

## New principal at Clarke

by Audrey Comacho

Each year at Clarke High School, new faces enter and exit its walls; but this year, one face stands out among them all. This is the face of Principal Lee Skinner.

Born and raised in Tyrone, Principal Skinner, a former Vice Principal from Bowmanville, has once again taken the role as Principal for Clarke.

"I want to provide students with the opportunity for success and a safe environment so that when they leave school they can be productive," Skinner answers after being asked what her goals are for the students.

Skinner taught math and phys-ed at Bowmanville High School for ten years before becoming a principal. When asked why she decided to become a principal she answers, "Mostly I liked the challenge... it was a change in my daily structure."

Once again, school rules are being enforced without exceptions. Smoking on

school property is prohibited and if caught, a fine will be given and your name placed on police record. Likewise, the dress code does not allow for any undergarments to be showing or excessive amounts of skin. Skinner believes that, "You should dress for school as if it is your job."



Clarke High School's new principal, Lee Skinner.

A new policy for students who are late has been given. You are allowed a maximum of two lates before receiving a detention. This rule is set in place to help minimize the amount of students being late for class and maximize their time for learning.

When asked what her overall master plan is for Clarke, she replies with a laugh, "I don't have one yet, I've only been here for two weeks!"

Skinner's last comment before leaving the office was "School is like a daytime job, you're getting credits instead of a paycheck. You can blow a paycheck in one night but you will have your education for the rest of your life."

## Candidates

Continued from front

ment completed, the cancer centre in Oshawa completed, health teams in place in the rural communities, schools with less portables, day care in those schools, a flourishing public transit system, an end to the dumping of paper sludge unless its definitively proven to be harmless, the 407 under-way and the ITER project underway.

Gordon MacDonald of the Green Party would like to fundamentally change the way we tax things. We should be taxing things we don't want, like pollution, MacDonald said. His party wants to erase the tax on incomes encouraging more hiring which would result in more money being distributed in our communities.

MacDonald feels the 407 should stop where it is at Brock Road in Pickering. "It was a mistake to begin with," he said. We should build more sensible communities where people live and work in the same place.

Removing the cap on hydro rates is a move in the right direction according to MacDonald. Take tax off the small power supplier, and encourage people to generate energy through solar panels or windmills etc., so everyone can support the grid.

Parents should have two years maternity leave, and if a parent chooses to stay home to raise their children they should be given a tax credit.

The Green Party is for full funding of schools, teach social skills in school, said MacDonald and put the extra curricular activities back into school.

He would like to see the minimum wage increased to eight dollars per hour, and tuition fees for post secondary education frozen.

MacDonald would like to see communities where people live and work, clean drinking water, and he would like to see the CN tower again from

Harmony Road in Oshawa.

"A sensible, healthy, clean riding, with a good quality of life," is MacDonald's four year vision for the Riding.

Candidate for the Freedom Party Cathy McKeever asked "why choose a party that sinks you further into debt?"

"The price cap on hydro rates must come off," said McKeever. "That's interference by government and that's not their job. Government should not be in competition with its residents, government is there to enact and enforce legislation," says McKeever.

She feels the 407 should be built to 115/35 for existing truck traffic only.

On the question of youth, McKeever felt that perhaps we have such a problem with young people because everyone is doing for them, we can't afford it she says. "Let young people decide what they want to do, there are existing facilities, let them use them."

In four years McKeever would like to see Clarington set up as a recycling centre, to clean up the world.

The Party believes parents should be able to choose which school to send their children to.

"The Freedom Party wants to set regulations for education and health care and let citizens carry on with their lives," said McKeever in closing.

Incumbent P.C. candidate John O'Toole began his presentation with a list of the governments' accomplishments over his past two terms in office. Together we have achieved a new university in Oshawa, a cancer centre, the redevelopment of Lakeridge Health, new 401 interchanges, the Environmental Assessment for the 407 is underway and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act will protect green spaces that remain in the province.

Land owners along the 407 route need to be treated fairly, said O'Toole. Improvements should be made to Taunton Road and Regional Roads 10 and 20, while waiting for the 407 to be phased in.

On the issue of power, O'Toole stated that the coal fired power generation stations - Ontario's number one polluters, will be phased out by 2015, while new generators are being created.

"Youth is priority one," he stated. Families must be strengthened. "Without strong families youth have a void in their lives."

Having a university in our community is a real asset, he said, it reduces the financial burden of student housing costs to families. The province is a partner in infrastructure grants in Clarington's new sports facilities.

The Federal government played an important role in the SARS incident, says O'Toole, since SARS came through the federal airports.

On the health care issue O'Toole said "Our government opened a new medical school, the first in the province in 40 years." Plus now any nurses and doctors willing to go to an underserved area will have free tuition.

In his vision for the next term of office, O'Toole said, "You can't have everything." What is possible would be stellar if the Federal Government approved funding for ITER." In four years the first class at the new university will be graduating, he said.

"I want a safe reliable public health care system that's accountable," O'Toole stated.

The NDP's Teresa Williams said the province is experiencing a great social deficit. Hydro rates have increased, there are issues with health care and food safety, not enough conservation officers in the province, people are living on the streets and dying in apartments.

Toll rates on the 407 are so high working people can't use it, and building the highway through Clarington will promote urban sprawl. "The NDP proposed building a better public transit system," she stated. "get people out of their cars."

Hydro privatization has to  
CANDIDATES continued page 5

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#### WHY

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