



Halton NDP candidate Doug Black, second from left, plots strategy for the February 18 election with Nassagaweya regional councillor Bill Johnson, Nassagaweya school board member Ivan Armstrong and Allan Foster, Acton campaign coordinator, at Saturday's headquarters opening.

NDP's Black says

Stress research, development

Acton would likely be just the kind of community where firms involved in research and development would like to come according to Doug Black. Unfortunately, the Halton New Democratic Party candidate says, neither the Progressive Conservatives or Liberals have encouraged research and development while they were in power.

Black, who is contesting the Halton seat for the second time after finishing third in last May's vote, opened his Acton campaign headquarters Saturday afternoon at the home of Allan and Sharon Foster, 201 Lakeview Street and greeted a crowd of over 20 local supporters.

Acknowledging that industrial development is a concern in many areas of Canada, including Acton, Black said in the short run a quick way to encourage industrial growth is by lowering interest rates, which is a plank in the NDP platform. High interest rates hurt both the small and new entrepreneur Black observed.

Canada could move

into the forefront of the many new industries which will revolve around conservation, Black suggested, if only there was more federal research and development funding. Acton would be a perfect place for that type of industry, which has traditionally located in communities on the periphery of major urban areas.

The NDP candidate also called for more development of rapid transit in this country. Black said rapid transit equipment could be manufactured in Canada and help commuters in towns like Acton save on their fuel costs.

He predicted the surge of NDP support evidenced in the last election will continue in this vote because they are the party with the issues and the public is fed up with the "flip-flops" of the other two parties.

Black said Acton has always been a good area for the NDP and the excitement and enthusiasm demonstrated in this area for his campaign indicates

strong support on February 18. Noting Black signs up around Acton already, the candidate said the NDP is ahead of both the Grits and Tories in preparation and "we are number one organizationally."

"The old lone parties simply can't perform on their promises," Black declared, adding "we are the only real alternative for change."

He asked where the "credibility" is with both the Liberals and Conservatives when they both say they are against high interest rates when they are in opposition and raise them while in power.

Black blasted both the Liberals and Tories for being against moving oil prices to world prices when in opposition and then supporting that policy when they form the government.

He charged both of the other parties want Canadian oil prices based on the rate established by a foreign cartel while the NDP would raise oil prices based on the Canadian replacement cost. The NDP has been

Teacher talks start again

Negotiators for Halton Board of Education and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation resumed talks Tuesday.

It is the first meeting of the two sides since before Christmas when the

OSSTF local asked the provincial body to take over its side of the contract talks.

Halton's 1,165 high school teachers have been working since the start of the new school year without a contract.

Fire damage up

Fire damage totals for Halton Hills are up substantially for 1979 as compared to 1978, mainly because of the Dominion Hotel and Jones house blazes in Acton.

Fire chief Mick Holmes reported to Halton Hills council that damage totals soared from \$529,528 in 1978 to \$1,151,508 last year.

Snowless winter be farm problem?

A nearly snowless winter has been a boon to drivers and a drag to skiers but its effect on farmers remains to be determined.

"Our only worry is we'd like a bit of snow cover on the winter wheat. I can't see a problem with the plowed fields. Rain may have washed some away, we may get a little erosion," Burke McNeill, an extension horticulturalist indicated a hard freeze may have adverse effects on sour cherry trees because they are more tender than apple trees. He said he foresaw no problems for the apple trees.

representative Henry Stanley told this paper last week. There was no snow on the ground then and hadn't been an appreciable amount for some days.

I.O.D.E. protests Church St. speed

The NDP had to drag the Liberals into forming PetroCan and neither of the other parties is willing to take the next "logical" step by expanding the firm right to the gas pump so all profits stay in Canada.

Wood's request and informed council that he has received a letter from the Acton IODE expressing concern about the speeding on Church Street.

Wood reiterated his call for a staff report.

Chamber meeting Monday

The Acton Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting gets underway this Monday night at the Acton Legion starting with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m.

Following the AGM the evening will be opened to the public for an all candidates meeting.

The AGM portion of the evening will feature the election of officers for 1980 followed by a presentation from a representative of the Great West Life Insurance Company on a group insurance plan for local businesses. In her newsletter, secretary Janet Fleming writes "The Chamber recognizes that each area company has its own requirements and that we may not be able to accommodate every situation. But, we would appreciate your attendance to have a chance to

listen to and question the representative." Mrs. Fleming adds the plan includes life insurance, accidental death coverage, weekly income insurance, medical coverage (hospital and prescription drugs) and a dental plan. "With your Chamber sponsoring the plan we can provide an opportunity for businesses to take advantage of the reduced cost due to wider involvement of plan members," she concludes.

As a final inducement to attend the meeting Mrs. Fleming notes the new map and directory will be available Monday night.

Tickets for the meeting, at \$9 a person, are available at Halton Hills Furniture and Appliances, Sweetman's Shoes, from Dave Whiting (853-3725) and Mrs. Fleming (853-0925).

Music festival to play on

The North Halton Music Festival Committee is co-operating with the Georgetown Kiwanis Club in exploring ways to keep the 51-year-old festival going.

Music festival committee members and representatives of the Kiwanis struck common ground during Tuesday night's special meeting at M.Z. Bennett School.

Kiwanis officials Ric Ruggie and Bill Kori brought with them a commitment to mail letters to North Halton Schools. The letters would describe categories of competition which would include those of the elementary schools and commercial music teachers. Com-

ments would be requested. Music teachers Dave Mashinter and Lenora Vickery are to meet principal Doug Magwood and others to review the school categories. The club will explore the private teachers groupings.

"This is strictly at the feasibility level," Mr. Kori said. "I know there is enthusiasm in our club, it just has to be directed."

Eight people attended the meeting. There were only the two music teachers, Acton-Esqueving school trustee Betty Fisher welcomed the participation of the club.

She also indicated she would help. Earlier Jean McPhail and others spoke of the achievements of the festival.

Festival organizers earlier decided to suspend competition for a year until problems, such as the lack of schools competing, are solved.

Roy Wood out on bail

A former Acton OPP officer, Roy Wood, has been released from jail on \$2,000 bail following his voluntary return to Canada recently to face a criminal theft charge.

Wood returned to Canada from England earlier this month. He

had been in England since August, after resigning from Peel Regional Police, where he was a detective, following the charge being laid. He was charged with stealing \$1,300 worth of property from a storage room at a

Mississauga police station.

Besides the \$2,000 deposit Wood also was required to provide a \$10,000 surety, agree to report to police weekly, notify police of any change of address and surrender his passport before bail was granted.

Obituary

Agnes Allan

A former resident of Acton and Rockwood, as well as Halton Centennial Manor, Agnes Isabella Allan, died January 8 at Millon District Hospital following a brief illness. Mrs. Allan was 81 years old.

Mrs. Allan was born in Erin Township August 13, 1898, a daughter for John and Angas Akitt, and married William Roland Allan, who predeceased her, December 8, 1920 in Ballinacraig.

During their marriage the couple lived in Guelph, Rockwood and Acton. One of their two sons William Lloyd Allan, also predeceased Mrs. Allan.

A service was held January 11 at Shoemaker Funeral Home in Acton, with Rev. C.P. Beaton officiating. Interment followed at Acton's Fairview Cemetery. Pallbearers included nephews Gordon Akitt, Burlington; Bert Allan, Georgetown; Elmer Peavoy, Niagara Falls; Ken Peavoy, Simcoe; Lloyd McLean, Acton; and family friend Deimer Jordan, Acton.

Mrs. Allan is mourned by her son, John Elwood Allan, Bradford; and sister Margaret Peavoy, Niagara Falls; as well as three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The first tannery on the site of the present Beardmore facilities was built in 1842, two years before the Beardmore firm was born in Hamilton.

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