Before I start, I’d like to make a disclaimer: It is just a co-incidence that I am wearing a red dress tonight.

The fact that I get to speak before Navdeep Bains is not an endorsement of one candidate over another. I can say this confidently because when I asked if I could take this as an endorsement, I was told by your president Jordan Gray “Absolutely Not” (expect laughers from crowd).

All jokes aside, I am here tonight not only because I am the only Chinese female engineer candidate registered in this municipal election (And I also happen to be the youngest female candidate in this municipal race, but that is beside the point : (expect laughers)). I am here because of the wonderful young men and women sitting at these tables.

Instead of worrying about acne, pimples, asking that boy/girl out on a date, getting more followers on Twitter, you people chose to become politically active. Politics can often feel like something which is far removed from everyday life and something which most young people don’t easily relate to. I remember the shock on Jordan and Dylans’ face when I told them “You know guys, I am older than both of you combined”. Yes, at the ripe old page of 32, I have already voted in 4 federal elections. I have witnessed the Liberal party falling from the height of those glorious Chrietien days to the crushing defeat in 2011.

But I must also say with pride that with all the hard work these wonderful young men and women are doing on the ground, we are REBUILDING THE LIBERAL BRAND.

Like many immigrants, my family struggle when we first came to Canada. My father drove a taxi and my mother washed dishes at the back of a Chinese restaurant. But it is precisely because of the wonderful things this country offers such as social justice, economic opportunities, equal rights for women, and equal rights for minorities, we as a struggling immigrant family are able to climb the social and economic ladder. But you know what? **social justice, economic opportunities, equal rights for women, equal rights for minorities** are also LIBERAL VALUES, without which, a taxi driver’s daughter would NOT be able to run for trustee in a municipal election!

The Mississauga news called me a candidate dashing all political stereotypes. But I am also noticing something they did not. I am not the only one changing the old style politics, these great young men and women are also part of the change agent. They have revolutionized the method of grassroots mobilization. Instead of talking the big talks, these young people are specific about what they are after. Did you know that the Mississauga Malton Young Liberals successfully helped elect every single candidate they endorsed this year? That is some good vibe!!! So I am asking you tonight to open your hearts and open your wallet to generously support these young people.

We have to help the next generation become stewards of democracy. Let’s all work together and make change happen.