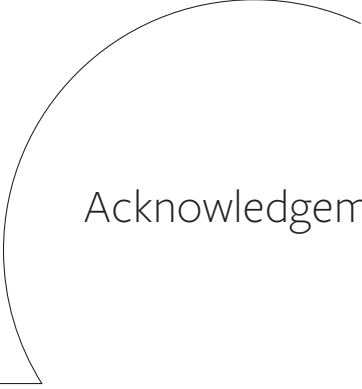




Acknowledgements

SINCE DECEMBER 1963 when I purchased my first Liberal Party membership, I have participated in the whole gamut of party activities. I've stuffed envelopes, ran as a candidate (four times), raised money, and served party organizations right up to the National Executive of the Liberal Party of Canada—all the while living and earning my living in Alberta, not exactly a Liberal Party breeding ground. Despite this hostile political environment, through it all, I learned much about Canada and the provinces, observed some history close up, and met many interesting and powerful people.

Sometime after I ran in what was to be my last campaign in 1984, I decided that I should share some of my experiences in Canadian politics and history, and so I set about writing about them. This narrative describes events of the years 1968 to 1972, the first term of the Trudeau government and an era of great political change in Canada and Alberta. It is written from my perspective as an Alberta Liberal Party activist who at that time hovered only around the edges of political power, but who nevertheless acquired a pretty good knowledge of his province and his party. Notwithstanding my party

affiliation, in telling the story of the events and the personalities that dominated politics during those days, I have striven to be objective.

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