


# Chamber head attacks Tory leaflet PC supporters deny ill-intentions

Acton Chamber of Commerce president Roy Goodwin's criticism of a Progressive Conservative Association printed invitation and his request that someone within the Tory organization apologize for it had the temperatures of supporters of all parties rising, even before the question period began at Thursday's Meet the Candidates Night, one of the best attended and most lively in recent years.

Assuring the audience he was wearing only one hat, that of Chamber of Commerce president, Mr. Goodwin, who was chairman for the evening, showed a pamphlet bearing a red maple leaf and an invitation from the Progressive Conservative Association. It read "An invitation to meet and chat with Terry O'Connor Progressive Conservative candidate for Halton. Be our guest at a Meet the Candidate Night Robert Little Public School Acton Thursday October 19th, 1972, 8 p.m."

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| <p>An invitation to meet and chat with</p> <p><b>TERRY O'CONNOR</b></p> <p>PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE FOR HALTON</p> |  | <p>Be our guest at a Meet the Candidate Night</p> <p><b>ROBERT LITTLE PUBLIC SCHOOL</b></p> <p>ACTON</p> <p>THURSDAY OCTOBER 19th, 1972 8 p.m.</p> |
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**Explains work**

Goodwin explained the Chamber had worked hard and put a lot of time into organizing the evening, but had encountered unfair difficulties.

"First the local press printed the wrong date for the meeting. This we were able to live with. But we cannot live with this," he said holding up the Conservative pamphlet.

The Chamber head proceeded to reassure the audience it was the Chamber of Commerce and not the Progressive Conservative party that arranged the meeting.

"I would expect that during the course of the evening, we would be hearing an apology from someone within the Progressive Conservative Association," Goodwin went on.

He claimed the pamphlets were distributed in Acton and added, "For obvious reasons I suppose, one of these did not reach my home."

rupted a voice from the audience, that of Chamber of Commerce secretary Betty Eastwood.

"Lost what?" asked O'Connor.

"The apology is not accepted under those terms," Mrs. Eastwood replied.

"Well I'm sorry I can't apologize further under any other terms," O'Connor concluded.

Replying to an earlier statement by Chairman Goodwin that he will not be at home to exercise his franchise to vote on October 30 because of holiday arrangements, O'Connor had this to say,

"I have a sneaking suspicion I should be happy he's unable to exercise his franchise this year."

Neither Mrs. Holstein nor Mr. Whiting commented on the situation during their speeches.

**O'Connor explains**

Following NDP candidate Carolyn Holstein and Liberal candidate Rud Whiting to the microphone in an order which had been drawn for before the meeting, Progressive Conservative Candidate Terry O'Connor gave his explanation.

"I'm sorry this upset some people, but I assure you it was done in the best interests of having a good crowd here tonight. Some of the other Meet the Candidates nights we have been to have been dismal. Obviously we've been successful, we have over 200 here tonight," O'Connor said.

"That's no apology Mr. O'Connor, you've lost it," inter-

**Other views**

Contacted by the Free Press later, Whiting expressed the opinion the matter was one to be straightened out between the Chamber of Commerce and Progressive Conservative Association and said that he would prefer not to comment on it.

In a telephone conversation, Mrs. Holstein presented her personal view, one she insisted did not necessarily represent her party's feelings.

"I'm not all that upset that they passed out the leaflet, although there was perhaps an oversight on their part because it was the Acton Chamber of Commerce which was sponsoring the meeting," she said.

"I tend to believe they (PC's) did it in good faith to get more people to attend. I feel Terry's apology was quite sufficient. I think they realized their mistake and it won't happen again," Mrs. Holstein concluded.

**President's view**

Asked to comment on the situation, Acton PC Association president Brian Cargill said he appreciated the opportunity to comment, a courtesy he claimed was not accorded Mr. O'Connor at the time.

"Our intention was to make as many Acton people as possible aware of the evening with the hope of helping to ensure a large turnout," Mr. Cargill explained. "We in no way wanted or attempted to detract from the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce. We do thank the Chamber for organizing and running such an event and if our intentions were mistakenly interpreted, then we sincerely apologize to the people who worked so hard to make the evening a success."

Cargill said he was puzzled no one approached any member of the local Conservative committee to express a complaint, even though they had four days to do it. He said the leaflets were handed out the previous Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

"In my opinion if they were sincerely upset, they wouldn't have waited for such a dramatic and significant time, unless of course they had some other axe to grind," he said.

Cargill criticized chairman Goodwin for allowing laughter and remarks from the audience while Mr. O'Connor was speaking at the meeting. He claimed many people were unable to hear the candidate's side of the story, as a result.

The PC president also charged only one of the three candidates had been informed prior to the meeting about the allowance of a three minute rebuttal.

At the meeting, chairman Goodwin said the Liberal and Progressive Conservative committee rooms had been informed of the procedure in advance, but admitted Mrs. Holstein the NDP candidate had not been told.

In spite of the chairman's statement, when Mr. O'Connor proceeded to the microphone for his rebuttal, he said he also had not been made aware candidates would be allowed a rebuttal.

## Fire causes \$2,500 damage

An estimated \$2,500 damage resulted from a fire Friday afternoon at the Peel Street residence of Mrs. C. Blake.

Acton Firefighters were called to the residence about 4:30 p.m. to extinguish a fire which started in the kitchen when the bottom of a pan of boiling grease fell out. Firefighters used chemical extinguishers to put out the fire and were aided by a neighbor Dave Cohen who also had an extinguisher and arrived before the brigade.

Fire damage was confined to the kitchen, but the rest of the house received smoke damage. Last Wednesday night an electrical short in a furnace sent firefighters to the residence of James Sansbury on the Fifth Line of Esquevasing south of Highway 7. There was no fire damage but wiring on the furnace was ruined.

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## Candidates on hot seat

Cost involved in Canada hosting the 1976 Olympics should be worked out right now so that all Canadians will know well in advance what it will be, in the opinion of Halton Progressive Conservative candidate Terry O'Connor.

O'Connor made the suggestion in reply to the first question from the audience at Thursday night's Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Meet the Candidates Night at the Robert Little school auditorium.

Responding first to the question of how Canada will get the billions of dollars required to stage the games, NDP candidate Carolyn Holstein confessed total ignorance and suggested it might be informative for the sitting member, Liberal Rud Whiting to give an explanation.

Whiting said the city of Montreal made an application to stage the '76 Olympics on its own and that there had been no federal financial commitment made yet.

and would like to see certain sections removed from the criminal code so that a woman and her doctor could not be prosecuted.

"A woman and her doctor should be able to make this decision and not have it dictated," she said.

Whiting reminded the audience physical and mental health factors had recently been taken into consideration in abortion laws and added that he thinks the laws are now liberal enough the way they are.

O'Connor said he is opposed to abortion on demand.

"The life of an individual should not be taken on the whim of two other people. The fetus is the life of a person and should not be taken on demand," he said.

The Conservative candidate speculated that approval of abortion might lead society to consider taking the lives of older persons as well.

**Marijuana?**

On the marijuana legalization question, O'Connor said medical evidence available so far has shown that the use of marijuana in moderation is no more harmful than that of alcohol or tobacco. Based on this, he expressed the opinion the government should move towards its legalization unless further evidence is produced which shows it to be detrimental.

"There is a large amount of criminal money being made right now because it is not legal," he said.

Mrs. Holstein said she agrees with O'Connor, emphasizing the fact that persons should have the freedom to choose whether or not they wish to use marijuana.

"I don't advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco or marijuana, but I do say people should have the freedom to choose," she said.

Whiting said he opposes the legalization of marijuana because there are so many unknowns yet to its effects.

"After extensive research, the majority report of the LeDain Commission did not recommend its legalization," he explained. "We do not know what the long

range effects of it are on persons or whether it leads to multiple drug use."

**Unemployment**

Speaking on the unemployment issue, Whiting explained that Canada has the largest growing labor force in the world. He said one reason for so much unemployment is that many young people are just now coming into the work force following the post-war baby boom.

"Our government has created 1.2 million new jobs. That's a good record, but we will strive to continue to do better," he said.

Mrs. Holstein said she opposed the Trudeau government's policy of giving large sums of money to large corporations as a means of creating jobs.

"Northern Electric received \$26,000,000, yet they cut their labor force by 22 per cent and have announced more layoffs," she said.

An NDP government would create jobs directly by building more low income housing, day care centres and senior citizen homes.

"And these would be long term jobs," she concluded.

O'Connor claimed it is not fair for the government to blame unemployment on the post-war baby boom.

"And cold winters have been with us for as long as I can remember," he added.

He said a Progressive Conservative government would introduce an across the board 7

per cent personal income tax cut. This, he explained, would give persons more spending money. They would spend it, producing a greater demand for more goods and ultimately more jobs. He also said a Tory government would eliminate the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials.

O'Connor said the Conservatives would fight the problem of inflation by introducing price, wage, profit, and interest controls.

"I don't favor increased intervention by the government, but when they are weighed against the detriment of inflation — something has to be done," he said.

In answer to a question on how he would control government spending, Whiting said he feels the government now exercises efficient control.

"We should control what we already have on the books," he said.

**Local office**

If elected, Mrs. Holstein said she would set up an office within the riding so that persons with problems could get in touch with someone immediately, anytime she is in Ottawa.

O'Connor said he does not favor strict controls on the attendance of M.P.'s in the House of Commons.

"You can't judge the effectiveness of an M.P. by recording how many times he sat in the House," he suggested. "It's up to the member to determine how, when

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(Continued on Page Four)

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O'Connor is our man. He will lead and co-ordinate a close tri-government relationship between Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels. How will this help Halton? Terry will act in Ottawa on our behalf at the Federal level and will advise and direct us in matters under Provincial and Municipal jurisdiction.

"I want to look to the future — for Halton, for you and for me. For the past six months, I have met and discussed matters of concern with citizens of all political persuasions throughout the 600 square miles of Halton riding.

"I have seen and heard frustration, disappointment and anger. I am aware that people continue to search for those in whom they can place their trust.

"Your member must work to co-ordinate the interest and energy of his people. He must communicate with his people, direct information to them, offer and seek guidance.

"Political life is a dignified profession. It is the expression of the will and the willingness of the people. I want to be part of it. I ask for your support on election day."

**TERRY O'CONNOR** X

**TERRY O'CONNOR**  
PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE  
CANDIDATE, HALTON  
FEDERAL RIDING.

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