

Chamber lets Acton voters assess their options

by Hartley Coles

Halton's four federal candidates participated in a short but informative meeting sponsored by the Acton Chamber of Commerce at the high school Friday night.

The candidates were allowed a seven-minute opening speech, fielded questions during a half-hour period and wound up the hour and a half session with a three-minute rebuttal.

Paul Nielsen chaired the snappy session which attracted a sizable crowd to the high school auditorium and covered subjects including the candidate's credentials, the economy, the tax system, free enterprise, unemployment, pollution, crime, nuclear energy and stopping VIA Rail trains in Acton.

Speakers outlined their positions in alphabetical order and then reversed the order when requested, with Liberal Oriana Currie presenting her platform first.

Currie outlined her qualifications as a small business proprietor and said she went into this election convinced the Liberals under John Turner can stimulate the tradi-

tional sense of self-reliance and ability to help ourselves. She feels they can establish a working partnership with the community.

Currie attacked promises made by Progressive Conservative leader Brian Mulroney and noted he refuses to tell the cost of the programs his promises would entail.

New Democratic Party candidate Kevin Flynn said his party under leader Ed Broadbent would bring "ordinary" Canadians back into the government. He attacked the tax system as unfair, noting that the burden had shifted from 60 per cent paid by corporations and 40 by individuals in 1960 to 30 per cent by large corporations and 70 per cent by the individuals in 1980.

Paying More
"Ordinary Canadians are paying more than their fair share," he said.

He said the NDP has fought for the equality of women, an idea that can no longer wait. Neither can the plight of senior citizens who exist below the poverty line. Corporations, he charged, under the

Liberals took precedence over the elderly. He also pledged an end to the "nuclear insanity."

Incumbent MP Otto Jelinek switched from introducing his wife Leata to a full-scale attack on the Liberal record. He attacked the Liberals on patronage and accused Pierre Trudeau and John Turner of cooking up a secret deal which resulted in appointments of Bryce Mackasey and others.

He said Canada used to rank second in the world on the economy but is now 14th, all due to Liberal mismanagement.

He said the Conservatives 64-point program, based on free enterprise and the work ethic, would cure many of the country's ills. It would include privatizing crown corporations, simplifying the tax system and making sure Revenue Canada did not charge people with tax evasion until they were proven guilty. Creating job opportunities is another plank in the platform.

BIG GROWTH
Conservative government, Jelinek said,

would first move to improve the country's economy, especially for small business, before tackling big growth.

Chris Kowalchuk, representing the newly-formed Green Party, a youthful and enthusiastic candidate, said society must change fundamentally if many of the issues such as abortion are to be resolved. Democracy should revert to its roots and adopt a referendum system of government so power would no longer be in the hands of a few.

Bad economy? If you want to work, you can, he maintained. Youthful apathy, he said, was the main reason for much of the unemployment.

There must be limits to growth, he said because there's a limit on the numbers the environment will support. The Green philosophy, he declared, could change the world.

In the question and answer period which followed, the candidates were all asked if they would support that portion of their tax which goes to arms being used for peace, but

they mutually agreed that the resolution, which emanated from United Church conference, is impractical because all special interest groups would then want exemption for their particular interest.

Jelinek was challenged by one question to explain why he failed to stand up and applaud when a distinguished visitor from China appeared in the House of Commons.

He said he showed his respect by listening but felt it would be hypocritical for him to stand and cheer for a representative from a communist country where there is no respect for human rights.

Jelinek and his family were forced to flee from behind the Iron Curtain and he said he knew the conditions which exist there and would never show them respect.

REDUCE ARMS
Nuclear arms? Jelinek would favor reducing them as long as there was a mutually verifiable system. He said the Tories would appoint an ambassador to

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This coming Tuesday is the big day for Halton's four candidates in the federal election. Voters go to the polls to pick their favorite from among (left to right) Chris Kowalchuk of the Green Party, Kevin Flynn of the New Democratic Party, Oriana Currie of the Liberals and Progressive Conservative Otto Jelinek.

Loitering bylaw must go — lawyer

Impromptu meet held on police 'harassment'

by Pam Douglas

Claims of police harassment and brutality were the subject of a meeting at Acton Public Library Saturday morning.

What could have been a tense meeting involving three police officers and about 20 Acton young people was defused somewhat by the mitigation of Toronto lawyer Al Bickerton.

The meeting was Bickerton's idea. He has represented in court one or two of the citizens present. He noted that there is a lot of tension between the Town's police and young people.

"I hope we can resolve some of the differences that exist by finding out what's causing them and see if there is any over-reaction on one or both sides and why," Bickerton said.

The young people complained of being beaten by police and being harassed while standing on street corners or sitting in parks.

"Constantly being told to move, that's where the problem starts," said one man present at the meeting. "They (the police) should be bothering people committing real crimes," he said.

"On a hot night, when we don't want to be inside, where are we supposed to go, what are we supposed to do?" asked another.

Bickerton quoted the Criminal Code to explain the law's definition of loitering.

"You must be somewhere for no reason, with no purpose, in order to be in conflict with the law," he explained. "You must obstruct, as well," he added. "It's not illegal to just stand somewhere, not in this country."

Bickerton said the Town's bylaw is in direct conflict with the Criminal Code and is unconstitutional. He plans to gather all loitering tickets issued recently and challenge them in court at the same time.

"I'm sure we can get that loitering bylaw tossed out," he said.

The fine for loitering could be as high as \$63. As far as an officer could remember there has never been a charge under the Code (which allows for the possibility of a jail sentence), only under the bylaw (which does not).

One of the officers present said the police are given the laws and they have to enforce them.

"We just meet the needs of the community," he said. "We're responsible to the public."



AL BICKERTON

Some complained about a town bylaw keeping people out of the parks past 11 p.m. or being told to leave a school's grounds while playing football.

However, police do get letters from school officials asking that people be kept off the grounds during non-school hours to prevent vandalism, one officer said.

Those who complained that they were denied their rights when arrested and those who said they were beaten by a police officer were told they have a course of action. They were advised to file a complaint with the department immediately after the incident and an investigation would be conducted.

"We have concerns," said one officer. "We have to meet the public. If we get a complaint, we investigate."

All that's needed is the time and date of the incident; the name of the officer involved can be traced by the police department.

"If you don't like the outcome of the investigation, there is another level (the Board of Police Commissioners)," the officer said.

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Clampdown on Sixth Line motocross

A year-long dispute concerning the Nellis Motocross operation on the Sixth Line has ended with Milton council passing a bylaw regulating the hours and conditions under which motorcycle races will be held.

But according to owner Mansell Nellis and his representative, Lorne Doberthein of Acton, the matter may not end, but continue into a municipal court battle.

Doberthein made that suggestion minutes after the by-law was passed, concluding almost 90 minutes of discussion in council chambers.

The bylaw, which included several amendments, permits track use between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on race days and allows a maximum of eight meets per year.

The last clause has been amended to read the number shall be determined annually by the Town upon application from the motocross operators.

The bylaw further stipulates that Nellis must erect a fence surrounding the 45-acre track area, preventing competitors from trespassing onto neighboring properties.

The fencing issue brought the loudest cries of protest from Doberthein, who argued the race meets are run on a "shoe-string" budget and that it could cost \$40,000 to \$50,000 to provide proper fencing.

Instead, he proposed fences to line the east side of Nellis' 300-acre property and a

section on the west side along the Sixth Line to prevent out-of-town trespassers gaining access to the property.

Councillors agreed it was more important to satisfy neighbours who complained about motocyclists travelling onto their properties.

We've got garbage to burn

Money-saving EFW awaits Region choice

It's all up to regional council now that consultants have submitted their final reports on the much-touted Energy From Waste (EFW) campaign aimed at saving Halton a bundle on landfilling.

With little comment, council last week accepted the final environmental and technical assessments of proposed EFW plants at ten Halton industrial sites, including Acton's Beardmore plant.

Council must decide where to build the self-contained incinerator for producing steam and electrical power by burning waste, as well as how big a plant to build.

Beardmore continues to rank low among the ten sites examined by I.E.C. Beak Consultants Ltd. and the SNC Group, earning low marks primarily because of the greater environmental impact an EFW plant situated at the northeast corner of the company's property might have on the surrounding area.

Halton hopes to burn up to 75 per cent of its solid waste at the proposed EFW plant. By 1988, the amount of garbage bound for the incinerator could total as much as 216,180 tonnes per year. Steam and electricity produced in the incineration process would be sold back to the host company or to a public utility company.

Two different-sized plants were considered for the Beardmore location. Consultants estimate the smaller (91 tonnes per day capacity) plant would cost \$9.5 million to build and another \$930,000 a year to operate. Only steam would be produced for sale.

By 1988, the plant could burn more than 28,000 tonnes of solid waste a year and produce more than 51,000 tonnes of steam.

A larger (600 tonnes a day) plant at Beardmore would cost \$61,300,000 to build and \$2,700,000 to operate, but would produce electricity as well as steam.

With the steam from the larger plant selling at \$10.79 per tonne, the Region might gross almost \$813,000 a year by 1988 in sales. Electricity would be sold at \$21.50 per megawatt, grossing almost \$1.5 million by that time.



PADDLE POWER

Area residents and tourists were treated to a masterful display of canoeing skills Sunday at Fairy Lake as Jim Johnston, Kathy Johns, Dirk Schrader, Jeff Balkind, Sandy Munro and instructor Paul Tamblyn showed their form and discipline on the water. It was all part of the annual Ciderfest festivities that drew hundreds to Acton through the weekend. See page A5.



HEAD START

As of Monday night, 190 voters had passed through the advance polls at M.Z. Bennett School. Marg Ballentine and Arlie White (foreground) were running the poll while Gail Johnson and Mike Chell registered to vote.

Classified closed Labor Day
The classified advertising department of this newspaper will be closed Monday, September 3, (Labor Day) or the staff can enjoy the holiday.
The deadline for classified advertising display including garage sales will be Friday, August 31, at 4:30 p.m.
The office will be open at 8 a.m. Tuesday, September 4 to take classified work ads. Deadline is 9:30 a.m.