Conservative Party of Canada loses no time in exploiting the late, great, Gordon Downie



I'm on all the political parties' email lists, as I want to know what they all have to say. And what they have to say is the same, for all of them, which is, they burn each other down, all the time, and ask for money.

The Liberals attack the Conservatives on a steady basis, pretending that they don't, with their "positive politics" nonsense. If the Conservatives run an advertising campaign for anything, they Liberals call it an "attack." If anyone has a strong opinion, the Liberals regard it as "hate," and say that hate has no place in Canada. What they are really saying, is that they believe nobody save for themselves, has a right to say anything, on anything, ever.

And of course, the Conservatives attack the Liberals, steady, too. They both do it. The other parties do it. For the most part, the two heavyweight parties criticize each other, most of the time. You don't need me, to tell you that. I'm just being fair, here. Yes, I'm more right wing than left. That doesn't mean I am so biased, so as not to take notice of when the Conservatives act like idiots, too.

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Gordon Downie, in Conservative Party of Canada internet video, Weekly90

The Conservatives produce a weekly video review, called WEEKLY90, which is all the complaining they can do about the Liberals, in about 90 seconds. Okay, fine. Have fun. Everything bad the Liberals did, nothing good, and no mention of any of your own mistakes. The Liberals complain about you, and you complain about the Liberals. Got it. Understood.

They send the blasts out with an email, made of a bunch of pictures piled on top of each other. The one they sent out on October 20, at 2:03 PM, is shown at far left.

Beneath the picture of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, is one of a guy wearing a toque, holding a drink. I didn't know it was Gordon Downie, who passed away on the 17th of October. I clicked on it. The introduction to the video took six seconds, then Downie got used for the next twelve seconds. Then the narrator said, "Now, on to politics." The video then went after Finance Minister, Bill Morneau, for most of the remainder of the it, with a little bit at the end, telling people to apply for a job with the Conservative Party.

So, three days after Downie passed, the Conservatives dared to use Downie as a bit of fluff in a partisan video attacking the Liberals, without his permission, or that of his family, or fans. That same video was sent to party members with a blast sandwiching Downie between a picture criticizing Trudeau, and above another, selling a Conservative Party watch. Almost everybody watched the live broadcast of The Tragically Hip's last show, with which Downie had many kind words for Trudeau, who attended the concert. The stupid bastards who made this video, sure didn't watch that concert, or did not care.









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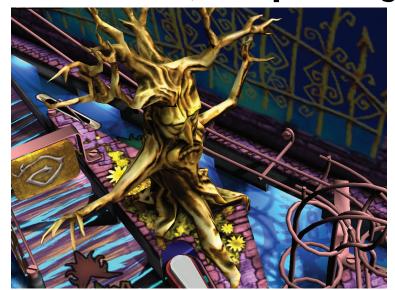


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Cool, free pinball game for Macintosh





Left: Spooky talking tree. Right: Full table, from Sorcerer's Lair, by Zen Pinball

I wanted to do something for Halloween, and here it is. A bit of a review, and instructions on how to get, *Sorcerer's Lair*, a pinball game for the Apple Macintosh. This game came out five years ago for a bunch of platforms. I found it for no charge, here: https://zen-pinball-2.en.softonic.com/mac

It's got a story about a boy and a girl who go to an enchanted castle to find another girl who may or may not be a ghost. The sorcerer taunts you and the tree talks, too. Or at least I think it talks. Either that, or the sorcerer has two distinct voices. There are ghosts, skeletons, spiders and a gargoyle that holds the ball to start the multiball mode. The game works fine with Mac OS Sierra version 10.12.6. For the price, what more do you want?

Seventeen years of CROWE magazine



First edition of CROWE

This magazine started as what I called a "living portfolio," to keep my skills up after graduating as a graphic designer from Georgian College, here in Barrie. It was also meant to get the mascot, Sid Crowe, on local television. Things sure have changed, and then again, they haven't.

The local media is all chain-owned; the radio, the tv and the one real newspaper that the city has left, biased as it is, *The Barrie Examiner*. Those chains rely on advertising from businesses which are chains, themselves. For all the talk of freedom of speech we like to indulge in, during elections, it's only really a few people who get to decide how to shape public opinion. The local cable channel, Rogers, still won't give me a show, and I won't have the local chain businesses advertising here, anytime soon. What I did with this edition, calling the Greens on exploiting someone's murder, and pointing fingers at the Conservatives for exploiting Gord Downie, would have been, seventeen years ago, and is today, something that you cannot say with the local chain media. If you want to babble and allow your advertisers to write your articles, as the local, chain owned *Snapd* does, then the banks and insurance companies will be happy to support your babble.

Independent voices are rare birds, man.

