

**Halton Liberals choose their challenger**

# Bill Perras hopes to outskate Jelinek

By LORI TAYLOR  
Herald staff writer

Halton Liberals have found a candidate they hope will "skate circles around" Conservative incumbent Otto Jelinek, even though Mr. Jelinek might be considered to have the home ice advantage.

The Liberals Monday night chose Oakville city councillor Bill Perras, 30, to do battle on behalf of their party for the Halton riding. Although Mr. Jelinek is known for his talent as a figure skater, Mr. Perras also has his talent on ice, having once won a hockey scholarship to Cornell University.

Jordan Sullivan, who nominated Mr. Perras, said the

Liberal candidate's wholesome, sincere background contrasts sharply with the "shallow and insincere Conservative incumbent—and he can skate rings around him, too."

Mr. Perras defeated Allan Wilson of Milton, president of the Halton Federal Liberal Association, for the nomination, before a crowd of over 800 enthusiastic Liberals. The gymnasium of Blakelock High School in Oakville was lined with banners and signs for the two candidates. Among the more well-known people in the crowd were former Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook and Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed.

Mr. Sullivan's reference to

Mr. Perras' talent on skates was not the only part of his nomination speech which prompted applause from the audience. The crowd cheered when he asked, "Can Canada contenance a prime minister who is a wimpy, simpy, chinless, pompous, hollow-laughed, hollow-headed, teetering, tottering sprig of a boy?"

**TALENT ON SKATES**

The question set the tone for the evening, as both Mr. Perras and Mr. Wilson spent much of their time attacking Joe Clark and the Conservatives during their nomination speeches.

"When Joe Clark refused to govern as a minority government, he rejected the mandate

given to him by the Canadian people on May 22," Mr. Perras said. "The budget that was brought down was not the kind of budget he had promised and the opposition parties had no choice but to bring down the government."

That budget would have brought double-digit inflation, which would have hit individuals and families on fixed incomes the hardest, Mr. Perras said. With the higher gas and heating oil prices, the Crosbie budget would fuel inflation, and result in higher prices and unemployment and lower productivity, he said.

"As we all know and as we all have read, Pierre Trudeau is one of the greatest Cana-

dians of all time; he's acknowledged as one of the great world leaders today," Mr. Perras said. "He's literally put on the map internationally. Well, Pierre Trudeau is back and I believe he will be vindicated on February 18 with a Liberal majority."

**BEST TO LEAD**

"The best man to lead our country and to represent us internationally is Pierre Trudeau and thank God we have him."

"Pierre Trudeau learned a lesson in the last election that he wasn't doing what the electorate wanted, and I think he's learned his lesson from that. I think that reflects his maturity."

"I think Joe Clark bought the election with his bribes and failed to deliver," Mr. Perras continued. "He promised the mortgage tax deductibility scheme to the people of this riding, who for the most part are commuting to work, and then he dropped that program and raised gas prices 18 cents a gallon."

Mr. Perras suggested the Liberals should look at some form of rebate to commuters who drive to and from work to reduce the burden of energy costs.

The candidate said he wants to stay away from promises that can't be kept during his campaign. He pointed to energy self-sufficiency, the curbing of inflation and economic restraint as issues which will have to be faced in "the new and challenging decade."

Mr. Perras has been on Oakville town council for one year, and in that time was active on the budget committee, planning and developing committee, the traffic advisory committee and the Oakville Harbor activity committee.

He has been an Oakville resident since he was three years old. He received the London Life Sales Honor Club Achievement at the age of 22. In 1976, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ottawa University Law School. He has a law practice in Oakville. Mr. Perras and his wife, Carol, have two daughters, Kelly, 4, and Kristi, eight months.



Bill Perras won the Liberal nomination for Halton riding Monday over Halton Liberal Association president Allan Wilson. Mr. Perras, halfway through his first term on Oakville city council, has a law practice in Oakville, where he has lived most of his life. Mr. Perras said in his nomination speech that this is a "new and challenging decade" and there are important decisions which have to "and will be made by a Liberal majority government".

(Herald photo by Lori Taylor)



The Halton Federal Liberal Association made a special presentation of these track suits to Dr. and Mrs. Frank Philbrook Monday at the Halton nomination meeting, in appreciation of their work on behalf of the riding and the Liberal party. When Dr. Philbrook saw what the gift was, he said, "I hope this doesn't mean someone wants me to run again". He added that he had not ruled out the possibility.

(Herald photo)

## Philbrooks honored by Halton Liberals

Former Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook was honored with a special presentation Monday at the Liberal association's nomination meeting in Oakville.

The presentation was in appreciation for Dr. and Mrs. Philbrook's efforts on behalf of the Liberal party in Halton, and was made by John Fairly and Sharon St. Germaine. Mrs. Philbrook was presented with a bouquet of flowers, while Dr. Philbrook received a boutonniere.

In addition to the flowers, there was a surprise gift. Both Mr. and Mrs. Philbrook received red track suits, with their names on the back.

"I hope this isn't a hint that

someone wants me to run again," Dr. Philbrook joked. He added in a more serious vein that he hadn't ruled out the possibility of running again in the future.

"Representing Halton on behalf of the Liberal party has been the high point of our lives, but we have a job to do now, and that job is to turn out one of the worst governments this country has ever seen," Dr. Philbrook said.

Dr. Philbrook described Mr. Jelinek as "our right-wing figure skater" and said that while Mr. Jelinek had promised the people of Halton a strong voice in Ottawa, "that kind of person sometimes confuses loud with strong."

Nominating committee

chairman Walter Elliott said it was an indication of the gentlemanly level of the proceedings that although six people, including Dr. Philbrook and the two candidates who sought the nomination, were considering running, no one formally declared their intentions until after Dr. Philbrook had made his own decision.

Mr. Elliott said he believes this reflects the high calibre of campaigning that will be going on during the election campaign across the country. He said it also indicates that respect which Halton Liberals feels for Dr. Philbrook, that they would give him the first opportunity to take on Mr. Jelinek again.

## Clark to visit Oakville

Prime Minister Joe Clark will be making a special appearance in Halton riding Monday at a meeting open to public, Halton Conservative MP Otto Jelinek announced this week.

Mr. Clark will be making a speech at a noon luncheon in the Oakville Holiday Inn, Mr. Jelinek said.

"The prime minister called on the weekend to confirm that he was coming and I'm delighted that he's chosen Halton riding as the place to start the 1980 portion of his campaign," Mr. Jelinek commented.

According to Mr. Jelinek, Mr. Clark will be discussing economics, with particular emphasis on small business, a matter of special interest to the incumbent Halton MP.

While the luncheon is open to the public, there will be a charge for food served, Mr. Jelinek said.

## Last winter election contested in 1958

More than 15 million Canadians will be eligible to vote in Canada's 32nd general election February 18.

Canada's last winter election took place March 31, 1958, the year John Diefenbaker won a landslide victory over Lester Pearson. It was also the last time the Progressive Conservatives actually defeated the Liberals.

Since there will be no enumeration for this election, voters who fail to receive their notice of enumeration cards in the mail are reminded that they won't get a vote February 18 unless they take the initiative and get their names added to the list through the revision process.

Advance polls will be held February 9, 11 and 12. Voting in the Returning Officer's office takes place February 4 to 8 inclusive, and February 13 and 15. This privilege is available only to those who can't vote either at an advance poll or on election day.



ALLAN WILSON

## Enumeration process changed for first time

For the first time in Canadian history, there will be no door-to-door enumeration to compile a voters list for the February 18 general election.

Instead, voters will receive cards confirming that their name is on the voters' list for the polling division in which they resided at the time of the last general election. The card will identify the voter's electoral district, polling division number, the location of the polling station and the date and hours of voting.

Any eligible voter who has not received his card should contact the Returning Officer of his electoral district after January 15 and before February 4 in order to get his name on the revised official voters list.

The procedure used to get a name changed on or added to the list remains unchanged from previous elections and will be explained by the Returning Officer. Officials expect 12 to 13 per cent of the names on the lists to change through "changes of residence, marriages, deaths and so on" even though the lists are only six months old.

To give voters adequate opportunity to get their names on the list, the period of revision has been extended to nine days for urban voters instead of the usual three. Revisions take place from January 25 to February 4 inclusive (Sundays excepted).

The revision process in rural areas extends from January 7 to 30, inclusive, but rural residents retain the opportunity to

be sworn in at the poll on election day provided they can be "vouched" for by a voter whose name appears on the list for their polling division. This privilege applies only to rural residents.

Chief Electoral Officer, Jean-Marc Hamel, said the decision not to enumerate was based on the problems involved in getting large quantities of forms and printed material moved, mailed and delivered to all 282 electoral districts in time to carry out the enumeration in view of the heavy volume of mail over the holiday season, rather than on efforts to save money.

Returning Officer for Brampton-Georgetown is Judith McArthur, 791-7030; Returning Officer for Halton is Joe Anderson.

## Parties scramble to open offices

The candidates in Halton riding are almost all off and running, while each of the parties is scrambling to organize its offices for the five short weeks left in the campaign.

The Liberals nominated Bill Perras Monday night to run on their behalf, but are still working on setting up their offices.

The Conservatives will be holding their nomination meeting tonight (Wednesday) in Oakville, but

although Otto Jelinek is not officially the candidate yet, the Conservatives have set up their offices. In Acton, the office will be on Mill Street, across from the Hydro building. The phone numbers are 853-1370, 1271 and 1272.

The NDP campaign office will be operating out of the home of Allan and Sharon Foster at 201 Lakeview Ave. in Acton. The phone number, on a temporary basis, is the Fosters' home phone of 853-3346.

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