



NDP candidate David Moulton shook hands with provincial NDP leader Michael Cassidy after winning the party's nomination for the riding of Brampton-Georgetown last week. Mr. Cassidy was the guest speaker at the meeting.

(Daily Times photo)

Macdonald addresses meeting

Grits bring in the big guns

Herald special
Anglophone Canadians must wake up from their lethargy and address the question of the federal constitution, former finance minister Donald Macdonald told the Brampton-Georgetown Liberal nomination meeting Wednesday.

He said Quebec, where provincial Liberals announced proposals Wednesday for Confederation, is way ahead of English Canada in studying possible constitutional changes.

"The future of their community within North America has been for them a priority question substantially eclipsing their discussion of any other," Mr. Macdonald said of Quebecers. In contrast, "it has been said that Anglophone Canada is weary of talk of the constitution, that mere mention of the subject is a sure-fire sleeping pill," he continued.

The Quebec Liberals' proposals will require Canadians elsewhere to prepare for "a long and painstaking, set of discussions and negotiations... on the renewal of our confederation," he said.

Mr. Macdonald said a strong national government is the embodiment of the spirit of Confederation, but that there may be some areas of government responsibility which might be better exchanged with the provinces. These should be determined on the basis of what works best at the provincial level and what as a national responsibility.

Mr. Macdonald said the basic objectives of the fathers of Confederation still apply today, namely: building a larger, economic union, creating effective interprovincial systems of transportation and communication, and assuring an equitable system of revenue-sharing among the provinces.

He said creation of a national market means the absence of trade barriers, freedom to move from job to job (without provincial manpower policies), and freedom to invest in any province.

There is greater assurance of freedom of commerce, and for migration of people and investment among the nine sovereign nations in the European Economic Community than there is in Canada, Mr. Macdonald said.

The sharing of public revenues between the "more advantaged" provinces and the less-favored has always been an element in Canadian government, the former finance minister said. It is still in accord with "our sense of equity" that the better-favored aid the disadvantaged, rather than allowing individual provinces to keep their resources only for themselves, he said.

Mr. Macdonald declined to say what his own future political plans are and whether he will again run for federal office after federal Liberal leader Pierre Trudeau finally steps down.

Mr. Macdonald was considered a likely successor to Trudeau until the former prime minister announced last month he was willing to stay on as leader to guide the party through the February election.

In a brief interview following a speech to the nomination meeting of the Brampton-Georgetown Liberal Association, Mr. Macdonald said he was not sure of the accuracy of a recent newspaper account of behind-the-scenes manoeuvring by two top Trudeau supporters to get the former prime minister back as Liberal party leader and to scuttle Mr. Macdonald's chances for the leadership position.

Asked why he thought Trudeau had decided to come back as leader, knowing that Mr. Macdonald was planning to seek the position at the leadership convention then scheduled for Jan. 18, the former minister said it was due to the timetable involved in getting ready for a quick election.

It was a "judgment call" and it was not easy for Trudeau to make, Mr. Macdonald said.

The former finance minister indicated at the moment he is concerned with the Feb. 18 election, rather than his own political future. Mr. Macdonald is not himself a candidate in the upcoming election.



MCDERMID FILES PAPERS

John McDermid, Conservative incumbent, became the first contender to file nomination papers for the Brampton-Georgetown riding in the February 18 election. Mr. McDermid arrived at the Brampton returning office last Friday. According to Judith MacArthur, the returning officer, Libertarian candidate Joe Yundt was the second to file. Ms. MacArthur said that David Moulton, the NDP candidate, was expected to file Tuesday (yesterday) and Ross Milne, the Liberal candidate, is expected Thursday. She said she did not know when Communist candidate Jim Bridgewood will file, but noted that he had picked up his nomination papers.

(Herald photo)

Deputy PM attacks 'phantoms of Rideau'

Herald special
Progressive Conservatives are running against a "phantom" Liberal team and leader in the upcoming federal election, Deputy Prime Minister Walter Baker charged Thursday.

Speaking to cheering Brampton-Georgetown PCs at Central Peel Secondary School for MP John McDermid's nomination meeting, the former Ottawa lawyer said Pierre Trudeau claims he's heading what he calls a team.

"My friends, the Progressive Conservative Party faces a phantom team. In Ottawa we call them the phantoms of the Rideau," Mr. Baker said.

The Liberal party is displaying "staggering arro-

gance" in thinking it can govern this country, he told Tory supporters from the Brampton-Georgetown riding.

The Ottawa MP, elected to Parliament in 1972, had more praise for Prime Minister Joe Clark, saying he has shown a sense of concern.

"He (Clark) has brought an understanding of this country. It's a desire to reconcile Canadians, something which hasn't been seen for 11 years."

Mr. Trudeau, he added, has no understanding of this country.

Mr. Baker condemned federal Liberals and New Democrats saying they give "day laborers" longer probationary periods than the govern-

ment received.

A combined opposition vote last month over the PC's first budget under Mr. Clark passed a non-confidence motion and set the stage for the Feb. 18 election.

Both Liberals and New Democrats criticized the 18-cents-per-gallon gasoline price hike included in the budget, but Mr. Baker said it was necessary to help make the country self-sufficient in energy.

If we are going to become self-sufficient we have to do it ourselves," he said. "That's the meaning of the Progressive Conservative's energy policy."

"But there's more to an election than talking - there's time and contribution," he said.

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Cassidy challenges Tories' flip-flopping

Herald special
The flip-flops we've seen in politics in the last few months make the Canadian Olympic gymnastics team look like a bunch of amateurs, the leader of the Ontario New Democrat Party said Wednesday night.

Michael Cassidy, speaking at the Brampton-Georgetown NDP federal nomination meeting in Brampton, charged the Progressive Conservative federal government with a multitude of broken promises and turnarounds with election promises.

David Moulton, 29, who was nominated as Brampton-Georgetown NDP federal candidate for the second time in a year, listened as Mr. Cassidy, also attacked federal Liberals.

"Can anyone really believe Pierre Trudeau when he says he wouldn't raise gasoline prices by 18 cents?" Mr. Cassidy asked. "The Liberals are as bad as Joe Clark when it comes to broken promises."

"Let no one forget the hypocrisy of the Liberals when they fought wage and price controls in 1974 as a major plank of their campaign, and then imposed them on working people 16 months later," he said.

He also charged the Liberals and Conservatives with being "impotent" in dealing with multinational corporations

and washing Canadian jobs down the drain.

"An NDP government would reserve a substantial portion of the domestic market for the products of our domestic manufacturers," Mr. Cassidy said, "the way it is done in virtually every advanced industrial country except Canada. Had we taken that decision in the 1960s, we would now have at least 40,000 more jobs in industry."

"We (the NDP) would make sure that trade barriers nurture Canadian industry rather than allowing it to be sold out," he said.

Mr. Cassidy also took a swipe at the support the federal leaders of the two other parties were getting from their provincial counterparts.

"We're entering this campaign 100-per-cent behind Ed Broadbent (NDP federal leader) and that's a darn sight different than Bill Davis (Ontario Conservative leader) campaigning for Joe Clark in Florida, or (Ontario Liberal leader) Stuart Smith's schizophrenia over whether he loves Trudeau," Mr. Cassidy told the approximately 50 NDP supporters who attended the meeting.

He also claimed Liberal Leader Trudeau was trying to sneak back into power using a Liberal team image.

"Pierre Trudeau is hiding behind his podium and trying to sneak back to power. That new image is as phony as a three-dollar bill," Mr. Cassidy said. "In the 11 years as Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau never could create a team and everyone knows it."

"This time it's Joe Clark who's the gunslinger, locked side by side in ideological partnership with (federal energy minister) John Crosbie and taking the country straight back to the 1930s."

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