been in the 1993 debates, it is clear to many political analysts and historians that the Reform would not have elected an additional 52 MPs.

Add to this, the Progressive Conservatives, under Jean Charest, who held 2 seats going in the 1997 election were also allowed into the debate, as was NDP Leader, Alexa McDonough, who held nine seats. Both Parties were under the threshold you have established for the Munk debate.

I wonder what Canada and our parliament would look like today, had neither of these parties been invited to the debates. Would the Conservative Party and NDP exist or would there only be two parties (the Liberals and.....)? These debates proved to set the course for our present day political reality – good or bad. It's clear that precedence and the spirit of fairness are important factors in any decision. Our courts rely on precedence as a critical threshold. Should Munk not do so as well?

It is also clear the effects of Climate Change and how Canada and the rest of the world responds will also set the course for generations to come. This clearly is a foreign policy issue and the environmental debate with respect to how we deal with it rationally, from a social, economic, and global perspective, will be seen by our own children and grandchildren, as a defining moment that established their quality of life.

There is no doubt that Elizabeth May is at the forefront on this critical issue. Not only has she led this debate, she has managed to have it become a national conversation among Canadians, notwithstanding their political stripes.

I respect the work your organization has done in the past. I would hope that given the importance of this election, the Munk Debates will provide Canadians a chance to see and hear from all the major party leaders. Canadians expect this and I would venture to think that you would agree.

Please feel free to call me directly at [613-614-4916](tel:613-614-4916). I ask for a response by noon tomorrow (July 6th).

With respect,

Julian Morelli

From: Julian Morelli [<mailto:julian.morelli@greenparty.ca>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2015 10:10 PM

To: Rudyard Griffiths; info@munkdebates.com

Subject: Green Party Debate - follow-up to previous request to meet. Time sensitive

Good afternoon Rudyard,

Thank you for getting back to me. I have read the criteria that you established to arrive at your decision to not extend an invitation to Elizabeth May.

What was omitted, was any reference to the weight that your Debate Staff should have put on the clear criteria which Prime Minister Harper had already established in 2008, as per the attached letter to Elizabeth May.

In his letter, the Prime Minister stated:

“The Conservative Party has always supported the concept of televised national leaders’ debates during a federal election. The only condition that we have attached has been the participants represent parties with at least one Member of Parliament elected under their party banner. Having one elected member is not a high bar to obtain and it helps to ensure that the party leaders represent democratically elected representatives in the House of Commons.”

I respect and fully support your organization and the aspirations that both Melanie and Peter Munk have “at improving the quality and vitality of public debate in Canada.”

As I mentioned in my previous notes to you, I believe that debates are a critical component of Canadian federal elections and the Munk debate provides Canadians with this unique opportunity.

It is without hesitation that Elizabeth May will bring substantive and reflected thought to your proposed foreign policy debate. Particularly, when global issues are directly impacting the safety, security, and health of Canadians, more now than at any other period in history.

As stated in your press release, since a variety of details will need to be finalized before your proposed debate can be formally confirmed, there is ample time to have an open and constructive dialogue with your debate staff.

In this case, I would ask, in the interest of all Canadians, that you revisit your decision and arrange a time to discuss the merits of her inclusion in this debate.

I look forward to your response.

With respect,

Julian

From: Rudyard Griffiths - Munk Debates [<mailto:rudyard@munkdebates.com>]
Sent: June-01-15 11:06 AM
To: 'Julian Morelli'
Cc: info@munkdebates.com
Subject: RE: Green Party Debate - Important- follow-up to previous request to meet.

Dear Julian,

I apologize for the slow reply.

I have been traveling on business.

Thank you for being in touch.

I would like to refer you to our original press statement outlining how we determined which federal party leaders to invite to take part in the debate.

You can access this statement here:

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Best regards,

Rudyard

From: Julian Morelli [<mailto:julian.morelli@greenparty.ca>]
Sent: Saturday, May 30, 2015 10:45 PM
To: rudyard@salonspeakers.com; info@munkdebates.com; J Mor
Subject: Re: Green Party Debate - Important- follow-up to previous request to meet.

Good evening Rudyard,

I am uncertain if the email given to me by the Munk School is reaching you in a timely fashion.

I was given this email address and wanted to reach out to you as a follow-up to my previous emails to arrange a time to meet.

Given the importance of Elizabeth May's inclusion in the debate, I would like to arrange some time this week, should your schedule permit.

My cell is 613-614-xxxx

Thank you,

Julian

From: Julian Morelli [<mailto:julian.morelli@greenparty.ca>]
Sent: Saturday, May 30, 2015 11:00 AM
To: info@munkdebates.com
Subject: Re: Green Party Debate - Important- follow-up to previous request to meet.

Good Morning Rudyard,

I am following up with you on my earlier request to discuss Elizabeth May's inclusion in the upcoming debate.

To this end, I believe the best way to discuss this would be to meet in person

As you are aware, debates are a critical component of Canadian federal elections. It is during debates, where voters have the ability to listen to Federal Party leaders in an environment that allows for open and substantive discussion on the important issues facing Canadians today. The Munk debate format provides Canadians with this unique opportunity.

It is likely that the 2015 election will be one of the most unpredictable on record, and that the decision to exclude Elizabeth May, given her record, expertise, and in depth knowledge of the issues, must be revisited.

Fundamentally, I also believe it will add credibility to your organization, the process and the debate. There is no doubt that it will benefit all Canadians, no matter their political leanings.

Please feel free to contact me either by email or by phone. I would be available to meet with you as early as next week.

I ask if you could provide me with a prompt response in order to arrange a time and can be reached directly at [613-614-xxxx](tel:613-614-xxxx)

Thank you,

Julian

From: Julian Morelli [<mailto:julian.morelli@greenparty.ca>]

Sent: Saturday, May 21, 2015 1:37 PM

To info@munkdebates.com

Subject: Re: Green Party Debate - Important- follow-up to previous request to meet.

Hi Rudyard, and a pleasure to meet you initially on email.

I'd like to speak with you as soon as possible to discuss our inclusion in your foreign policy debate. There will be some news that will break shortly that may have you reconsider the decision as to who will want to participate.

My direct line is: [613-614-xxxx](tel:613-614-xxxx)

Thanks,

Julian