

---

January 2008

## Entrepreneurship: Business and Government - Introduction

Charies Magerman

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj>

 Part of the [International Law Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Charies Magerman, *Entrepreneurship: Business and Government - Introduction*, 33 Can.-U.S. L.J. 303 (2007)

Available at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cuslj/vol33/iss1/41>

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Journals at Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Canada-United States Law Journal by an authorized administrator of Case Western Reserve University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP: BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT

*Session Chair – Charles Magerman*  
*Speaker – Hon. Eddie Francis*

## INTRODUCTION

*Charles Magerman*

MR MAGERMAN: Good evening. Sorry for interrupting the dessert portion of the meal, but can everyone in the back hear me? Is the microphone working back there? I don't know. Thank you. It is working? I am getting nods from the back, so I think it is working.

If you haven't met me already, or if you weren't paying attention when we met, my name is Chuck Magerman, and I practice corporate and finance law with Baker & McKenzie's Toronto office, where I head up the corporate finance practice group in Toronto.

I have been asked, and it is my pleasure to be here tonight, to introduce the Mayor of Windsor, Eddie Francis, who will be making comments to you about – I don't want to steal his wind – but about entrepreneurship and about government and the relationship between the two.

If you haven't read the bio in the book, I may add a little bit to that. Francis was elected as a councilor in 1999 in the City of Windsor, and he was the youngest ever elected at age 25.<sup>1</sup> You can do the math and figure out how old he is now.

He was re-elected as a councilor again with the largest majority ever in 2000,<sup>2</sup> and you may wonder why was he elected in such a short period, but the 1999 election is a by-election.<sup>3</sup> And then he was elected in May 2003.<sup>4</sup> After he was elected as a councilor, he entered law school at the University

---

<sup>1</sup> Speaker Biographies, University of Michigan: Ford School of Public Policy IPE 2006, [http://sitemaker.umich.edu/ipe2006/speaker\\_biographies](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/ipe2006/speaker_biographies) (last visited Oct. 19, 2007).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *PM Calls By-Election in Windsor-St. Clair*, CBC NEWS, Mar. 7, 1999, available at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/1999/03/07/windsorbyelxn990307.html>.

<sup>4</sup> Biography of the Mayor, The City of Windsor, <http://www.citywindsor.ca/000087.asp> (last visited Oct. 19, 2007).

of Windsor, and he was called to the bar and belongs to the Law Society in Canada and here in Ontario.

Before politics, however – and this is what makes him especially qualified to speak to us this evening – he, together with his brothers, successfully built a pita bread company that grew. This is Royal Pita that grew and was distributing to twelve states and various parts of the province.

And I think he is going to tell us a few stories about that and his experience with that business. And you may want to know one of the questions we were dealing with this afternoon is when do you decide when it is time to sell, and when do you know when it is a good price, at what multipliers. You can get into that if you like, Mayor.

So the question is: will he be talking to us tonight about entrepreneurship, business and government as the topic reads, or will he be talking about entrepreneurship leading to government positions or how entrepreneurs can access government funding?

We have many choices, but I leave it to the Mayor, and I welcome you.

#### SPEAKER

*Hon. Eddie Francis\**

MAYOR FRANCIS: Thank you, Chuck. Thank you for that kind and warm introduction.

And I have got to admit right off the bat, as a politician, having someone copy each and every single word makes me nervous, but it is good to be here. And part of my discussion this evening will be a discussion focused on, obviously, entrepreneurs, and given my position as Mayor of the City of Windsor, how entrepreneurs play a role in the government if it does have a role to play at all.

But first and foremost, I would like to recognize and thank Henry for having me and inviting me here. I know that you had a great couple of days of discussion, and it has been a great program thus far. Now, it is odd for me to be standing here, and I told my wife I was going to be here speaking to

---

\* Prior to entering politics, Mayor Francis ran and operated Royal Pita Baking Company. His operation's distribution quickly grew to include Ontario and 12 U.S. states. In 2003, he was awarded the Windsor Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award as the Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Mayor Francis graduated from the University of Windsor Law School in 2002 and articulated with Miller, Canfield, Paddock, and Stone. Subsequently, Francis was called to the Bar of the Law Society of Upper Canada. Mayor Francis also holds a combined Honours Degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry from the University of Western Ontario.