

# Miller, Kuiken, Norton big winners appointments night...

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 week length of time necessary to hold an election. He claimed an appointment would get the whole thing over and council could get down to business. "I'll go for an appointment."  
 McDonald said he felt very strongly there should be an election, and stressed he had heard from more residents on this issue than any other in his time on council. He contended council's credibility would be in question if they appointed for the mayor when only a short time ago had an election for a council seat.  
 Poulstrup recalled when the last council seat was to be filled he suggested an appointment and was given all kinds of reasons by the others why there should be an election. "This is much more important and as far as I can see these reasons have not changed. Especially with two years left in the term I'm for an election."  
 "Nobody can say council is dull," commented Knechtel, as he started his argument for an election. He said he felt he was as democratic as anyone else. He claimed many people had told him there should not

be an election. "At the senior levels of government if Premier Bill Davis, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau or Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher resigned their positions would be filled by appointment, and the successor would face the electorate at the next election."  
 He too claimed a ten week gap until an election would seriously affect the workings of council, and said the Town can ill afford to spend \$50,000 on an election.  
 Levy charged council is running scared of the public. "You were elected to do a job," he stated.  
 He said \$50,000 is a lot of money and said the budget committee sweats over items costing \$500. He said council would be failing in their duty to have no leadership for ten weeks and maintained a new person filling the spot who has not been involved in the local scene would be a mistake. Again he charged council was running scared of criticism on the Stevens property purchase, and noted did anyone every say council has done a good job on the Cultural Centre. "This was built without using taxpayers' money".

Sheldon admitted it was a no-win situation. She said she found it difficult to listen to those who said "If you don't do what I want you're not listening to the people."  
 She predicted chaos if council waits ten weeks for an election, especially when the town is just coming into budget time.  
 She argued council once elected, has a moral obligation to make decisions, and has a mandate to govern, not a mandate to hold

a referendum everytime the "going gets rough".  
 Carney said he polled a lot of people and they did not want an election. He insisted an appointment did not usurp people's democratic rights since it was allowed under the Municipal Act. "He said either way not everybody would be satisfied."  
 He said one of the biggest factors in his decision was senior citizen who called him

stating there should be no election. She said "You people are sent there to run the municipality so do it, there's lots better ways to spend \$50,000."  
 Armstrong said council is elected by the people on behalf of the people to make decisions and his was to go for an appointment. Miller was nominated by Kuiken and Whiting, and Armstrong by Carney and Levy.

## Selection of mayor Nominees make election pitch

In his nomination speech before the balloting for the mayor's seat, Councillor Mike Armstrong stressed he would have been in the race whether council went for an election or appointment. He claimed continuity on council was his main reason for running, and cited the Official Plan and the Secondary plans as items to be completed. He emphasized the tax base must be increased by controlled development which hinges on the secondary plans. "We can't continue the same level of service without more revenue."  
 He contended continuity on the decisions of council is necessary and specifically cited the purchase of the Stevens property. "I supported that acquisition, but I also support a citizens' review committee to look into our decisions". He promised to listen intently to them commenting "We are not infallible".  
 He predicted council would have to deal with market value assessment and water problems in Acton and Georgetown.  
 In seconding Armstrong's nomination, Carney said he felt he had the qualifications

necessary for a mayor, and the experience to do the job.  
 Levy, who nominated Armstrong, said he knew Armstrong's strengths and weaknesses, but said he was a dedicated and fair councillor. "He is not parochial". He said Armstrong is a go-ahead type who doesn't let things stand still, and is a leader.  
 In a brief speech Miller said he's been in politics 20 years as a school trustee and a councillor. He said he had always respected other councillors opinions and thought they had respected his. He noted one person doesn't run the Town, "It takes 13". He said he would carry on as he has in the past.  
 Kuiken in seconding his nomination, said he had known Miller for many years and pointed out he has gone to the voters several times and always won. "If there was an election he would have the mayor's job".  
 Whiting, Miller's nominator, said he opposed Miller on the Stevens property purchase but knew his ability since he had worked with him at the region. "Where he is doing a more than adequate job". He said he would head council in the right direction.

## Jake Kuiken moves up to regional council

In the most surprising development of Monday's night of council appointments, Jake Kuiken was chosen Esqueving's new regional councillor.  
 Kuiken defeated Georgetown's Harry Levy for the post seven votes to five.  
 Kuiken was only elected in late October to replace the late Tom Hill as one of Esqueving's two area councillors and has attended only a handful of Halton Hills council meetings.  
 He replaces long time Esqueving regional councillor Russ Miller who won the mayor's job.  
 Councillor Dave Whiting, who nominated Kuiken, said they had known each other much longer than just since Kuiken joined council. He recalled he was a freshman regional councillor with no political experience about three years ago and he didn't feel he had fared too badly, so he didn't think his short time on council would hamper Kuiken.  
 Kuiken is an Esqueving resident and aware of this unique ward's problem, Whiting said.  
 Councillor Ross Knechtel seconded Kuiken's nomination.  
 The candidate himself said he hoped to follow in Miller's footsteps.  
 Georgetown Councillor Mike Armstrong,

who had lost his bid to be appointed mayor, nominated Levy for the ward two regional post. He pointed to Levy's many years of experience on council, adding his candidate's knowledge of municipal politics was second to none. He said Levy had always been guiding force on council and he fought for needed projects in all wards, not just his own.  
 Armstrong recalled departed mayor Peter Pomeroy lived in Esqueving, but effectively represented Georgetown as a councillor.  
 Another Georgetown member, Councillor Phil Carney, seconded Levy's nomination. He said he was reluctant to send Levy to the region since he is no fan of the region. However, he felt Levy was the best person for the job since the post had to be filled.  
 Levy told his colleagues he was prepared to serve as needed and recalled running unsuccessfully for mayor against Hill once, so that showed he was concerned about the whole Town, not just his east Georgetown ward. While serving on old Georgetown councillors he several times represented a ward different from the one he lived in at the time.  
 Regional matters are "more specific concerns" and not as localized, he said, adding he felt he could help the Halton Hills cause at the region.

## Peter Norton new councillor

After two unsuccessful attempts at being elected to represent Esqueving on Halton Hills council, Peter Norton of Georgetown was chosen Monday to serve as the ward's new area councillor.  
 First Esqueving lost its regional councillor Russ Miller, who was chosen as the new mayor to replace Peter Pomeroy who last week became the new regional chairman.  
 Then Jake Kuiken, who was only elected in October to replace the late Tom Hill as an Esqueving area councillor, was selected to fill Miller's post as ward two regional councillor.  
 Kuiken's position as area councillor then had to be filled and council went for Norton who ran a close second to Kuiken in a

candidate field in the October by-election. In the municipal elections of 1982 Kuiken had finished behind Hill and Norton came last.  
 Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson, who made the motion to fill Kuiken's seat by appointment and suggested Norton as the replacement, recalled the last Esqueving by-election only produced an 18 per cent voter turnout.  
 The motion was seconded by Councillor Harry Levy, who said to put Esqueving through another by-election would be fruitless and a waste of \$10,000.  
 Norton was asked if he would accept the appointment and he beamed yes.  
 Council then approved Norton's appointments.

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