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# Mississauga businessman running for president of Poland

## *Self-made multi-millionaire makes free-market economy his platform*

By JOHN STEWART  
Staff Reporter

There was an overwhelming mood of buoyancy in the offices of Mississauga's Transduction computer firm Monday, and it had nothing to do with the fact that financial year-end was upon the company.

Rather than doing inventory and all of the other tasks which they probably should have been doing, employees found themselves in the glare of the media spotlight as reporters descended on the local business to find out everything they possibly could about the Canadian who now has a chance to become

president of Poland.

Stan Tyminski, a 42-year-old self-made man who has a habit of being in the right place at the right time, is the co-owner of Transduction and one of only six candidates for the presidency of his homeland. After going over to Poland at the end of September to defend a book he had written on how the country should adjust to a free-market economy, Tyminski wound up collecting 100,000 names in record time to get on the ballot for the Nov. 25 election.

While Tyminski campaigns for this once-in-a-lifetime election in which only a president will be

selected, partner Frank Ollie is left in Canada to answer questions from curious reporters. Sitting in Transduction's offices on Spectrum Way in the Airport Corporate Centre, Ollie can't help but marvel as he explains the remarkable story of Stan Tyminski.

His partner is a man who arrived in Canada with only a few dollars after escaping Poland in 1969. He started Transduction — which produces special industrial computers — 15 years ago, and rapidly became a multi-millionaire. He went to Peru in the early 1980s on a trip and ended up staying three years, starting several businesses which

made him more millions, and marrying a local Peruvian woman. The couple, who live in the Polish section of west Toronto, now have four children.

Tyminski also supported an orphanage and established a computer firm in Poland. He spent much of this summer at his Acton farm writing a book, which he published himself, on his theories of how Poland should deal with its new-found economic freedom. The book became an instant best seller at home and people such as Solidarity leader Lech Walesa started quoting from it. Tyminski decided to go to Poland a month ago to de-

fend his book in view of some of the unusual interpretations it was receiving from politicians there.

Ollie says that when he got to his homeland, Tyminski realized that none of the presidential candidates really understands a free-market economy at all. In response to pressure from a number of supporters, Tyminski decided to see if he could get on the ballot. That proved much easier than he could ever have imagined. For every 20 people who signed his papers, Tyminski offered a valued prize: his own book. The idea worked like a charm.

The first stories in the Canadian press out of Poland about his candidacy were tongue-in-cheek accounts of the Canadian capitalist who thought he could topple the mighty Walesa. But Ollie says Tyminski and his legion of Polish-Canadian supporters now realize that, incredible as it may seem, he actually has a real chance of victory. Not being part of past regimes, and with his understanding of western economics, Tyminski is looking like an extremely attractive alternative to Polish voters.

"They're looking for somebody



STAN TYMINSKI  
in the running

who could be a messiah," says Ollie, a Lakeview resident, "and look who's there on the ballot?"

Tyminski, who was elected leader of the federal Libertarian Party of Canada this summer, called from Poland Monday to explain how well things are going so far. "He's just overwhelmed," reported Ollie.

What started out as a trip to defend and explain his political and economic theories has turned into a presidential campaign Tyminski had no intention of starting. But then, the unusual has a habit of happening regularly to Tyminski.

After all, he could end up being the first author on a book-flogging tour to end up becoming president of a country.